

1 BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
3
4 PUBLIC MEETING
5
6 VOLUME I
7
8 Anchorage, Alaska
9 April 1, 2009
10 9:00 o'clock a.m.
11
12
13 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
14
15 Randy Alvarez, Chairman
16 Molly Chythlook
17 Dan Dunaway
18 Daniel O'Hara
19 Nanci Morris Lyon
20 Dale Myers
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27 Regional Council Coordinator - Donald Mike
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Anchorage, Alaska - 4/1/2009)
4
5 (On record)
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I'll call the
8 meeting to order. Bristol Bay RAC here at the Hilton,
9 April 1st, 10 to 9.
10
11 And, Donald, would you do roll call and
12 establish quorum.
13
14 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 Donald Mike, Council Coordinator. Roll call for the
16 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.
17
18 Pete Abraham. Mr. Chair, Pete called
19 and said he couldn't make it. Nobody was able to take
20 care of his cabin out in Togiak.
21
22 Mr. Dan O'Hara.
23
24 MR. O'HARA: Here.
25
26 MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris.
27
28 MS. MORRIS LYON: Here.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dale Myers.
31
32 MR. MYERS: Here.
33
34 MR. MIKE: Mr. Alvin Boskofsky. Mr.
35 Chair. Alvin called, too, yesterday and he couldn't
36 make it out of Chignik Lake due to weather, and he
37 wasn't able to make it today.
38
39 Ms. Molly Chythlook.
40
41 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Present.
42
43 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
44
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.
46
47 MR. MIKE: Mr. Thomas Hedlund. Mr.
48 Hedlund called, too, yesterday, and he's unable to
49 attend this meeting due to nobody taking -- his house
50 was -- nobody was able to take care of his home. Mr.

1 Chair.
2
3 Mr. Randy Alvarez.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Here.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. You have six
8 members present. You have a quorum. And we have one
9 vacancy. Thank you.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
12 you, Donald.
13
14 Okay. I'd like to welcome everybody
15 here to the meeting. It was originally scheduled for
16 Naknek on the 24th and 25th, but with the volcano, we
17 managed to make it here.
18
19 So I guess we'll do introductions then.
20 We'll start with Sandy.
21
22 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch
23 with National Park Service. And I'm one of the Staff
24 Committee members to the Federal Board.
25
26 DR. WHEELER: I'm Polly Wheeler with
27 the Office of Subsistence Management. I recently was
28 hired as the deputy to Pete. I used to be the chief of
29 the anthropology division.
30
31 And I did want to take the opportunity
32 to introduce Krista Gunn who's a recent hire by Dru
33 Pierce with the Office of the Federal Coordinator, the
34 gas pipeline. She's going to be here for the meeting
35 today. And I'd urge you to meet with her. The Bristol
36 Bay folks may have -- there's some interest I think in
37 a gas pipeline, or there's some areas that you might
38 want to talk about. Anyway, Krista is relatively new
39 to the state. We did a briefing on subsistence
40 yesterday, and she's interested in finding out how the
41 program works, and what some of your concerns are, so
42 she'll be here for the meeting.
43
44 Thank you, Randy.
45
46 MS. GUNN: And, again, Krista Gunn, and
47 I welcome you all (indiscernible, cell phone buzz).
48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: There was a
50 question. Do you have anything to present to us on

1 that?

2

3 MS. GUNN: I do not.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.

6

7 MS. WILLIAMS: Elizabeth Williams,
8 anthropologist, Office of Subsistence Management.

9

10 MR. SHARP: Dan Sharp with BLM.

11

12 MS. GREFFENIUS: And I'm Laura
13 Greffenius, one of the wildlife biologist in the
14 Subsistence Office.

15

16 MR. EASTLAND: Warren Eastland,
17 wildlife biologist with BIA, InterAgency Staff
18 Committee member.

19

20 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Department
21 of Fish and Game, Subsistence Liaison Team.

22

23 MR. FRIED: Steve Fried, fisheries
24 biologist, OSM.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.
27 That's everybody except for our recorder.

28

29 MR. HILE: I'm Nathan.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nathan. All right.

32

33

34 Next on the agenda is the election of
35 officers for Chair, Vice Chair and the Secretary. And
36 I guess talking to Donald, we're supposed to do this
37 every year, and we neglected to do it at the last
38 meeting. So we'll have to have it now.

39

40 And I just -- I wanted to say that I
41 didn't renew my application on this Board, so my term
42 expires at the end of this year. So I'll be here for
43 one more meeting after this one. And if you guys deem
44 it necessary that I remain Chair, I guess I could do it
45 for one more meeting after this, because I'm going to
46 be testifying to the North Pacific Council in a couple
47 days on the bycatch issue. So it might be more
48 appropriate that the Chairman do it.

49

50 And so I guess what I'm saying is if

1 you guys wanted me to be Chair, I would do it for one
2 more year, and then the next spring meeting I guess
3 you'd have to elect a new Chairman. Thank you.

4

5 Do we have any -- Donald.

6

7 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 Before you open up election, you sitting as the
9 current, I think it would be appropriate for the Vice
10 Chair to open up the nominations for Chair and then you
11 can take the gavel back.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Good idea. All
16 right. Nanci, would you take over as the Chairman for
17 the election of the Chair.

18

19 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Absolutely,
20 Randy. I'm opening the floor to nominations for the
21 chair for the Regional Advisory Council. Dan.

22

23 MR. O'HARA: Yes. I would nominate
24 Randy for the Chair through the remaining of the
25 Council to the next meeting.

26

27 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Is there a
28 second. Dan.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

31

32

33 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.

34 WE've got a second. Any discussions.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MR. O'HARA: Question.

39

40 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: The
41 question's been called. All in favor signify by saying
42 aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Opposed
47 same sign.

48

49 (No opposing votes)

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
2 you, guys. I so now we're at election for our Vice
3 Chair. Do we have any nominations for Vice Chair.
4 Dan.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Nanci Lyons.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. A motion to
9 appoint Nanci as the Vice Chair. Do we have a second.
10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dan
14 Dunaway. Any.....
15
16 MR. O'HARA: Question.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
19 called. Okay. All in favor signify by saying aye.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
24
25 (No opposing votes)
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So we have a
28 Vice Chair.
29
30 Okay. Now we are at for election of a
31 Secretary. Do we have a motion.
32
33 MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, we're on a roll
34 and I would like to nominate Dan Dunaway.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion to
37 nominate Dan for.....
38
39 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I'll second that.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And seconded by
42 Molly for Dan Dunaway for Secretary. Any other.
43
44 (No comments)
45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Hearing none, all in
47 favor signify by saying aye.
48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. There we are.
6 We have a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, the same as
7 before.
8
9 All right. Number 5 is review and
10 adoption of the agenda. Everybody should have a copy
11 of the agenda before them. Do we have a motion to
12 adopt.
13
14 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chair. I make a
15 motion that we adopt the agenda.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion.
18
19 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'll second it.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Nanci,
22 to adopt this agenda for this meeting. Do we have any
23 amendments or anything.
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 MR. O'HARA: Question.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
30 called. Okay. All in favor signify by saying aye.
31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.
33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
35
36 (No opposing votes)
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.
39 Number 6, review and adoption of the minutes from the
40 last meeting. Do we have a motion.
41
42 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I move to support.
43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. A motion made
45 by Molly to adopt the minutes of the last meeting,
46 October 6th, '08.
47
48 MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Nanci.

1 Any questions on it. Dan.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. It
4 overall looks really good. The one thing that I found
5 a little confusing. My memory was getting weak, and I
6 looked to the minutes regarding our resolution on
7 bycatch to the North Pacific Council, and I was just
8 wondering if we could ask Mr. Mike to maybe flesh that
9 out a little more. I think I corresponded, and I
10 couldn't -- it doesn't really indicate that we adopted
11 a resolution in there. It says that there was a
12 motion. It doesn't say that motion was adopted or
13 anything like that. Maybe Mr. Mike can speak to that.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.

16

17 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Yes,
18 there was a motion made on the resolution on the
19 bycatch issue, and it was passed at the meeting. I
20 apologize for not being clear on the minutes, but the
21 resolution with the cover letter was drafted in
22 November and it was shared with I think most of the
23 officers sitting on this Council for review. And I had
24 an electronic copy sent to the Chair, Mr. Alvarez, and
25 he signed the copy, and it's been moved forward.

26

27 But just for your information, in this
28 pink folder there's a copy of the resolution that the
29 Council approved at its last meeting in Dillingham, and
30 it's a blue copy.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Does that
35 answer your question then, Dan?

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. And I
38 really want to thank Donald for carrying through on
39 that, because I couldn't remember what we'd done on
40 some of that. So I'm really pleased we got it done.
41 It's just a minor bookkeeping error on the minutes.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah, so that
46 takes care of that. And I guess we can probably
47 discuss it when we get tot the bycatch issue then later
48 on in the meeting.

49

50 Okay. Any more comments or questions

1 on the agenda -- or adoption of the minutes I meant.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
8 called. All in favor of the minutes of the last
9 meeting signify by saying aye.
10
11 IN UNISON: Aye.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
14
15 (No opposing votes)
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.
18 Donald.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 Before we move on, I had a teleconference set up for
22 9:00 o'clock for those communities that wished to
23 participate telephonically. And if we can take five
24 minutes, I'll get the teleconference set up.
25
26 Thank you.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We'll take a
29 five-minute break get the teleconference set up.
30
31 (Off record)
32
33 (On record)
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Call back to order.
36 There's a letter from the Chairman, Mr. Mike Fleagle,
37 what action the Federal Subsistence Board did.
38 Apparently we only had one fishery proposal, and it --
39 Donald, they did approve that, didn't they?
40
41 MR. MIKE: Yes.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that the
44 only action we had for that, was the Chignik proposal,
45 FP09-11.
46
47 Okay. Any questions or comments on
48 that report.
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, we'll
2 go down to number 8, Council member reports. Do any of
3 the Council have anything they wish to report on.
4 Molly.

5
6 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Chair. This
7 is Molly from Dillingham.

8
9 I don't have anything to report. I
10 would like to make a suggestion, and that is to hold a
11 work session prior to the Council member meeting. And
12 hopefully this could be done at our Dillingham meeting.
13 And it's usually helpful to have like a work session to
14 go through whatever we're going to be covering. And
15 then it seems to run smoother for the members,
16 especially the new members that are coming in. So
17 that's my suggestion, is to possibly have a work
18 session. Half a day work session.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That's a good
23 idea. Yeah. We're going to have a work session after
24 this meeting to discuss the bycatch. We're going to
25 discuss the bycatch in the meeting. It's on the
26 agenda, but after that we need to also discuss our
27 stance for when I go to testify to the North Pacific
28 Council on what I need to be -- what's our position on
29 what the bycatch issue for the chinooks. And I guess
30 there are a bunch of -- there are some alternatives
31 that they're considering. And I think we should
32 discuss those alternatives, of which ones we favor and
33 which ones we don't, and what kind of number we need to
34 come up on. So we're going to be doing a workshop on
35 that.

36
37 And also new Board training. Donald
38 wanted to do that at the beginning, but I thought it
39 might be better at the end, because, Dan, I didn't know
40 how long he was going to be here, so I wanted him for
41 the quorum. And at the work session we really don't
42 need a quorum for Board training, so we'll be doing
43 that tomorrow.

44
45 But it's a good -- a work session is a
46 good idea as long as there's something to discuss at
47 the work session. Sometimes there's not a lot of
48 issues to bring before us, so we might not need work
49 session.

50

1 Is there anybody else that has any
2 comment on or reports that they want to bring before
3 the Council.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, we're
8 down to number 9, administrative business. Donald.

9
10 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
11 Earlier I mentioned that I had a pink folder for all
12 the Council members, additional information.

13
14 But in the pink folder we have a white
15 document from the Pilot Point Traditional Council, a
16 resolution to close sport hunting on Federal lands in
17 Unit 9. And there's also a copy of a letter from the
18 Chignik Lake Village Council, and it's a yellow copy,
19 and they wrote a short letter saying that they support
20 the closure of Unit 9 sport hunting on Federal lands.
21 That's for your information.

22
23 And lastly for your information, a blue
24 copy, a resolution from the Bristol Bay Regional
25 Advisory Council that they passed last -- at the last
26 fall meeting to the North Pacific Fishery Management
27 Council, a resolution on bycatch.

28
29 So those are the three items in the
30 pink folder I have. And for the public, we have copies
31 out in the back if you need some information on that.

32
33 I want to thank all the Council members
34 for taking the time, this was a short notice, to have
35 this meeting here in Anchorage. It was a challenge, but
36 we managed to pull it through to have the meeting here
37 in Anchorage. And I wasn't too sure if we could have a
38 quorum, but we do have a quorum.

39
40 But the notices for rescheduling of the
41 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council was sent out
42 through email, through radio announcements, and through
43 press releases, and it went out to the radio stations
44 in Dillingham and in Naknek of the change, the
45 rescheduled Bristol Bay Council meeting to Anchorage.
46 So I think we got all our bases covered. But if I
47 forgot anybody else on the mailing list, I do
48 apologize. But I think we have adequate public notice
49 for this meeting change.

50

1 And there are a couple of notices that
2 would want to call in later on, but my suggestion, Mr.
3 Chair, we can address how we're going to handle these
4 public testimony that we'll be hearing later on this
5 morning. And it will be up to the Council how you want
6 to address the public testimony.

7
8 (Feedback)

9
10 MR. MIKE: Are we on?

11
12 MR. HILE: Yes.

13
14 MR. MIKE: The last question for the
15 Council is that -- the Council can have a time certain
16 for which villages want to testify first for Unit 9
17 moose. So we can set that up right now, or we can
18 listen to public testimony if there's public testimony
19 out there that wish to address the Council.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think we should do
22 that right now to hear Pilot Points testimony on what
23 they have in mind. And anybody else that probably
24 comes on. It's up to the public testimony on the
25 agenda now anyway, so I guess.....

26
27 MS. MORRIS LYON: Do we need to review
28 this charter at all? We have that on here.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We can do the
31 charter after.

32
33 MS. MORRIS LYON: I agree. While we've
34 got them on the line, we should.....

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. While they're
37 on line, they won't have to wait so long. So does
38 anybody else have any comment on that if we move to
39 public testimony now ahead of the charter review.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Donald.

44
45 MR. MIKE: Yeah. Mr. Chair. The
46 teleconferencing is available from nine to five today,
47 so we have all day to receive public testimony from
48 those villages that do wish to testimony. I would
49 suggest that, Mr. Chair, we identify who's on the
50 teleconference line right now individually.

1 And then for those people on the
2 teleconference, I would recommend that you address your
3 name and who do you represent and then the Chair of the
4 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council will recognize
5 you. So if we can started with -- Mr. Chair, if you
6 can get started with identifying who is on line right
7 now, and then we can go from there.

8
9 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

12
13 MR. KINGSLEY: Daniel Kingsley
14 representing Pilot Point Tribal Council is on the
15 phone.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Dan Kingsley,
18 Pilot Point. Anybody else from Pilot Point.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Chignik. Who
23 do we have from Chignik.

24
25 MS. J. CARLSON: We have Roderick
26 Carlson, Debbie Carlson, and Jennet Carlson.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Just a sec. Rodney
29 Carlson?

30
31 MS. MORRIS LYON: Roger.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Roger?

34
35 MR. CARLSON: Yes.

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I just wanted
38 to get the names down.

39
40 MS. J. CARLSON: Roderick, not Roger.
41 Rodderick.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, Roderick.

44
45 MS. J. CARLSON: R-O-D-E-R-I-C-K
46 Carlson.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Who else.

49
50 MS. D. CARLSON: Debbie Carlson.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And?
2
3 MS. J. CARLSON: And Jennet Carlson.
4 And Michael Shannigan is also here.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Michael.
7
8 MS. J. CARLSON: Here you go.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Do we have --
11 oh, we have Mary McBurney.
12
13 MS. MCBURNEY: That's correct.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: National Park
16 Service. Do we have anybody else on line.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Okay. Let's
21 start with Pilot Point Traditional Council. The
22 resolution that you guys wanted to -- that we have
23 before us for the closure of sport hunting on Federal
24 lands. Can we have your testimony on that.
25
26 MR. KINGSLEY: Yeah. We put in several
27 game proposals to the State Board of Game stating --
28 can you hear me? I've got an echo coming back.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I can hear you.
31
32 MR. KINGSLEY: Okay. The State Game
33 Board. We put in two proposals. One of them was to
34 implement a predator/prey plan, a predator plan,
35 control plan for Unit 9E. And then the other one was
36 to open up a brown bear season seasonally. And both of
37 them were shot down by the Game Board, because they
38 said that 9E is specifically managed for brown bear to
39 maximize elderly brown bear and that we do not have a
40 predator problem with the bears and the wolves on our
41 caribou and moose calves. They stated that 70 percent
42 success rate for moose for all licenses sold in 9E.
43 And our rebuttal was of the local licenses sold, we
44 only had two moose. One I got last fall. And then one
45 was taken in the winter hunt. That their success rate
46 of 70 percent for sport hunting license was
47 predominantly big game guides utilizing airplanes.
48
49 We have put this proposal in front of
50 the Subsistence Board is because as you know, we are no

1 longer Tier II. We're absolutely shut down from
2 caribou hunting and probably will be for, what they're
3 saying, eight more years. Without caribou, we've been
4 hunting moose heavy. Every year fewer and fewer people
5 are getting moose.

6
7 Our bear population right now is topped
8 off and the estimate by Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and
9 Wildlife in 9E is approximately 3500 bears. This is an
10 increase of an average of 1800 to 2,000 10 years ago.
11 So what we are seeing, tremendous bear populations, and
12 we're seeing the State mandating optimal bear hunting
13 while we're watching our cows, our moose cows
14 predominantly are all barren. The calves are getting
15 killed.

16
17 So as a subsistence issue, Pilot Point
18 Tribal Council, the Traditional Council of Ugashik ask
19 that the Subsistence Board take into consideration our
20 needs for meat, considering that our traditional
21 caribou staple is non-existent to us, and all we have
22 here in the fall is we're inundated by guides' planes,
23 big game hunters, and obviously they're quite
24 successful with their planes, which most of us locals
25 do not have access to. We do fair chase on ground,
26 with skiffs, and see very, very few moose. Because our
27 access via water is predominantly surrounded by bears.

28
29 That's why we have put this
30 resolution/proposal together.

31
32 Sue Evanoff has just joined me. Do you
33 have anything to say, Sue? They want testimony now on
34 our resolution.

35
36 MS. EVANOFF: There are not really any
37 more.....

38
39 MR. KINGSLEY: Get closer. It's just
40 that we don't have caribou.

41
42 MS. EVANOFF: There really are not
43 calves, except that it's real -- it's so critical for
44 us to keep the moose, because we can't hunt our caribou
45 any more.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,
48 Sue and Dan.

49
50 I'm looking at a map here that shows

1 State and Federal lands in 9E, Alaska Peninsula
2 National Wildlife Refuge, Federal lands there, up from
3 Ugashik Lakes, kind of around the end of Ugashik Lake
4 or most of the Ugashik Lakes. Now much -- what
5 percentage of your moose is taken on Federal land as
6 compared to State land?

7
8 MR. KINGSLEY: Well, we have three
9 registered guides, actually four registered guides
10 within the Federal area. Our largest being Triple A.
11 So let's say Triple A, what do they get, 15, 18 a year.
12 The other guy up at the top gets about five. I would
13 say that on Federal land you're talking around here
14 probably close to what, 70, 80 percent. 38 (ph)
15 percent probably off the top of our heads are taken on
16 Federal lands.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. What about
19 the local, the resident harvest, how much -- can you
20 give me an estimation of what percentage is on Federal
21 land?

22
23 MR. KINGSLEY: Well, last year it was
24 50 percent. They only got two moose, and mine was
25 taken Upper Ugashik Lake.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. But most of
28 the non-resident guided hunts are on Federal lands
29 then, right?

30
31 MR. KINGSLEY: Yeah. The biggest guide
32 we have around here are off Dog Salmon Creek, which is
33 Federal land, up in the Upper Ugashik Lakes, and Lower
34 Ugashik Lakes, all federal. Heavy pressure. There's
35 several guides locally here that hunt on State and
36 corporation land. they probably take a total of about
37 10. So, yeah, predominantly Federal.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Dan. Is there
40 any other Council members have any questions for Pilot
41 Point?

42
43 MS. MORRIS LYON: I have a question.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

46
47 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Daniel, Nanci
48 Morris Lyon. And I just had a quick question. You
49 went over it rather rapidly. Did you say that Ugashik
50 Council was also supporting this resolution?

1 MR. KINGSLEY: That's correct.
2
3 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan Dunaway.
6
7 MS. BRIGGS: Can you repeat the -- I'm
8 sorry. I just came on and I just came on and I just
9 heard the Ugashik, but I can hardly hear what you're
10 saying. Can you repeat what was just said?
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is this Ugashik?
13
14 MS. BRIGGS: Yes.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Can you state
17 your name?
18
19 MS. BRIGGS: I'm sorry. I can tell
20 that you're talking, but unless you're close enough,
21 it's getting garbled, and I apologize.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Can you state your
24 name?
25
26 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, Victoria Briggs.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
29 you. And, Nanci.
30
31 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes. Victoria, this
32 is Nanci Lyon on the Regional Advisory Council. I was
33 trying to find out what support Ugashik was giving this
34 resolution. Thank you.
35
36 MS. BRIGGS: I believe it's 100
37 percent.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
40 you, Victoria. Dan Dunaway.
41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
43 Chair. Mr. Kingsley, this is Dan Dunaway. I was
44 wondering if it was possible for you to fax or forward
45 in some manner all that information that you read to
46 us. I'm having trouble getting it all down, but it
47 would be really useful even in kind of hindsight to
48 have that. That's all.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank

1 you. Is there another commenter from Ugashik or Pilot
2 Point.
3
4 MR. KINGSLEY: If you have a fax
5 number, I could get that information to you.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm sorry, I'm can't
8 hear you very well. You're breaking up. Can you say
9 that again.
10
11 MR. KINGSLEY: If you had a fax number,
12 I could get that information to you concerning the
13 Board proposals we put in and the minutes from our last
14 advisory committee that went over all this data that I
15 just gave you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Just a
18 second, Dan. Do we have a number, Donald.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Yes, he can fax
21 it to our office and we can have staff bring it to this
22 meeting. Our fax number's 907-786-3898.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Did you hear that,
25 Dan?
26
27 MR. KINGSLEY: Yeah. 786-3898.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's correct.
30 Okay. Do we have any more public testimony from
31 Ugashik or Pilot Point before we move on to Chignik.
32 Okay. We have another RAC member. Dan O'Hara.
33
34 MR. O'HARA: Daniel down at Pilot
35 Point, can you hear me? Hey, Dan, can you hear me?
36 Dan at Pilot Point, how do you read. Victoria, can you
37 hear me there at Ugashik?
38
39 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, I'm still here.
40
41 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Thomas is one of
42 the guides in the.....
43
44 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Hello, this is
45 Port Heiden.
46
47 MR. O'HARA: Good morning, Port Heiden.
48
49
50 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Good morning.

1 This is Bob Christiansen down in Port Heiden.
2
3 MR. O'HARA: Bobby, how are you?
4
5 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: I just got on the
6 phone, it was busy, so I missed part of what's going
7 on. I thank you guys for letting us on.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Bobby, this
10 is Randy Alvarez. Hey, we're glad to have you on. Can
11 you wait for your testimony? We're on Pilot Point and
12 Ugashik right now, and Dan O'Hara's asking them a
13 question, so can you wait? We'll get to you in a few
14 minutes.
15
16 MR. O'HARA: Hey, Dan at Pilot Point,
17 can you hear me? It looks like Pilot Point must have
18 gone off line, Randy.
19
20 Anyway, Victoria.....
21
22 MS. BRIGGS: He's trying to get a fax
23 to you. Yes, go ahead.
24
25 MR. O'HARA: Okay. That's fine.
26 Anyway, where does Triple A work out of there? I've
27 never been to their airport. I've been to Pumice and
28 over at Cinder River and Meshik, but I've never been to
29 Triple A. Where are they located next to Ugashik?
30
31 MS. BRIGGS: I'm sorry, where is what
32 located next to Ugashik?
33
34 MR. O'HARA: Triple A.
35
36 MS. BRIGGS: Triple A? They're about
37 20 miles -- well, they're 20 miles upriver technically.
38 Hold on, yeah, I'm getting a lot of screaming. Hold
39 on. They're west of Ugashik Village. Does that help?
40 About 15 miles overland.
41
42 MR. O'HARA: Victoria, did you say
43 west?
44
45 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, they're west.
46
47 MR. O'HARA: Triple A? No, they can't
48 be west of Ugashik. They've got to be east.
49
50 MS. BRIGGS: I'm sorry. Yes, they are

1 east. I'm listening to my husband and I should know
2 better. Okay. Yes.

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MR. O'HARA: Well, I can guarantee you
7 big time you should not listen to him. He won't quit
8 talking.

9

10 MS. BRIGGS: Yes. They're difficult
11 for us to get to if you're -- and, I'm sorry, because I
12 came in just on part of this. When we're hunting moose
13 and have to get up into that area, it's difficult,
14 because it's only available via the river, and we can't
15 get up into the lakes with a boat. We went with a
16 skiff the last.....

17

18 (Feedback on line)

19

20 MS. BRIGGS: I'm sorry, I'm getting the
21 screaming. We can get into the lagoon, but getting
22 into to the lakes has become increasingly difficult for
23 us even with skiffs to do that. We've had I think only
24 two people who have been able to do it recently. And
25 it literally has taken people getting out of boats and
26 pulling them at different times, depending on what the
27 water is. So we basically get cut off from all that
28 area that is up by the lakes for us to be able to go up
29 in the fall moose time, unless you've got access to an
30 airplane with floats.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
33 you, Victoria. Is there any other Council members'
34 questions for Pilot Point or Ugashik.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Seeing none,
39 can we have Chignik, your public testimony.

40

41 MR. CARLSON: No, Randy, Mr. Chair.
42 This is Robert Carlson.

43

44 (Feedback on line)

45

46 MR. CARLSON: We didn't have no
47 proposals. We were just concerned about a moose survey
48 out here. We didn't have no proposals or anything. We
49 were just going to sit in and listen. But predator
50 control, harvest, moose, Federals. Survey.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, you don't
2 necessarily have to have a proposal. We would like to
3 hear what Chignik is -- you're interests in moose,
4 caribou, bear and predators, what your issues are.
5 We'll be discussing some game proposals on Federal land
6 later on in this meeting. There's a call for proposals
7 for game on Federal lands in Bristol Bay. Can you tell
8 me what the deadline for the call for proposals is,
9 Donald?

10

11 MR. MIKE: I think it's April 30th,
12 right?

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes, it is.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So any of you
17 guys on line, the deadline is April 30th for game
18 proposals on Federal land in Bristol Bay. So have
19 about a month from now if any of you guys want to make
20 any proposals to the Federal Subsistence Board, the
21 deadline is going to be April 30th. So, Chignik, if
22 you have any concerns you want to bring it before
23 public testimony, now is your chance to do that.

24

25 MS. D. CARLSON: Randy, on our predator
26 control, our area down here has seen a lot of increase
27 with the wolves down in this area. In the past few
28 years we've been seeing wolves down inside our village.
29 And we've been having -- there used to be a bunch, like
30 three or four moose up on our hill, and now the moose
31 are gone. And then last fall the hunters went out, and
32 we didn't get a moose at all in the Chignik Bay area.
33 There was no harvest that I know of down in this area.

34

35

36 So we were just kind of wondering, too,
37 also if there's ever going to be a survey, for the
38 State and Federal surveys count for the moose down in
39 this area.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Before each
42 of you speak, can you state your name first?

43

44 MS. D. CARLSON: Oh, I'm sorry, this is
45 Debbie.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Debbie
48 Carlson. I don't know. Maybe Staff can answer that
49 question if there's going to be any moose surveys.
50 They're working on that. We'll have to get back with

1 you in a few minutes.

2

3 Is there anybody else from Chignik that
4 wants to testify.

5

6 MR. O'HARA: Randy.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.

9

10 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Hey, Debbie and
11 Rodney, can you hear me?

12

13 MS. D. CARLSON: Hi, Dan.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: How are you doing, Debbie?
16 Hey, I noticed, you know, flying out of the lake there
17 a lot there's a huge amount of wolves up on Chignik
18 Lake and going out to, you know, the west there. So
19 you feel like maybe the wolf population has moved into
20 the bay as well, and just pretty much affecting your
21 moose?

22

23 MS. D. CARLSON: Dan, it's moved down
24 here. I know the lagoon's been having trouble with
25 wolves up there also. And we've already got, like I
26 said, within the past five years, there's been a lot of
27 moose [sic] sightings just up at our dump, and, you
28 know, it started -- it is starting to become a problem
29 with them coming into the villages.

30

31 MR. O'HARA: Debbie, this is Dan again,
32 and Rodney and Chickie, who else is on there. Anyway,
33 I think that maybe one of the things the Council would
34 do, Randy, would be make sure we push for a survey on
35 the moose. And I think it's being done every year,
36 providing there's snow.

37

38 MS. BRIGGS: I think -- I believe
39 Ugashik would like to see that, too, because we feel
40 that there isn't a good representation, a good
41 understanding of the moose that is available, you know,
42 and what the populations are.

43

44 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Yeah. And this is
45 Victoria.

46

47 MS. BRIGGS: So Ugashik would strongly
48 support that also.

49

50 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I think that's one

1 of the things maybe we'll maybe bring under the
2 Council, make sure of that.

3

4 I kind of feel like the Feds have been
5 a little weak on the survey thing, depending on the
6 snow and depending on if there's a holiday. And we'll
7 just leave it at that, Mr. Chair.

8

9 But Ugashik, Pilot Point and the Bay, I
10 certainly would push for a predator control program.
11 The Feds don't like predator control unless it's
12 something that they favor. So I think this Council
13 needs to step up and say, we're going to do some
14 predator control things here.

15

16 Ugashik, Victoria, I think the guides
17 are a pretty long ways away from your lands as far as
18 moose go. I could be wrong. And, of course, we have
19 one of the new Council members here. So I have some
20 doubts about your resolution, but we'll look at it.
21 Okay?

22

23 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, I agree. And they
24 are far away, but to be honest, in the wintertime we
25 have -- if things freeze over and with the changes of
26 what they have done in the past, or how the seasons are
27 where they go into January, usually we're frozen over
28 enough. We're very seldom successful getting up there
29 to do a fall moose hunt, but we are in the wintertime
30 to be able to do that, even with that distance, once
31 things freeze over. And that's kind of what people had
32 always used in the past. It didn't work out real well
33 this year. And we do have moose that move down. We
34 actually have moose that come close into the village,
35 and there are moose -- or have been. They just killed
36 at least one of them off in the last two weeks, a
37 little population that stays between Pilot Point and
38 us. And the wolves are the ones that they literally,
39 the guys saw it, take them -- the wolves take the moose
40 down, at least one of them, that was between here and
41 Pilot Point. So we do have some access, but there is
42 populations that move around between the Federal lands
43 and the State.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

46

47 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I think that's a
48 really good point, Victoria. And I'm not real familiar
49 here with December hunt, or January, whatever, but I
50 think that's something that maybe this Council could

1 work with as far as maybe being a little more liberal
2 on seasons. You can always put in a request, right,
3 Randy, for a proposal change to favor the subsistence
4 hunt.

5

6 Well, I sure appreciate Chignik Bay
7 being on line, and Pilot Point, and I guess Bobby
8 Christiansen is at Point Heiden, and Victoria there at
9 Ugashik, I appreciate you coming on line.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Before we get
12 to Bobby, Nanci had a question.

13

14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Victoria, I
15 just wanted clarification. It sounded to me like what
16 you were telling us was that your ability to access the
17 moose on the Federal lands was more of a physical
18 problem as in when the water's were too low, you could
19 not get access in there. And, of course, if you don't
20 have a plane, that's totally understandable. Is that
21 correct though; am I understanding that correctly?

22

23 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, that is correct. As
24 far as the fall hunt goes, getting up there on the
25 lakes if the water is low, it does pretty much cut off
26 our access to a portion of that. And so that -- unless
27 you have a plane, you know, a float plane to do it.
28 And so that's -- we have got in -- my understanding is
29 in the last 5 to 10 years more and more of the hunting
30 is done in the wintertime just because of that reason.
31 That water level seems to be coming down for some
32 reason in the last few years, and the access has been
33 fully cut off, or at least extremely hampered. And so
34 we are moving more and more towards a winter hunt.

35

36 But even this fall, trying to get out,
37 there was very little. I mean, we did -- a number of
38 people flew for moose, because we a lot of times will
39 fly for them even if we don't have floats to be able to
40 locate them, and then see if they're accessible by way
41 of boat or fourwheeler or whatever we -- you know,
42 whatever's the ability to do. And there just wasn't
43 the sightings this year that there have been in the
44 past.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right.
47 Victoria, thank you.

48

49 MS. MORRIS LYON: Can I follow up?

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Just a
2 second, Nanci. On the issue on the moose survey, the
3 State biologist, can you comment on that?
4
5 MR. PAPPAS: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
6 Chair. George Pappas, Alaska Department of Fish and
7 Game.
8
9 Currently Lem Butler is conducting
10 surveys out of Cold Bay right now, and I'm having a
11 problem getting ahold of Staff. I'll continue to
12 attempt to find out when the most recent survey was and
13 if there are any plans. And I'll try to get back to
14 you later on today.
15
16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.
19
20 So did Chignik and the rest of you guys
21 on line hear that? They're working on -- he's going to
22 find out this afternoon when the next survey is going
23 to be done, but apparently they're doing something out
24 there in Cold Bay now.
25
26 And who had their hand up.
27
28 MS. MORRIS LYON: Me.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.
31
32 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Victoria, I
33 just wanted to follow up on your comments. I
34 appreciated them.
35
36 And I just wanted to say that, you
37 know, for you guys to be aware of the fact that we have
38 restraints on our part for justifications in issues
39 like this. And physically being unable to access areas
40 is something that we're probably not going to be able
41 to address. But I'm leaning towards wanting to do
42 something for you folks and certainly understand the
43 problem, but I'm thinking along the same lines as Dan
44 O'Hara is in the fact that we might do better by
45 extending or liberalizing your winter hunt seeing how
46 access might not be as much of a challenge at that time
47 for you folks. Thanks.
48
49 MS. BRIGGS: Yeah. Again that's
50 probably one of those that if we can do a proposal, we

1 might -- we've talked about doing that also. And I
2 think our biggest thing was again the predator control,
3 is looking at that issue.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah. One
6 thing on predator control, the Federal Subsistence
7 Board doesn't do predator control. We asked them to do
8 that before, and their answer to us was that we have to
9 deal with the individual land agencies on predator
10 control. Say, for instance, on the Becharof National
11 Wildlife Refuge and the Alaska Peninsula National
12 Wildlife Refuge, or the Aniakchak, we would have to
13 deal with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to
14 implement predator control, so that's kind of the
15 avenue to go about that. And I've asked about it
16 before, but like Dan O'Hara said, the hesitant to do
17 anything unless they're in support of it first. But
18 we're going to have to keep working on that. And in
19 talking to Lem Butler at the last Board of Game meeting
20 earlier this month, the Alaska Board of Game passed
21 control for 9C, and according to Lem Butler that he's
22 having talks with them about 9E, because it's half of
23 the land use area.

24

25 So I really didn't a run down talking
26 to Lem about that exactly what they're going to be
27 doing. And Lem has been kind of pretty busy and gone.
28 I haven't been able to talk to him. A couple weeks ago
29 he was down in Southeast, now I guess he's down in Cold
30 Bay, so he's pretty busy.

31

32 You know, each one of your villages and
33 councils I think needs to contact U.S. Fish and
34 Wildlife Service and tell them your concerns also,
35 because it's not the Federal Subsistence Board that you
36 need to address on this issue.

37

38 Any other -- Dan Dunaway.

39

40 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes. Dan Dunaway with
41 the RAC here.

42

43 For all you folks that have been
44 listening in, maybe, number 1, like Randy's saying, I'd
45 definitely encourage you to submit a proposal to at
46 least open the door to discussion and regulation. I
47 know in the past you've made some attempts, and they
48 haven't been real successful.

49

50 But as I listen here now, I was

1 wondering what your local knowledge on seasonal
2 movements of moose are. And I start thinking of an
3 analogy over in the Togiak Refuge and in the Dillingham
4 area, where the Dillingham folks agreed to restrain
5 their winter hunting which allowed moose to move into
6 the Togiak Valley in numbers abundant enough that now
7 they have a hunt. And then in turn the Togiak area
8 folks restrained their hunting enough to allow moose to
9 start moving into the Goodnews Bay drainage, possibly
10 even towards Kanektok, and it appears they're having
11 some success.

12

13 So I start wondering, do you feel that
14 moderation or in your case it looks like you want
15 elimination of the sport hunt, do you think that would
16 allow moose to move towards Ugashik more, or do they
17 move more at certain times of the year. You might want
18 to mention those in any proposal. And I'm just curious
19 to what you have to say.

20

21 Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Dan. Does
24 anyone want to comment on Dan Dunaway's comments?

25

26 MS. BRIGGS: I'm sorry, I'm not hearing
27 part of that. Did you ask for comments on that
28 particular thought?

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes. Did you hear
31 Dan Dunaway's.....

32

33 MS. BRIGGS: Yes, I heard what he was
34 -- he was talking about about the Togiak and letting
35 off. And, yes, we do feel that by reducing the sport
36 hunting that it does. Because in the wintertime they
37 do move down. We actually have cows in the past that
38 come into the village to calve, you know, in February
39 and March. So they do move down closer to. And we've
40 found in that in the fall, the more pressure that's
41 been put on by the sport hunters, the farther they move
42 up, and then we see less down here even in the
43 wintertime. So I believe that that was the proposal,
44 was to reduce the sport hunting in the fall to allow
45 them not only to recover some, but also to move down
46 and get a stronger population. Because in the
47 villages, when they're down closer, they have less
48 threat from the predators also.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,

1 Victoria. Does any other, Pilot Point or Chignik,
2 anybody else have any comment on that?
3
4 MR. KINGSLEY: No, we don't, Randy.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.
7 Any other Council members, any questions.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Then we'll be
12 moving on to Port Heiden. Bobby Christiansen. Bobby,
13 are you still there?
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I guess he
18 must have stepped out. And Chignik, were you -- did
19 everybody testify that wanted to testify in Chignik.
20
21 MS. D. CARLSON: Yeah. We're done.
22 Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.
25 All right. Moving back to the agenda. If anybody else
26 comes on line and beeps, we will recognize them then.
27
28 MS. L. CARLSON: This is Lynn Carlson
29 in Port Heiden.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Good morning, Lynn.
32 This is Randy Alvarez.
33
34 MS. L. CARLSON: Good morning.
35 (Indiscernible) testimony of Frieda Kosbruk and Emil
36 Christiansen.
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Just a sec. Let me
39 write that down. Lynn, did you say you have Emil and
40 who?
41
42 MS. L. CARLSON: Emil Christiansen and
43 Frieda Kosbruk.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Did you guys
46 want to testify on any of the issues? Game issues.
47
48 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah, I just got
49 -- I hung up the phone by accident, I hit the wrong
50 button. This is Port Heiden.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Bobby, did
2 you want to testify.

3
4 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah. Okay. I'm
5 right in the same order I think with the Chigniks and
6 Ugashik. And, you know, the Feds aren't giving us a
7 survey down here, and what's the State's saying is that
8 our moose is up where it's supposed to be. It's good.

9
10
11 But, you know, this last two years in
12 the wintertime we haven't got a moose or it's been good
13 flying. I think the wolves are taking over, you know,
14 whenever they want one they get one, because we're
15 seeing a lot of wolves in this area. And last fall no
16 one got a moose here in Port Heiden. The only meat
17 that was brought in is the little from the guides.

18
19 What's happening I think is with the
20 sport hunters and the wolves, we're losing out. We're
21 going to end up -- you know, we fought this battle 10,
22 15 years ago on our caribou. And it's all coming right
23 into same place, is what's going to happen with our
24 moose. We'll end up being on Tier II and pretty soon
25 there's going to be no more. It's going to be too late
26 before somebody start doing anything about it.

27
28 I believe the Lower -- I'm on the Lower
29 Bristol Bay Advisory Committee. I think we might have
30 a proposal in, if it's not sent in already, on predator
31 control with the wolves here. And the whole thing
32 comes down to is this land issue with the Feds and the
33 State and, you know, I'm pretty sure that on our Native
34 lands, we'd give okay for them to do predator control.
35 All it just takes is just a pass from, you know, the
36 State or the Feds to ask the Native leaders of the -- I
37 think it's ATC to do something down here.

38
39 But we haven't been able to get any
40 meat in here. And I appreciate you guys listening to
41 our concerns. I understand, you know, if there's no
42 proposal in front of you, it's kind of hard to fight
43 the battle, but you're hearing our cry from these
44 villages, and i'm concerned that what's going to happen
45 is, and i see it already, that we're going to end up
46 losing, because of the sport hunters and the wolf. It
47 happened with our caribou and it's going to happen with
48 our moose. There's no more caribou for the wolves to
49 eat on, so they're eating on the wolves and dogs. I
50 mean, there's so many wolves around here, they ate five

1 dogs out of our village. And there was eight wolves
2 saw in the village this winter, and I believe five last
3 winter. So it's increasing.

4
5 I just wanted to spill this out, and I
6 hope something comes up here pretty soon, or we get
7 more input from the Feds and State to help this dying
8 breed out.

9
10 Okay. Thanks for listening.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks,
13 Bobby. This is Randy. Hey, I've got a couple of
14 questions for you. How much of your hunting is done on
15 Federal land as compared to State land?

16
17 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Well, in the
18 falltime, you know, we always hunt the Federal land.
19 And like I said, you know, last fall there was zero
20 moose got. Don Holmes found a moose, but it was too
21 small up in the Federal land, so that wasn't shot, you
22 know. It was just the horns were too small. And I
23 seen one big bull up -- I don't know the name of this
24 valley up here, we call it Hununapuk (ph) Valley, but
25 there must be another name for it. And there was one
26 who was way up high. Way up where there's no access to
27 it.

28
29 It's not like it used to be. You know,
30 Port Heiden was a pretty good moose area. Everybody
31 always got their moose in the fall and always got a
32 moose in the wintertime, the people who went out and
33 hunt for the village. And the last two years, like I
34 said, there was zero shot, you know, Randy.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Did you get any,
37 Bobby, in the wintertime? Bobby, did you guys harvest
38 any moose in the winter season?

39
40 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: No, we didn't get
41 none this last two years, like I said.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. And most of
44 your hunting you say is on Federal land as compared --
45 looking at the map here, and it looks like most of the
46 land around you, except for right around the village
47 and the bay is State land, but you go in a little ways,
48 and you are closer to Federal land than any other
49 village.

50

1 Okay. I guess we will be discussing
2 later on proposals. And what I guess I would like you
3 guys in the villages is to submit proposals that you
4 want the Federal Subsistence Board to take up, because
5 if we don't do them here, they won't have any proposals
6 before them on these issues that you guys are telling
7 us. So I would recommend that you guys send in
8 proposals also, even if we do, or if we don't. That
9 way they will be in. And your proposal might be
10 different than ones that we submit, so I would
11 recommend that you guys in your villages do that. And
12 if you need proposal forms, you can call -- Donald, do
13 you a number for them to call or faxes?

14
15 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. In
16 our harvest of wildlife regulations book, July 1, 2008
17 to 2010, on Page 15 there's a proposal form individuals
18 can use to submit proposals. But if the villages or
19 any individual needs some technical assistance, I mean,
20 they can call my office and I'll be glad to assist
21 them. Plus we have biologists on Staff to help also.
22 Thank you.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Give them your
25 number.

26
27 MR. MIKE: My office number is 786-
28 3629. And you can also call our 800 number. 1-800-
29 478-1456.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks,
32 Donald. Anybody didn't get that that wanted that
33 number.

34
35 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: We've got
36 proposal forms. I think all the villages must have
37 one.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, I just
40 wanted to make sure, because if you.....

41
42 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: I think we've got
43 a proposal in or being sent in.

44
45 MR. KINGSLEY: It got shot down, Bobby.

46
47 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: What was that?

48
49 MR. KINGSLEY: The Board of Game shot
50 both of our proposals down for predator.....

1 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Oh, okay. I can
2 barely hear you, Dan.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Bobby, this is Randy
5 again. Yeah, these -- Board of Game proposals are
6 different than what you need to send in to the Federal
7 Subsistence Board. So that's what I'm saying, if you
8 guys have issues, you should send a proposal in,
9 because if we don't do any, the Federal Subsistence
10 Board won't have anything before them to take up. And
11 it would be better to have more proposals before them,
12 because if it's as bad as it sounds, that they need to
13 take this up at -- well, probably it will be at the
14 next spring meeting or next summer or something like
15 that.

16
17 Okay. We have George, the State
18 representative, will report on the moose survey.

19
20 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 George Pappas, Department of Fish and Game.

22
23 I just got off the phone with Lem
24 Butler. He's currently assembling moose darts and
25 heading to I believe the Meshik area later on today.

26
27 The Unit 9 area is 34,000 square miles.
28 There's a lot of complexities with logistics and
29 weather with the surveys. The Chignik areas were
30 surveyed for moose he said a couple years ago. And
31 it's a rotational basis. So it will probably be a
32 couple more years before they get back to that area.
33 And in the last couple years they've spent a fair
34 amount of time in the northern part of Unit 9 surveying
35 up there. So it's actually Ivanof Bay and out west in
36 that direction is the most logistically difficult
37 surveys they have to do for moose. The regulations are
38 established to be conservative to protect the bull
39 population. And they'll get back there as soon as they
40 can, and they're doing their best. And I guess they've
41 had a bad stretch of weather here in the last several
42 years for that part of the world.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks,
47 George. Did you guys in the teleconference hear that.

48
49 MR. B. CHRISTIANSEN: Yeah. Well,
50 they're always finding excuse, you know. That's the

1 bum part.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I know. I
4 think what Dan O'Hara had said is we should have moose
5 surveys every year if possible, yeah, because
6 circumstances change with predators and hunting. And
7 we can't really make/pass good regulations without
8 recent surveys of populations to really say what they
9 are, if it needs -- if the regulations need to be
10 adjusted or not. And the only, you know -- you have to
11 have those surveys to show that it needs to be adjusted
12 or not.

13

14 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

17

18 MR. O'HARA: Yes. Dan O'Hara

19

20 Hey, you guys in the villages, here
21 about several years ago had a Federal Subsistence
22 Council meeting. We shut down all of the big game
23 guides on moose in Federal lands. That was our
24 proposal. And the Federal Board decided that there
25 would be no more sport hunting on Federal lands until a
26 moose survey was done, and this was in the month of
27 April. And the next day the airplanes cranked up and
28 went out and did a moose survey.

29

30 So we're not going to buy off on the
31 fact that the -- and I think the Feds are the worst of
32 anybody, the worst of all of the organizations, the
33 worst of all of them, as far as getting the work done.
34 I mean, if it's a holiday or if it's not good that day
35 or something. You know, they could contract it out to
36 private people who can do these type of things, and to
37 get the job done. And they just won't do it. And if
38 this Council doesn't, you know, stick in the eye with a
39 sharp stick, they won't get it done. And if you guys
40 shut things down and make those guides go away, I
41 guarantee you there will be a moose survey. But they
42 won't do it for you subsistence people. And we've
43 heard that before.

44

45 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.

48 Nanci.

49

50 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 Yeah, I would add to what Dan's saying, too. I agree
2 we've heard this over and over again, and there's all
3 kinds of excuses why they don't get that area, and
4 specifically you guys that are on teleconference with
5 us, that is the area. We request it, you request it,
6 everybody requests, and we don't see it done.

7

8 I would also just say since we're on
9 this subject, that maybe it's something we should
10 consider also when we're doing our allocation of
11 resources to make sure that the Feds understand that
12 it's a priority for us, and not something that should
13 be taken lightly, because when they're doing their
14 projects and stuff and they bring them before us and
15 they ask us to prioritize them, we should also consider
16 having those put in there so that they understand.
17 Unless we have good information, it's hard for us to
18 work within our limitations for justification.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan Dunaway.

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes, Mr. Chair. And all
25 the folks listening in. I see one component that I
26 don't think we can do, but I'd certainly encourage you
27 to do through various avenues is encourage all relevant
28 lawmakers to try to provide more funds. Of course, a
29 lot of times it is the weather, but if we could assure
30 State and Federal Government to seek more funds that
31 they could have a few more people. This is a vast
32 area, and Lem's stretched from one end to the other,
33 and so are all the Federal folks. Two or three more
34 folks that could maybe swarm the area a little bit
35 might be a huge help. So I would encourage you to
36 pursue that avenue as well as continue like what Dan
37 and everybody else here is saying, because I know all
38 of us with the cost of everything, this meat source is
39 a lot more critical than it was a few years ago when
40 fuel was cheaper and everything else was cheaper..

41

42 That's all. Thanks.

43

44 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Dan.

45

46 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. You guys listening
47 out in the villages, it's just pretty tough to shut the
48 sports guys off, the commercial guides off. But if we
49 started reducing the number of animals that they could
50 take. Say Pumice can only take five or six moose until

1 we start getting something back to the subsistence
2 user. Or Butch over at Cinder River. Or your boss
3 over at Meshik. Meshik's a long ways away.
4
5 Anyway, that's a thought, Madam Chair.
6 Thanks.
7
8 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: I agree,
9 Dan. That's a good one.
10
11 Did somebody on line have a comment?
12 Please go ahead.
13
14 MR. STANG: Hello. This is Perryville.
15
16 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
17 Would you please identify yourself for the record.
18
19 MR. STANG: Hello, this is Perryville.
20 Can you guys hear me?
21
22 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, we
23 can, Perryville. Will you please identify yourself for
24 the record.
25
26 MR. STANG: Austin Stang (ph), Native
27 Village of Perryville.
28
29 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Say your
30 name again, please, for us?
31
32 MR. STANG: Austin Stang. Perryville.
33
34 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
35 Austin, thanks for checking in. We're going through
36 public testimony right. And we're talking about a
37 resolution to close sport hunting for moose in Unit 9E.
38 And you're welcome to weigh in on the subject if you'd
39 like.
40
41 MR. STANG: Yeah. We were just
42 wondering about the moose survey. When was the last
43 current or moose survey done down in this area. We
44 haven't seen or heard any kind of numbers the last few
45 years. And it's starting to take a toll down here.
46
47 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes,
48 Austin. To catch you up to date, we just found out
49 literally minutes ago that your last survey in that
50 area was done two or three years ago, and they only do

1 them periodically and you're not expected to be on the
2 slate again for another two or three years. The
3 comments from the Council have been that we're not
4 happy about that and we are kind of brainstorming ways
5 and ideas to get that addressed in a more timely
6 fashion, and any comments you have would be welcome.

7

8 MR. STANG: All right. We're
9 listening, so we'll just keep in.

10

11 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
12 Thank you. Bobby, did you have any more other comments
13 you'd like to add to that? Bobby, did you have any
14 comments that you'd like to add to that?

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Donald.

19

20 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. As
21 we speak, we can try to get the Refuge Staff out in
22 King Salmon to speak on moose survey issues. So I have
23 Staff right now calling, contacting King Salmon, so if
24 we hear, maybe we can have them identify. And if it's
25 the biologist from King Salmon, we can ask him to fill
26 in on the status of the moose surveys.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Good.
31 Thank you, Donald. I appreciate that. And I hope you
32 folks on line heard that, we're attempting to get Staff
33 out in King Salmon to be able to respond to this query
34 as well, and we hope to have them on line later on.
35 Thank you.

36

37 Dan Dunaway. Dan O'Hara.

38

39 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. I think for the
40 people who are on line out in the villages, at the end
41 of our agenda, probably other business, I think we
42 ought to do a recommendation to the Feds that we maybe
43 be a little more conscientious about a moose survey in
44 those regions. Madam Chair. If we go on record as
45 under new business or old business, whatever it -- I
46 guess it would be new business of making a
47 recommendation that we be a little more conscientious
48 about this survey, we'd get an idea of what predators
49 are doing and the animals that are available for
50 subsistence.

1 Thank you.
2
3 VICE CHAIRMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, Dan.
4 I agree. I think that would be a good idea and I think
5 it's overdue that we address it, because we've heard
6 about it for a long time.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Where are you?
9
10 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. We just got
11 done. We had Austin from Perryville check in as well,
12 and any comments that he might have. We were just
13 talking about surveys and how to address them. We're
14 going to address it under other business at the end of
15 the meeting, about putting in some sort of a
16 recommendation that they take a better look at surveys
17 more often and more timely.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.
20
21 MR. MIKE: No, I didn't raise my hand.
22 But we do have somebody on line.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Do we have
25 somebody else on line.
26
27 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Before we move
28 on, I forgot to mention that we have a visitor, the
29 regional director for the Alaska Region, Geoff Haskett.
30 I just want to recognize that he's here at the Bristol
31 Bay Council meeting.
32
33 Thank you.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, when I was out
36 a minute ago, I met Mr. Geoffrey Haskett. He's the new
37 regional director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
38 Service. He also is one of the members of the Federal
39 Subsistence Board. So I would like to introduce you to
40 Mr. Haskett. Do you have anything to.....
41
42 MR. HASKETT: Well, thank you. I
43 hadn't come prepared to say anything, but I'll say
44 hello. Mostly I want to come to be able to sit in and
45 kind of listen and hear what you all are doing here.
46 And I've been here for six months now, so I'm still
47 fairly new in the region. It's actually my second time
48 in Alaska. I lived here in the mid 80s for three years
49 as well. And actually Jerry Bergman said this would be
50 a good opportunity for me just to kind of figure out

1 what's going on here. So I'm mostly here to learn.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. And if
4 you have any questions, just don't hesitate to ask us.
5
6 MR. HASKETT: Okay. I didn't mean to
7 interrupt you either. I just thought I'd sit down and
8 just listen in. Thank you for letting me.....
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, no. Our
11 meetings are not as formal as yours, so we kind of just
12 jump around and when somebody wants to say something,
13 we do it. We're not as formal as that.
14
15 Polly.
16
17 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 Polly Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence
19 Management.
20
21 Given the discussion that just happened
22 for the last 45 minutes or so, we will make sure that
23 when the transcript comes out that Regional Director
24 Haskett gets a copy of it, and that the concerns that
25 were heard from -- that were voiced from the villages
26 with regard to surveys and the other related issues,
27 we'll make sure that that gets to Director Haskett.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's good. Then
30 he can get a feel of what we're faced with here. Thank
31 you.
32
33 Any other.
34
35 (No comments)
36
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: Somebody just went on
38 the teleconference.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is there somebody
41 else on line? Teleconference?
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Hearing none, I
46 guess then we move back to number 9A, the charter
47 review. Donald, would you take care of that.
48
49 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
50 charter for Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council is up

1 for review every odd year. The Council will have an
2 opportunity to make comments or make suggested changes
3 to the charter. And that's done every odd year. And
4 if the Councils have any changes to the charter, it
5 will be submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board for
6 consideration.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Donald. Is
11 there any of the Board members have any comment on,
12 questions on the charter.

13

14 MS. MORRIS LYON: May I just ask one
15 question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

18

19 MS. MORRIS LYON: Donald, the only
20 question I have, are there anything in particular
21 that's been changed that we should be aware of, or is
22 everything pretty much the same as it had been?

23

24 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Member Nanci.
25 There's no changes since the last time you reviewed it.
26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So if there's
29 no changes, do we need to take action on this?

30

31 MR. MIKE: You can take an action right
32 now or you can just make a motion that you don't have
33 any changes, or just move it forward as is. Thank you.

34

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

37

38 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Chair. I
39 just have -- I'm new to the RAC here. This is Molly
40 Chythlook from Dillingham.

41

42 I just have a question on -- let's see,
43 it would be on Page 12, C, where it indicated that
44 there should be appointments from RAC to these
45 councils. Has there been anybody that's appointed from
46 the RAC to these councils? Well, there's the Lake
47 Clark National and then another one.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, Molly. We do
50 appoint some of the SRC members. For instance, Thomas

1 Hedlund, he's not here, but he serves on the Lake Clark
2 SRC, and he's appointed by this Council. But not all
3 the members are appointed by the Council. Is that
4 right, Donald?

5

6 MR. MIKE: That's right, Mr. Chair.
7 The Council appoints members to the SRC for Lake Clark
8 and Aniakchak Subsistence Resource Commissions. And I
9 normally get a notice from the Park Service as far as
10 membership status and the Park Service provides
11 recommendations for names for the Council to consider
12 for the Council to appoint to these SRCs.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Does that -- Molly.

17

18 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. Thanks. Thanks
19 for the clarification.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Does anybody
22 want to move we adopt the deal or -- Nanci.

23

24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Move to adopt, Mr.
25 Chair.

26

27 MR. O'HARA: Second.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Motion by
30 Nanci to adopt, seconded by Dan O'Hara. Any questions.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in
35 favor signify by saying aye.

36

37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

40

41 (No opposing votes)

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried. All
44 right. Okay. Since we just did public testimony,
45 unless there's somebody new on the -- for public
46 testimony, or something different than what we
47 discussed, we will take that now.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Hearing none
2 we'll move on for.....
3
4 MS. CARLSON: Excuse me.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I heard
7 somebody on teleconference. Can you speak up?
8
9 MS. CARLSON: Good morning. The
10 information you requested, Dan has faxed that. He sent
11 it to you folks, too. So you can be looking for that.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan has faxed?
14
15 MS. MORRIS LYON: The information that
16 was requested.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. The
19 information. All right. Thank you.
20
21 And I just wanted to let you guys know
22 that we're moving on for call for proposals and we'll
23 be discussing some proposals. So if you guys would
24 like to testify on any of the proposals we are working
25 on, you will have a chance to do that also. And we
26 would ask that you not interrupt, but we'll ask if
27 there is any public testimony and then you will have a
28 chance to do that.
29
30 Okay. Number 11, call for proposals to
31 change 2010/12 Federal subsistence wildlife
32 regulations. A. changes to the procedures to comment
33 on proposed rules and submit proposals. Polly, are you
34 going to be reporting on that?
35
36 DR. WHEELER: I am, Mr. Chair. Polly
37 Wheeler for the Office of Subsistence Management.
38
39 I will say though that Donald and
40 Member Dunaway were both looking like they maybe needed
41 a quick break before I started on this.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're right. I got
44 a note that we need a break. So we will do that.
45 Thank you.
46
47 (Off record)
48
49 (On record)
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess we'll get
2 back to order here. Polly.

3
4 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
5 The next item on the agenda is the call for wildlife
6 proposals. As you know, we have -- the call is open
7 right now. We'll be accepting proposals until April
8 30th.

9
10 We did want to bring to your attention
11 a small point, and this may be of greater import to the
12 people that are on the phone rather than this Council,
13 but there's been a little bit of a change in how we
14 accept wildlife proposals or fisheries proposals when
15 that cycle comes around. And it's on Page 14 in your
16 Board book. I'm not going to read to you.

17
18 Suffice it to say that the Obama
19 administration is looking to, and this has been a
20 movement in the past couple years before the new
21 administration, but they're looking to accept more and
22 more items through into government electronically. We
23 recognize that this is potentially a problem for
24 people, particularly out in villages, so we worked with
25 people back in D.C. to develop a process that would
26 keep our problem in compliance with the whole movement
27 towards accepting things only electronically, but give
28 folks more flexibility out in the villages that don't
29 necessarily have access to the technology or the speed,
30 the bandwidth to get information in.

31
32 So right now we've been granted, we
33 being OSM, has been granted special permission to
34 accept comments to our proposed rules and subsistence
35 proposals by the following methods. There's three
36 bullets there.

37
38 The key is that for this Council in
39 particular, you can give -- we can accept anything at a
40 Council meeting or in a Board meeting. You know, you
41 can hand deliver, you can use the U.S. mail, mail it to
42 the Office of Subsistence Management. So I would
43 encourage all of you as Council members to let the
44 public know that things are probably changing and over
45 time it may be that we can only accept things
46 electronically, but for now we can use the mail, and
47 you can hand something off to us at OSM.

48
49 So if you have any further comments on
50 that, I can address them. I think it's fairly self-

1 explanatory. But we just wanted to make that note,
2 just to bring it to your attention.

3
4 And then that's all I had. And then
5 that's sort of the introduction to the acceptance -- or
6 the discussion of proposals.

7
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.

11
12 Does anyone have any comments or
13 questions for Polly. Nanci.

14
15 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Polly, I would
16 just like to recognize you and the OSM office for
17 immediately realizing the difficulty that that could
18 potentially cause, and taking immediate action, and
19 just say thanks for that.

20
21 DR. WHEELER: Immediate is an
22 interesting word in the context of government, but we
23 do what we can. Thank you.

24
25 (Laughter)

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that would
28 bring us to proposals.

29
30 I guess one thing we should discuss is
31 the status of our moose proposals that the Federal
32 Subsistence Board tabled. Donald, can you updated us
33 on that.

34
35 MR. MIKE: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chair.
36 Just to clarify, is the proposal that the Bristol Bay
37 Regional Advisory Council submitted on moose for Unit 9
38 in certain areas, but the Board deferred it last
39 spring. And if I could have Laura Greffenius, our
40 wildlife biologist come up to the table and give you a
41 status. But the deferred proposal from last spring, it
42 automatically goes into our cycle and is submitted
43 again as a proposal.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Laura, can you
48 report on what our proposal says and would do. We have
49 some new members, and, in fact, I have an idea what it
50 says, but can you give us the reading on it also.

1 MS. GREFFENIUS: All right. Thank you,
2 Mr. Chairman. My name is Laura Greffenius, and I'm a
3 wildlife biologist with the Office of Subsistence
4 Management.

5
6 So as Donald already said, this is
7 WP08-30/31, so I'll just refer to 30/31. And these
8 proposals came before the Federal Subsistence Board and
9 were discussed at their spring meeting. And it was
10 decided to defer that proposal.

11
12 And so the procedure is, is when
13 something's deferred, then it comes up the following
14 year. And we did check on this just recently. It will
15 come before the Board as is, the way it is right now.
16 If you want to make any like slight modification to it,
17 you can do that. If it's going to change considerably,
18 if you wanted to do that, you can request that, you
19 know, this one, that whatever you put in instead would
20 be considered in lieu of this one. Otherwise it will
21 come before the Federal Subsistence Board as it.

22
23 And I can just go over what the
24 proposed regulation is just for everyone. It was in
25 two parts, but since they're really similar, then we
26 put it in the analysis together.

27
28 So Number 30 was for Unit 9B moose, and
29 the harvest is for one bull in Unit 9B. And there's
30 two seasons. As it is right now, it's August 20 to
31 September 15, and then there's a December 1st through
32 January 15th. And the idea being the proposed
33 regulation was to shorten the seasons and there's been
34 concerns about the moose populations in these areas.
35 So the Council was willing to shorten the seasons. And
36 so the proposal was for September 1, so shortening it
37 by 10 days, through September 15th, and December 15th,
38 shortening it by two weeks, through January 15th. So
39 shortening both the fall and the winter season. And
40 that was for 9B.

41
42 And then for Number 31, it's for 9A and
43 B and C. and that one was not affecting the season
44 dates. The season dates would stay the same. But the
45 proposal was to close Federal public lands, except to
46 the rural Alaska residents of Units 9A, B, C and E
47 under these regulations. So it's a Federal public
48 lands closure. And let's see if it continues on the
49 other side. And as I said it would affect B and C, and
50 the other ones were not including Federal public lands.

1 So that's -- and what was -- there was
2 kind of discussions, if some of you remember, amongst
3 the Council about, well, shortening the seasons or
4 closing Federal public lands. And the Council from
5 what I recall was willing to shorten their seasons and
6 not close the Federal public lands, or leave the
7 seasons as is and close -- or close the Federal public
8 lands. So you can discuss how you want to do it.

9

10 And, Randy, you could go from there.
11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Laura.
14 That's good, that refreshes our memories, especially
15 mine.

16

17 Yeah, if I recall, we did make two
18 proposals. The 31 asking to close Federal lands to
19 non-subsistence users, or qualified users. And then 30
20 was to shorten the season for residents if the Board
21 saw fit to close non-residents. We felt that the
22 residents would show that they would bear part of the
23 burden by shortening the season also. But we wanted
24 that if the Board didn't -- I reported when I went to
25 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting when the
26 discussed them, I asked that we didn't want to shorten
27 the season if they didn't close the non-residents. So
28 there was supposed to be a working group with the
29 State, but the State hasn't done it.

30

31 And so I personally still think it's a
32 good proposal, although I think from the last fall and
33 last winter moose season, the harvest in my opinion is
34 probably what it was the year before, if not a little
35 bit more. So in my opinion, it's probably -- the moose
36 situation is probably the same or getting better from
37 what I've seen. But I think with the amount of
38 predators we have, it's probably not going to get much
39 better faster. So I'm thinking that I still support
40 those proposals.

41

42 And does anybody else have any
43 questions or comments on these two proposals that were
44 deferred. Dan.

45

46 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. Dan O'Hara.

47

48

49 Is that proposal in our packet? No?

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't think so.
2 That was in our packet last time.
3
4 MR. O'HARA: The point I guess I wanted
5 to make, Laura, was that we heard Bobby Christiansen at
6 Port Heiden, excuse me, mention that he had found a
7 moose, but the horns requirements were -- he couldn't
8 kill the moose, because of the horn requirements
9 apparently on Federal lands. And a lot of places, I
10 know on State lands, 50-inch with 3 brow tines. Is
11 that in the proposal?
12
13 MS. GREFFENIUS: For the Federal
14 proposed regulation, it's not, no.
15
16 MR. O'HARA: And so there is no.....
17
18 MS. GREFFENIUS: I can look under the
19 State regulation, and.....
20
21 MR. O'HARA: I know what the State one
22 is, it's 50 and 3 brow tines.
23
24 MS. GREFFENIUS: Right. We do not have
25 that specificity in the proposed Federal regulation.
26
27 MR. O'HARA: Now, see, I said something
28 good about the Federal.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah.
33 Looking at the regulations, there's no restriction on
34 antler size, just a bull.
35
36 But I guess, you know, I don't want to
37 make one proposal for the whole area. I think it would
38 be better to have different proposals for different
39 areas, because the Board would -- if they didn't like
40 one proposal or, you know, on one area, if one area was
41 fine, they might throw the whole ball of wax out the
42 door, you know, instead of passing one and rejecting
43 another. So if we do, we need to probably make
44 separate proposals for separate areas.
45
46 But I guess, does anybody not -- does
47 anybody oppose or have any comment or oppose our moose
48 proposals, the 30 and 31 that we have that are tabled,
49 or any comments on it.
50

1 Donald, do you want to say something.

2

3 MR. MIKE: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

4

5 Like I said earlier, the deferred
6 proposals from last spring by the Board on the moose
7 issue for Unit 9 and other areas, it's automatically
8 going forward since there was no action taken by the
9 State, but the deferred proposal is going through. But
10 I think the Council will have an opportunity to make
11 further comments and recommendations on those deferred
12 proposals.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Laura, do we
15 have any harvest information, since it's been a year
16 since we submitted this proposal, and with the new
17 harvest, with one more year of harvest data for this
18 area, 9B, and also Number 31 is 9A, B and C, the new
19 harvest data, is that available? And I was just
20 wondering, because it would show if the harvest was any
21 better or staying the same or getting worse of what --
22 because with the amount of surveys that the State and
23 the Fed biologists are doing are not every year, the
24 only real good population numbers that I look at is
25 what the people are harvesting. And if the people are
26 harvesting adequate moose, it tells me that there must
27 be quite a few moose around, but if they're not
28 harvesting any, and they're hunting quite a bit, there
29 must not be any. So since there's not hardly any new
30 surveys, we have to go by the harvest data, and there
31 should be one more year of harvest data out, and maybe
32 we can get that and see what's happening. Would that
33 be available to us this afternoon, Laura.

34

35 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah, Randy. Just to
36 mention that this will be taken up and then an analysis
37 will be done, and this information will be updated.
38 And I do not have the current, as you said, if we had
39 it right now. No, I don't have it right now. You
40 know, if somebody, if Lem perhaps was available, he
41 might, but I don't believe he's in the office.

42

43 Usually when we're working on these, I
44 just glanced at the table that's in this analysis, and
45 I was working on this in the fall of 2007. It's
46 usually the most current is the previous year. Like
47 right now there might be some information tallied up
48 for the fall harvest, but it's not so likely for the
49 winter that they'd have that all compiled. But it
50 could be available, and we can check with Lem, but I

1 don't have it with me right now, but it would certainly
2 -- any information in here would be updated, and so
3 that the Federal Subsistence -- or the Council when you
4 go over it in the fall meeting, and when the Federal
5 Subsistence Board see it, you know, the information
6 would be updated.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So the
9 Federal Subsistence Board then won't be taking it up in
10 May. They'll be taking it up probably in December.
11 Polly.

12

13 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
14 Yeah, the Federal Board will be meeting in January 2010
15 to take up this proposal.

16

17 And I would say that in addition to the
18 reported harvest that you just were mentioning and
19 Laura was talking about, we also in the context -- I
20 mean, part of the value of the Council meetings is that
21 we hear public testimony. I think we heard pretty loud
22 and clear based on the public testimony that was on
23 earlier today that there is a problem. That will I
24 suspect be validated by the actual reported harvest
25 figures.

26

27 But we do use the qualitative
28 information that we hear that people are saying with
29 their problems with harvesting, as well as the reported
30 harvest, because we know that sometimes the reported
31 harvests don't capture all of what people are taking or
32 not taking. But we'll take the reports from local
33 folks as well as the harvest number.

34

35 But, yeah, it's 2010 in January that
36 the Board will be meeting on this.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan Dunaway.

39

40 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Maybe
41 Polly could remind us, why was it deferred? I seem to
42 remember, but was it -- I want to say it was that they
43 were afraid to move before the State did? Anyway, if
44 you have an answer, go ahead.

45

46 DR. WHEELER: I know. Yeah. I don't
47 want to speak for the Board as fair as their rears go.
48 But I know that when this item was discussed, the
49 Alaska Department of Fish and Game offered up a working
50 group as there were differences of opinion with the

1 Department and the Office of Subsistence Management as
2 far as the nature of the information and what the data
3 were telling us, so the State offered up a working
4 group to try and resolve some of these issues. And the
5 Board took that opportunity to defer on the proposal
6 pending the outcome of the working group.

7

8 And I will say that the working group,
9 that some Department and Federal Staff met in the fall
10 to talk about the issue. We were trying to set up a
11 meeting after that initial meeting out in Bristol Bay
12 area, and we were not able to do that.

13

14 I do understand, and Molly might want
15 to speak to the upcoming moose meeting that is being
16 planned for that neck of the woods.

17

18 But basically the Board deferred the
19 proposal pending the outcome of this working group.
20 And at this point I can report that there is no
21 outcome.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's what I
24 recall, Dan, was the Fish and Game, they convinced the
25 Federal Subsistence Board, this is the way I seen it,
26 to form a working group to discuss -- bring together
27 all the different users for moose, but it never
28 happened. And I asked about it a couple of times, and
29 so it -- I even tried to get one together before the
30 last meeting, and it didn't happen. In Dillingham.

31

32 So, Molly, did you have something.

33

34 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, Mr. Chair. BBNA
35 has been working on a working group for the moose and
36 caribou enhancement. It's going to be an enhancement
37 program. And that's been going on for the last
38 probably two years, and with the Natural Resources
39 Department, BBNA, having no funding to work on that,
40 our CEO just three months or so ago contracted this out
41 to Hans Nicholson to start the project going. He is in
42 the process of getting the working group first meeting.
43 It was scheduled for April 2, and I don't know if
44 that's still happening.

45

46 But I wasn't -- I think we're -- I'm
47 kind of confused with the State working group versus
48 the BBNA working group. I guess the State was
49 developing a working work, but I know about BBNA
50 working group that we've been trying to establish, and

1 now it's ongoing, and there's actually been people
2 contacted to attend this first meeting.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah. The
7 State was supposed to organize a working group for
8 these two proposals, the moose proposals that got
9 deferred, but that had never happened for I don't know
10 what reasons. But I think we just need to move on and
11 in my opinion, I think we still -- I would support
12 those unless somebody has some other suggestion we do.

13

14 So is there any more comment on this.
15 Nanci.

16

17 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I
18 would say I agree. I think that we need to leave them
19 on the agenda and review them again when they come back
20 up and not have them taken off of there. And hopefully
21 at that point we'll have this additional information
22 and perhaps some results from a working group that's
23 being put together. And that would be my thought.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that takes
28 care of the two proposals that are tabled then.

29

30 So that brings us to other game
31 proposals. Does anybody want to -- thinks that we
32 should submit any other proposals to the Federal
33 Subsistence? Moll -- excuse me. Polly.

34

35 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
36 did want to point out that the fax or the resolution
37 from Pilot Point did come in, and you all have a copy
38 of that at your desk if you want to -- or at your seat,
39 so if you want to take a look at that. Carl Jack from
40 our office brought it down, and copies were made. So
41 that's what they had presented to the Board of Game I
42 believe based on their testimony earlier today, if you
43 want to take a look at that, see if there's anything
44 you want to act on. I just wanted to point that out.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Let's take a
47 minute and look at this.

48

49 (Off record)

50

1 (On record)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Looking at
4 that fax, it looks like just Lower Bristol Bay's
5 comments on game proposals that was before the Alaska
6 Board of Game.

7

8 Laura.

9

10 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah, Randy. I'm
11 referring to this resolution with the Pilot Point
12 Traditional Council, some of you I think had gotten
13 copies of that. Well, and I'd also had some calls just
14 in the last month or so from people out in Chignik Lake
15 and so I've been answering some questions and actually
16 providing people with copies of it's WP06-26. So that
17 was submitted by the Chignik Lake Village Council at
18 that time. It was for 9E and requesting Federal public
19 lands closed to the taking of moose. And so I just
20 wanted to remind the Council, and I know some of you --
21 you have new members, that this issue was take up at
22 that time in 2006, and so we have a proposal that is
23 several years old, but the information would be
24 updated.

25

26 And one of the needs was, and that was
27 brought up during the discussion with the public
28 testimony, one of the needs being of more survey work
29 and getting more updated information. So if there's a
30 proposal, whether it be by the Council or by one of
31 those community members that was giving testimony
32 earlier, we would just re-examine this and update the
33 information.

34

35 So if anybody has any questions, it's
36 not in your Council books, but I have a copy of it, and
37 I can -- some of you had some questions on harvest
38 information, and I can just look at this answer what
39 you might have.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah, Laura.
44 Yeah, I recall that proposal a little over two years
45 ago. I believe that was by Chignik, right, to close 9E
46 to non-qualified subsistence users. And at the time we
47 didn't even think it was necessary, because they'd just
48 had a moose survey done right before our meeting, and
49 what did they count? 160 some moose up around Black
50 Lake or that area. But since then, I don't know, there

1 doesn't seem to be that much any more the next survey
2 that got done.

3

4 And so besides Chignik now, it seems
5 that Port Heiden is not harvesting any, and Ugashik is
6 having trouble. So apparently it seems to be all of
7 9E. I know Egegik in the Refuge, I don't know what
8 Egegik's harvest is, but it doesn't sound like they're
9 getting a lot.

10

11 Dale, do you know how Egegik -- what
12 kind of harvest that they were reporting?

13

14 MR. MYERS: No, I haven't heard. I
15 talked with a couple of the guys there, and I haven't
16 really heard. I did get some comments about some of
17 the people that were drifting along the river got a
18 couple along the King Salmon River by that one near
19 Egegik. But other than that, I haven't been able to --
20 I talked to a couple of the local guys, but they hadn't
21 gotten any.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is that on Federal
24 land or State land?

25

26 MR. MYERS: I believe it's a mixture of
27 both. Some of it starts up by Gertrude's Creek and
28 then as it comes down, it comes out of the Becharof
29 Refuge into State land.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I feel the need to
32 propose something, you know. Like I said before, any
33 proposal we submit here we're going to be discussing
34 again this fall. And then by then we'll have the Staff
35 reports. So if we don't like what we proposed this
36 fall, we can always throw it out, but if we don't have
37 anything to discuss, you know, there would be nothing
38 -- we can't let it go before the Federal Subsistence
39 Board. So I always feel it's better to submit stuff
40 and then discuss them and we can always throw them out,
41 instead of having nothing at all to discuss. So I
42 would be in favor of submitting some proposals to help
43 these guys, these communities out. So if any of you
44 guys have any suggestions, I'd like to hear them.

45

46 Dan.

47

48 MR. O'HARA: I think one of the things,
49 the brown bear population in Unit 9 are just
50 continually increasing, you know. And I think maybe on

1 Federal and State land you need to liberalize the take
2 of bears more. Maybe a spring and fall hunt. It's
3 worked pretty well in the Naknek drainage where we do
4 have a spring hunt on a regular basis, and if there --
5 you know, there's no natural predator for a brown bear.
6 And the biggest concern, I mean, you -- Dale and I have
7 flown on these regions and talked to sports guys that
8 have come out of the area.

9

10 And just to show you, in the Meshik
11 area, these guides, you know, like a few years ago
12 there was a certain number of animals that they saw.
13 Then last year they saw a decrease in the number of
14 male bulls. And then this last year, this year, when
15 we flew the guys out in the fall time, the numbers are
16 reduced again.

17

18 And, you know, you can't kill of 25
19 percent of the bears. I mean, that's just not
20 practical to kill that many animals. You can't do it
21 with a good conscious, just go out and start
22 slaughtering bears. But we need to do something. I
23 don't know if the State would even be interested in
24 liberalizing the number of animals taken other than one
25 every four years. You know, I don't know what the
26 interest would be. The economy is changing. People
27 aren't coming back to do things they used to do. They
28 don't need to kill a bear to stay alive.

29

30 But anyway, just a thought. I mean,
31 when you look at the -- you know, look at this piece of
32 paper we have before us and see the magnitude of bears
33 increasing, and the bulls may go away, they may kill
34 each other off. Who know.

35

36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What paper are you
39 looking at?

40

41 MR. O'HARA: Well, this one that was
42 given to us here.

43

44 MS. MORRIS LYON: The fax.

45

46 MR. O'HARA: The advisory -- well, I'll
47 just read it to you.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, yeah.

50

1 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chair. It says here
2 that -- it says, of particular concern is the
3 population estimate of brown bears in the game unit is
4 based on harvested only. And it talks about there's a
5 three-fold increase in the number of bears in this game
6 unit since the early 1980s.

7
8 Donald, did you just hand this to us?
9 This fax on the Pilot Point Tribal Council or Bristol
10 Bay Advisory minutes, is that I was looking at.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was looking at the
13 regulations, Dan. In Unit 9E, one bear by Federal
14 registration permit only. The season is from September
15 25th until December 31st. And then again April 15th to
16 May 25th. I don't see what the limit is. Is that
17 every year? I guess this would be for the -- this is
18 different than what you're thinking about. You're
19 probably thinking about the State season for guided
20 hunts, right, instead of the qualified subsistence
21 user.

22
23 MR. O'HARA: Yes.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's see what it
26 says. If you wanted to read the regulations, if you
27 wanted to tweak it. Oh, one bear every four regulatory
28 years. And this year there's no open season.

29
30 Dan Dunaway.

31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. If I'm
33 not mistaken, I'm not real well versed in the Unit 9
34 bear seasons, but I think part of their trophy
35 management strategy was that kind of every other year
36 opening for the sport hunting, as well as that one bear
37 every four years restriction on any individual hunter.

38
39 Also I'll throw in that I've been
40 trying to warn some of the State biologists that the
41 local folks have been getting fed up with the trophy
42 management. And I first started hearing that in the
43 Lake Iliamna area before I retired back in the late
44 90s. And it looks like it's moving south pretty
45 steady.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks.
50 So I guess we're discussing bears to start with. So it

1 wouldn't -- in my opinion, there wouldn't be any sense
2 to tweak the resident user, because it's pretty liberal
3 the way it is. One every year for quite a while in the
4 fall until the end of the year and then again in April
5 and May. And if anything were to be done, the non-
6 resident user on Federal lands -- but they're under
7 State rules, aren't they? They hunt under State, under
8 these, is that correct? The non-resident hunter that
9 hunts on Federal lands uses this book here?

10

11 MS. MORRIS LYON: Uh-huh.

12 (Affirmative)

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So their
15 season is one bear every four years by permit.

16

17 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

20

21 MR. O'HARA: A young guy drowned up at
22 Pedro Bay a few years back, and they sent a diver down,
23 and I don't know if he ever recovered a body, but he
24 brought up eight bears. And the people in Pedro Bay
25 determined that bears just did not know how to swim, so
26 there might be a solution there somewhere. Don't put
27 that in the minutes though.

28

29 (Laughter)

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any suggestions.

32

33 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

36

37 MR. O'HARA: We can make a proposal, it
38 doesn't have to be done here in this meeting, but we
39 can do it individually, too, and submit it. I'd be
40 interested in doing it individually to submit to the
41 Federal Advisory Council.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, it's my
44 opinion that it's much easier if we want to do one
45 here, because we have people to write them up for us,
46 you know. Otherwise, if you want to go home and write
47 one up yourself and then send it in, that's fine, too.

48

49 Nanci.

50

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: And I would suggest,
2 too, in light of what these minutes have said and in
3 light of what Dan mentioned earlier, I think maybe we
4 might be remiss in not considering making the huge step
5 that none of us really care to look at or make, but
6 perhaps these trophy areas need to be eliminated, and
7 we maybe need to start moving in that direction
8 instead. Because it's going to be a hurdle that we
9 have continuously over our heads as long as they're
10 recognized as trophy areas.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And asking to
13 liberalize the non-resident season, I don't know how
14 much good that's going to -- if it would do a lot of
15 good.

16
17 MS. MORRIS LYON: With that
18 designation, it's almost impossible.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. According to
21 our biologist, Lem Butler, there's more -- I guess I
22 was referring to 9B, more bears are harvested in the
23 last couple years than in the years before that. It's
24 probably more related to a lot of bears.

25
26 But I guess if nobody has any
27 suggestions -- Molly.

28
29 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thanks, Chair.
30 Listening to the people that were testifying earlier,
31 there was more wolf concerns. I heard more wolf
32 concerns than there were bears, but I was looking at
33 the regulation here, and for rural residents, including
34 9, they're able to harvest 10 between August 10 and
35 April 30. I wonder -- I don't know who collects the
36 data for harvest of wolves, since wolves is one of the
37 predators. Is there anybody that has any knowledge of
38 wolf takes in that area.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Laura.

41
42 MS. GREFFENIUS: I'm not familiar just
43 off hand with the wolf harvest in that area. It's
44 information we can look up and find out. I don't have
45 it right now.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

48
49 MS. MORRIS LYON: Another thought I
50 just had, too, Molly, and maybe you can help us out

1 with this, or me out with it. What about -- I'm
2 thinking we've got a working group that's coming
3 together that is going to do analyzing and hopefully
4 some potential problem solving. Randy, what if we
5 would table this discussion until a time, and this
6 could be before the fall meeting, where the working
7 group would have some suggestions to come out with us,
8 and they can contact us by mail or email for
9 considerations for proposals to put together through
10 what that working group can come up with as ideas for
11 immediate help for these areas versus right now trying
12 to come up with something on short notice with some
13 difficult situations facing us.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Go idea. I'm
16 having trouble trying to find solutions, too, on short
17 notice, but, you know, I can't make -- the Chairman
18 can't make any motions. But he can vote. I leave it
19 to you guys for your suggestions.

20

21 Molly.

22

23 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thanks, Chair. I know
24 that the working group, a component of that working
25 group, they're going to be inviting I think the
26 Regional Chairs, so Randy I think will be involved in
27 this working group. And they'll be inviting, well,
28 interested agencies. So I think Nanci has a good idea.

29

30

31 And at those working group meetings, I
32 guess Randy or somebody could bring up suggestions, and
33 I assume -- not the first meeting, but I think they're
34 going to be also dealing with management plans, the
35 management plans that have worked in other areas. You
36 know, Dan mentioned Togiak, and I know that the moose
37 management plan up in Kuskokwim worked for them. So
38 they'll probably be working or looking into that in
39 this group.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I think this
42 working group, it should probably have to discuss
43 predator management, because that's part of the
44 problem, not only just closing non-residents. You
45 know, they're such a small part of the harvest that --
46 you know, I think that the major component is predators
47 even take more than the residents and non-residents.
48 So there would probably have to be part of the
49 discussion, what can be done. In fact, we probably
50 need to discuss what our options are at this meeting.

1 You know, like I said before, if we do -- if there is
2 to be any predator management on Federal lands,
3 especially this land down here, that's going to be --
4 have to deal with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
5 the land managers.

6
7 So maybe what we should do is ask them
8 what they plan on doing. You know, nothing is --
9 status quo isn't going to work in our opinion, or my
10 opinion. And it should be all of us here. So I
11 suppose we should draft a letter to the U.S. Fish and
12 Wildlife Service, because at the last Board of Game
13 meeting the Board of Game did pass, according to what I
14 understand, predator control for 9C. That's what I was
15 told. And I haven't heard what the reasoning why for
16 9C and not 9E, or if they're planning on doing 9E.

17
18 But I also heard from Lem Butler, from
19 another guy that said what Lem -- I wasn't at the Board
20 of Fish [sic] meeting when they were deliberating this
21 proposal, but Lem Butler had reported to the Board that
22 he was working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
23 on something, and so I'd kind of like to know what, and
24 if they have any plans. So maybe we should have a
25 letter asking U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service what they
26 are doing, or what they plan on doing on this issue.

27
28 Dan Dunaway.

29
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
31 Thank you, Dan O'Hara.

32
33 Kind of getting a little back on track
34 is a few things here. I believe we need to have a
35 proposal in by April 30, so deferring to the working
36 group, whether that would occur before April 30 could
37 be a problem.

38
39 At the same time, I'm reluctant to
40 offer up like a placeholder proposal like has been done
41 in the past, I think more in the State system. That
42 can be really vague and kind of treacherous for
43 everybody.

44
45 And as I sit here listening, I seem to
46 recall one of these proposals in the past coming out of
47 Chignik, the reason I don't think we supported it or
48 it flew was they wanted some really severe restrictions
49 on sport hunting. The way I remember it was that at
50 the same time they were still allowing guided sport

1 hunting on their own lands. And some of the -- a lot
2 of the area they were proposing to close was far away
3 from their traditional hunting areas and of
4 questionable value whether it would really help their
5 situation. And in my recollection, I certainly
6 sympathize with their need for moose, but I think we
7 asked them to re-evaluate their own practices on the
8 lands that they controlled as well as refine a proposal
9 for lands and areas closer to home without, say,
10 disenfranchising users that likely had no effect.

11
12 And that's why I'm really eager again
13 for those still listening in, I'm very eager to
14 encourage these communities to have a more honed down
15 proposal.

16
17 At the same time I'm wondering, I'm
18 just struggling in my own mind, could I come up with
19 some sort of language that would serve as a
20 placeholder, but would have some specifics enough to
21 allow the other public to respond. I'm thinking like
22 -- and, you know, on Federal lands as well, some of
23 these things, I wish there'd been proposals like out of
24 Egegik, Ugashik, Chignik for hunts like they have in
25 the immediate area of Cold Bay and Naknek for bears on
26 State lands.

27
28 I'm wondering if in Federal lands,
29 especially like Ugashik, we tried a couple years ago I
30 think to propose closure to non-residents within two
31 miles of water bodies or something, and that kind of
32 got shot down. I don't recall why.

33
34 So anyway, I'm still pretty -- nothing
35 has gelled in my head yet. I would encourage more
36 discussion, but I think we should maybe have some sort
37 of a placeholder proposal, but it should address
38 specific concerns of these communities that are
39 speaking to us. And as close as we can say, look at
40 maybe season lengths of bear hunts, bag limits for bear
41 hunts. The same for wolves. As well as hunters
42 eligible to hunt moose in areas close to these
43 communities.

44
45 Anyway I'm kind of just doing a brain
46 dump here, but that's what's kind of going on in my
47 mind here, so I'll defer and let that help.

48
49 Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Good
2 suggestion, Dan. Yeah, maybe we should resubmit that
3 proposal instead of having a total non-resident
4 closure, because, you know, like in 9B anyway, but for
5 some areas in 9E, it might be better to submit a
6 different proposal to close it there altogether,
7 because if they're not getting any moose, the residents
8 aren't getting any moose at all, maybe something
9 different has to be done, more drastic.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: Dale, you know as well as
16 I do nobody is going to go to Meshik, to Joe Klutch's
17 camp and kill a moose. That is not going to happen.
18 They're not going to go up Cinder River all the way to
19 the Park boundary. They're not going to do it at
20 Pumice. These -- maybe they're killing off enough
21 moose so they don't get down to the local people to
22 hunt moose. And they don't have the wherewithal to get
23 in a \$225,000 float/ wheel operations to go camp out
24 and get their moose. It just doesn't happen. The
25 residents don't have that kind of capability, and it's
26 even going to get worse.

27

28 So if you do something, it's going to
29 have to be done on more of a residential type zone.
30 And I don't know why the Feds didn't give us, you know,
31 zone areas around a certain area only for the -- only
32 on Federal lands. That I think would be, you know.....

33

34 But what I was going to talk about
35 before we took off on the direction of moose was that
36 if you liberalize the bear season to read something
37 like one bear every regulatory year for the State of
38 Alaska residents, and I'll give you an example of that.
39 When those guys -- and the Bristol Bay Borough is going
40 to put an electric fence around the dump this year in
41 Naknek, and those bears are going to go right down to
42 the communities.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think it is one.
45 Right now it's a bear every year for residents, isn't
46 it? Or, no, that's just for qualified users, not
47 residents.

48

49 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. And, you know,
50 well, those guys look at a bear out there and they run

1 up and get -- well, they might even -- I don't know if
2 they would do it or not. Maybe they would shoot the
3 bear, then go get the permit. I'm not going to say
4 they do that, but they will run and get the permit --
5 or get a permit for \$50 in case a bear comes by and
6 they want to kill it.

7

8 My wife wants a bear hanging on the
9 wall, and I'm too lazy to kill a bear and skin it. I
10 don't even want to do that, you know. But I might have
11 to. I might have to.

12

13 But if you liberalize it, you know, you
14 could put that in a proposal. One resident bear -- I
15 mean, one bear for a resident per year, period. I
16 mean, that would be a good proposal to start off.

17

18 And the thing that is interesting is so
19 much of this land as you see in A, B, C, D and E, Randy
20 is mostly -- the Federal land doesn't come hardly
21 close. Maybe Ugashik Lake I and II, they would get
22 bears there. Chigniks, that's Federal, isn't it?
23 Chigniks? Yeah, that's Federal, but still maintained
24 by the State. So it might help somewhat in reducing
25 the population a little bit.

26

27 And then with a proposal to maybe give
28 on Federal lands some kind of a zone area where, you
29 know, the non-residents are -- or non-qualified people
30 from Anchorage even could come in might help.

31

32 But I would certainly favor regulating
33 it something like one bear every regulatory year for
34 State of Alaska residents. That would be a good
35 proposal.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So I've got a
38 question. Could we do that.

39

40 MR. O'HARA: Sure, we could.

41

42 DR. WHEELER: Member O'Hara's right,
43 you can do it. The only problem is the Board of Game
44 just dealt with this area at their last meeting, and so
45 it's going to be two more years before they deal with
46 this area again. And under the Federal regs, the
47 Federal regs do allow a bear a year. It's the State --
48 so it's just -- it's confusing, but it's the State
49 system, the Federal system. And under Federal regs you
50 can take a bear every year. It's just under State

1 regs, but that won't come up before the Board of Game
2 for two more years.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, but that's a
5 bear a year for only qualified residents, not all State
6 residents.

7
8 DR. WHEELER: That's correct, but our
9 regulations, the Federal regulations only speak to
10 Federally-qualified users.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And you're
13 right. So it wouldn't do any good to open it -- to ask
14 to open it for all State residents, then that would
15 fall under State regulations, and they're not going to
16 do anything for two years. So I know that's what I was
17 reading. It's pretty liberal for qualified users right
18 now, but like you say, we're -- I quit hunting bear
19 quite a few years ago, because I was getting tags and
20 then I realized, what am I going to do with it when I
21 catch it. And it costs too much to, you know, send it
22 out, and I don't have wall big enough to put it on. So
23 I quit doing that.

24
25 MR. O'HARA: I've got a wall big
26 enough.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.

29
30 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
31 believe the State of Alaska have an avenue to deal
32 with proposals out of their meeting cycles, and I think
33 that's through their agenda change request, so that's
34 one avenue an individual or someone else can do.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're right. I
39 didn't think of that part.

40
41 Sandy, you're pretty quiet. I see you
42 raise your hand and nod once in a while, so if you, you
43 know, need to say anything, just let us know.

44
45 MR. RABINOWITCH: A comment. Thank
46 you, Mr. Chairman. I'm Sandy Rabinowitch with the Park
47 Service.

48
49 It's an interesting discussion, you
50 know, that you're having here, and there's obviously

1 challenges.

2

3 But, you know, kind of thinking my way
4 along, one thing I was going to point out, and I don't
5 think any of you were going this way, but in Lake Clark
6 Park, in Unit 9B, you actually have one of the most
7 liberal bear regulations. Some of you that have been
8 on this Council remember this came up from the SRC
9 itself. And if anybody started to go real broad, where
10 Dan was talking about trying to narrow it down, I agree
11 very much with him, because if you had a real broad
12 proposal for brown bears, you might actually knock this
13 regulation kind of out of the box inadvertently, and,
14 you know, I don't think you all would want to do that.

15

16 So I think as you talk about this, both
17 wolves and bears, I think trying to think about the
18 subunits, because most of this is broken out into
19 subunits. That's one bit of advice I'd offer, is look
20 at it by subunit and, you know, try to tailor whatever
21 ideas come up to the subunits, because again as you've
22 all recognized, on the Federal side with brown bears,
23 many of these regulations are pretty liberal already.
24 There might be some you want to make a little more
25 liberal, you know.

26

27 But like with Lake Clark, it's 365 days
28 a year, you know, so that one's kind of topped out on
29 the season part.

30

31 The other comment I would make back to
32 one of Molly's comments, I actually do have harvest
33 data. I don't have it with me, but I might be able to
34 get it over the lunch hour for the NPS areas about
35 wolves and bears. Now, some of it's current to '03 and
36 some of it's current to '05, and that's as fresh as it
37 is.

38

39 But I do look at that stuff, and one
40 comment I could make with wolves is I don't think we've
41 ever seen anybody be restricted by a limit of 10
42 annually. So you can't find a hunter that's, you know,
43 topped out and that we know of would want to go get
44 more. So my point is I'm not sure that it's the limit.

45

46 And we've also observed, I'm sure as
47 many of you have, a lot of the intensive management
48 regulations more broadly all around the state. You
49 know, and in a lot of areas their regulations are 10
50 wolves a day. It's very hard to find people that are

1 really out there, you know, working super hard to fill
2 those kinds of limits. The State should speak to this
3 more than I, but I'm not sure just raising a limit
4 actually gets you an increased harvest. That's just my
5 observation.

6
7 And so there's challenges here
8 obviously that everybody's working with. But certainly
9 limits have been raised in areas including, and people
10 probably blink when I say this, the Park Service, we've
11 worked to support increased limits and increased
12 seasons in a number of places over the years, and it's
13 really all about the biology. As long as there's
14 enough animals and so on, you know, those kinds of
15 things can obviously be fine.

16
17 So that's just some general comments.
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Sandy.
21 Yeah, I agree with you. You know, just because we
22 raise the limit or make more season, sometimes that
23 doesn't necessarily make people go out there and --
24 more people go out and harvest them, just like the
25 Federal regulations for bear. It's pretty liberal and
26 it's open every year, but, you know, they're not --
27 that doesn't make them go out there and do it, you
28 know.

29
30 And then also I agree that we need to
31 be subunit specific with our regulations. I don't like
32 making one regulation to cover the whole Unit 9,
33 because if it doesn't work in one little spot, they tend
34 to throw it out.

35
36 All right. Molly.

37
38 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 Well, traditional and ecological knowledge regarding
40 bears as well as moose. These two animals,
41 historically people used to eat bear. But since
42 they've become what we call garbage bears, people
43 aren't willing to eat the bears that come into the
44 communities and eat out of people's garbage dumps. And
45 so people are -- they've got the waste not, want not in
46 their minds, so that they are not going to go out there
47 and kill a bear if they're not going to make use of it.
48 As well as wolves.

49
50 Wolves, you can tradition -- or the use

1 for wolves have also changed. Twenty-some years ago
2 people were harvesting wolves for warmth, you know, for
3 their ruffs. But you go to the communities now, and
4 you don't see people wearing ruffs, except maybe people
5 that are Iditaroding.

6

7 And so even though the harvest has
8 increased into these rural community for rural
9 preferences, that's not going to work, because people
10 aren't going to harvest these animals just to kill.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Molly.

15

16 Nanci, let's have you and then we
17 should take lunch I guess.

18

19 MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, I've got a
20 quick wild one to send out there just listening to what
21 Molly has to say, in Dan O'Hara's line of thinking as
22 far as getting people's attention, I think perhaps if
23 we would encourage the Federal entities to offer an
24 incentive program for the taking of predators, seeing
25 as how they're not being used so much in traditional
26 ways, perhaps we could increase the predator take. And
27 that's something to think about.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

30

31 MR. O'HARA: I need to maybe disagree
32 with Sandy a little bit there. The Togiak area does
33 not have a lot of natural predators on the moose yet,
34 because I was Chair of this Council when we brought
35 that moose population from 90 to 6 or 700 or 1200,
36 whatever it is, and that's good, and they still have
37 not come in big time. But you go to the Ugashik and
38 Meshik and all those other places, and those bears are
39 eating up those moose just left and right. And those
40 guys in the Nushagak, that river system, the moose will
41 get into the thicket, a cow moose will get -- you fly
42 to Dillingham, and I've said this before in the
43 Council, and you fly over 15 acres of land with a big
44 brush patch, and right in the middle of that brush
45 patch for two months will be a cow moose and her calf,
46 and she'll survive, because wolves can't get her in
47 that brush. And the Nushagak has had a good moose
48 population, because they've got a huge browse. The
49 Meshik, Ugashik has huge browse and the moose
50 populations have well, because they can survive in

1 that.
2
3 But you get a good snow season, and
4 those guys are going to get 20 wolves. Not 10, they'll
5 get 20. I know some guys in Naknek who have gotten
6 more than 10 this year, and we've had a pretty good
7 snow. So I think take the limit up to 20 if you want
8 to do something on predator control. Just a thought.
9
10 And I'm hungry.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. When we come
13 back we will.....
14
15 MR. MYERS: Oh, I was just going to say
16 though.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Dale.
19
20 MR. MYERS: Under the trapping license
21 for the State of Alaska, there's no limit. So you can
22 basically take as many as you want.
23
24 I think though the main problem is,
25 like we were pointing out, is that a lot of people in
26 the villages just aren't doing it. And some of them
27 don't have the means. The cost of fuel. I know myself
28 last year I had my expenses for my hunting and trapping
29 hobby were probably well over \$4,000, and some people
30 don't have that kind of money to be able to take
31 towards it, you know. And so it's pretty hard for
32 them. You know, the demand isn't out there for the
33 furs with all the anti-hunting and trapping people.
34 And they've made it to where it's hard for people to do
35 something about it.
36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I know. And
38 at the Board of Game meeting when the Board -- the
39 Board took up two proposals by a conservation group
40 from some place to bring back -- put the wolf bag limit
41 back to five a day on Federal lands. Because, you know
42 -- but the Board didn't, because, you know, it's on
43 Federal lands, but it's managed by the State, as some
44 of these other -- as some of even non-residents or some
45 of the other regulations, but the Board didn't do it.
46 But, you know, it might be -- we could ask, you know,
47 it wouldn't hurt to propose it for more bag limit, you
48 know, because there are a lot.
49
50 MR. O'HARA: The day's not over yet.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: But when we come
2 back, we'll continue. So I guess it's -- well, maybe
3 about a quarter after one. that gives us a little over
4 an hour.

5
6 And also, I can't forget, we need to
7 make a directive to Staff when we come back to write a
8 letter to Fish and Wildlife Service and ask what they
9 plan on doing on some of these issues before us.

10
11 So we'll be adjourned until about -- I
12 mean recessed. We don't want to get adjourned yet.
13 Until about a quarter after one.

14
15 (Off record)

16
17 (On record)

18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Back from recess.
20 1:30.

21
22 I guess I'd like to start then, we
23 probably don't need a motion, so I would like to make a
24 recommendation that we write a letter to U.S. Fish and
25 Wildlife Service -- have Staff write a letter to U.S.
26 Fish and Wildlife Service to ask them what their plans
27 are on Federal lands and particularly 9E for predator
28 control, especially since what the Alaska State Board
29 of Game did for 9C and if they're thinking about --
30 what they're thinking about, if anything, for doing in
31 9E.

32
33 Is there any -- anybody want to add
34 anything to that. Dan.

35
36 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. We'll make
37 that a directive from this Council, and you'll sign the
38 letter.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I think that
41 will be fine. I don't think we need to move on it, but
42 does anybody want to put anything else in that we need
43 to have in that letter, asking them what their plans
44 are.

45
46 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

49
50 MR. O'HARA: Ask the Feds if they do

1 predator control anywhere on Federal lands in southwest
2 Alaska or in the State of Alaska.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So we'll ask
5 them if they do predator control anywhere in Alaska,
6 or, for that matter, anywhere in the United States.

7

8 Nanci.

9

10 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would suggest
11 perhaps also when we ask them that question,
12 anticipating what the answer might be, that we would
13 ask them what it would take to justify a predator
14 control plan for them.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. That's a good
17 idea. Dan, did you want -- Dunaway? You didn't?

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: No.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So unless
22 anybody has anything else to add to that, I guess --
23 Donald, do you have that written down?

24

25 MR. MIKE: Oh, yes, Mr. Chair. I've
26 got the notes. I just had one quick question. You
27 mentioned Fish and Wildlife Service, is that directly
28 to the Federal Subsistence Board or the Regional
29 Director or both.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It would be to the
34 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I don't -- the Federal
35 Subsistence Board said they don't have any jurisdiction
36 to do that, so I was told that we have to work with the
37 individual land manager to implement something like
38 that, so that's probably -- because 9E is Refuge lands,
39 and that would be managed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife
40 Service.

41

42 MR. MIKE: Okay. Mr. Chair. Thank
43 you. What I can do is for now I guess I can address it
44 to the Regional Director for the Alaska region, and we
45 can cc a copy to the Board. Will that be appropriate.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right, Donald.

48 Thank you.

49

50 So would that be appropriate?

1 DR. WHEELER: Yes, Mr. Chair. Polly
2 Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence Management.

3
4 That will be appropriate. I mean, I
5 understood your direction clearly, and I think what
6 Donald -- if Donald got it, and we've also got the
7 transcript, so we will make sure that we capture your
8 concerns and send a letter to the Fish and Wildlife
9 Service, and I guess out of -- we can cc the Federal
10 Subsistence Board. That means Director Haskett will
11 get it twice, but we'll make sure that he does.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.

14
15 Okay. So now we are back to submitting
16 game proposals.

17
18 Dan.

19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. We've
21 talked about it at length, and I've made a really,
22 really rough attempt to, excuse me, make a motion to
23 address it specifically.

24
25 So I'd like to move that we propose
26 changing 9E moose hunting regulations to close hunting
27 to non-qualified subsistence hunters for two miles on
28 each side along navigable waterways, and this is for
29 Federal lands, in the traditionally used waters close
30 to the communities within 9E, including Egegik,
31 Ugashik, Pilot Point, the Chigniks, Ivanof and
32 Perryville, Port Heiden.

33
34 And what I have in mind here, I know we
35 took a run at this in the past and I can't remember why
36 it didn't work, but from what I was hearing today from
37 the folks calling in, a lot of the access is along
38 these waterways. My goal is to provide a little bit
39 better opportunity for the local folks in the areas the
40 local folks use, and yet not, say, totally
41 disenfranchise some of the other hunts and activities
42 that occur so far away that they don't have any impact.
43 So I hope you can capture my intent as well.

44
45 I'd like to include in that proposal
46 some other possible options, all designed to improve
47 moose numbers or hunting opportunity would be possibly
48 reduce the fall season even for qualified users and
49 maybe at the same time slightly increase the winter
50 season. My understanding is all season hasn't been as

1 successful and access has been difficult.

2

3 In general, I'm looking for ways to
4 possibly reduced, maybe not qualified, the non-
5 qualified take. And I don't know if we need to do this
6 for each subunit of Unit 9, but I was trying to make a
7 focused proposal about moose hunting and bag limits and
8 whose qualified. I wondered about something else that
9 might address brown bears or predators, but.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think we should
12 have a corridor proposal for every subunit.

13

14 MR. DUNAWAY: So if we could have this
15 same language, but for each subunit in Unit 9.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. 9E, B, C.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: A, B, C, and E.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, A probably
22 don't need it.

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. I'd be -- I guess
25 I'm considering it still a motion.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, I guess I
28 shouldn't deliberate -- I mean, we shouldn't -- well,
29 my recommendation is that if you're going to make a
30 motion, that we have a motion for each subunit instead
31 of one for the whole 9 unit. Or, I guess we don't need
32 to go into 17, do we. They already have -- on Nushagak
33 River.

34

35 MR. DUNAWAY: I think it would be safer
36 to stay with Unit 9, especially addressing these
37 concerns. And again part of the intent here is this
38 could serve something as a placeholder for addressing
39 moose hunting, but I'm trying to put some specifics in
40 it. And I recall there were problems with the two-mile
41 buffer zone, closed zone or something, but I'm going to
42 try it again. I think we were too far-reaching last
43 time. I'm hoping this is a little narrowed down.

44

45 So that's enough yak on my motion.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So before we
48 get going, would you make that a motion then?

49

50 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, that's the -- if

1 Donald thinks he can capture the essence of that, and
2 I've tried to.....
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: I'll second that.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara. Okay.
9 So then that motion would be in those villages you said
10 in 9E and I guess we need to clarify then 9B. You
11 know, didn't we have 9B -- we had a 9B proposal for
12 corridors a couple years ago. We could probably --
13 would that work, do you think? I don't remember the
14 exact language in the proposal, but maybe we could
15 submit that same one, because I believe it had
16 mentioned certain rivers.
17
18 And then also 9C which would be the
19 Alagnak River, which is a heavily resident hunted. And
20 most of the Alagnak is in Federal, so that would be a
21 definitely one for 9C. And I'm not sure exactly what
22 other 9C ones that you would want to ask. I suppose we
23 could say the Big Creek, King Salmon Creek, and along
24 the -- well, that's probably -- how far up King Salmon
25 Creek though is Federal land, but Big Creek, you get
26 into the Preserve, yeah. But mostly Branch River I
27 think for 9C.
28
29 MR. O'HARA: For clarification.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.
32
33 MR. O'HARA: You can go all the way up
34 to the mountains at Big Creek with a jet boat. They go
35 way up there past, you know, into the park actually.
36 Almost into the park.
37
38 Does your motion address just navigable
39 waters, or what are you talking about when you're
40 talking about watershed. Mr. Chairman, that was for
41 Dan.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan Dunaway.
44
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Dan.
46 I was thinking navigable in the sense of where the
47 local folks traditionally access, so, yeah, you can get
48 into a real hornet's nest on what constitutes
49 navigable, depending on what agency.
50

1 But my intent was to address the
2 traditionally accessed waters, like Mr. Kingsley was
3 talking about, that when waters allow, they get up into
4 the Ugashik Lakes, and some years not everybody, or
5 very few can. I think I heard that possibly in the
6 Port Heiden area, too. So in that sense of where these
7 folks really traditionally access their hunt.

8
9 I hadn't thought of 9C so much, Randy,
10 because there's a lot of other adjustments there, but
11 now that you bring it up, yes, I could see that might
12 -- that's a hot point, too. I guess I wouldn't want to
13 exclude Levelock, since that's definitely their kind of
14 backyard, too, and they're in 9B, not C.

15
16 MR. O'HARA: You're also in 9E? You're
17 getting to 9E?

18
19 MR. DUNAWAY: Originally I had said 9E.
20 I hope -- my intent would be is I'm willing to agree
21 with what Randy suggested and make a proposal of this
22 nature for each subunit.

23
24 MR. O'HARA: So what did you make a
25 motion on? 9E?

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, that was my
28 original draft language here. I guess we'd call it
29 friendly amendment to include that. Okay. That's the
30 way.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.

33
34 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Dale. Triple A,
35 looking at 9E, where do they go from Pilot Point to
36 their camp, do you have any idea? I don't know where
37 they go to. I know they've got a little runway that
38 they wreck their airplanes on a lot.

39
40 MR. DUNAWAY: Go rescue them.

41
42 MR. O'HARA: Oh, my goodness, yeah.

43
44 MR. MYERS: Yeah, I'm not sure exactly
45 where they all go. I know a few of the people go up
46 the river into the lake and do some hunting up in
47 there, but like he said, it was just -- the main
48 problem with that would be just nature itself with the
49 water levels and stuff, you know, depending on year-to-
50 year. That was one of their main concerns, is they

1 weren't able to access the land just because they
2 couldn't get there to do their hunting.
3
4 MR. O'HARA: Too bad Becky Brock is not
5 here. She does permitting for that whole region on
6 Federal lands. She would tell us. You know, I just
7 look at State lands there, and at Pilot Point, and
8 maybe Triple A is on State lands or maybe it's on
9 Federal lands.
10
11 MR. MYERS: I think Triple A is on
12 Federal land, but they're -- I don't think actually
13 where they're at, unless they're right up around
14 Ugashik Lake, in the upper end of the lake or
15 something, I'm not sure exactly where their camps are.
16 Or are they on the Dog Salmon River.
17
18 MR. O'HARA: Second question, Randy, is
19 Scotty's Island where Jay is at, does it really affect
20 him?
21
22 MR. MYERS: Yeah, that would basically
23 shut him down.
24
25 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, it would shut him
26 down.
27
28 MR. MYERS: And, you know, I don't
29 know, I've been flying around and work with one of the
30 guides down there, Venton (ph). I actually haven't
31 seen any local people up in there with boats or
32 otherwise, unless they're either working for Jay or for
33 Joe. I've seen them on the fourwheelers up along the
34 Aniakchak, around the crater and up into that area.
35
36 I know that one area is open for them.
37 For Jay -- it was opened for Joe to use as a guide area
38 and then they had some kind of a switch thing go on
39 there, and then Jay King has that section that actually
40 goes into where those guys could hunt, but they don't
41 hunt it, because the locals are up there hunting it.
42 They haven't been using it.
43
44 So I don't -- you know, I don't know
45 what they have as far as numbers. I mean, that would
46 be something when you get ready to do that, to find
47 out, is where they traditionally go to -- you know, you
48 would have to get an idea probably from the village or
49 something to find out, you know, where do you guys like
50 to go and hunt, before you go ahead and just make an

1 encompassing thing over the whole thing. You'd have a
2 lot of people affected by it that would be kind of
3 happening.

4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, I think that's
6 probably something we need to work on is we need to
7 find out where the locals use and make corridors around
8 that, but some of these local guides, like Dan says, we
9 don't want to put them out of business. That's not the
10 intent, but we're mainly wanting to protect the local
11 user, because the situation -- so I suppose we.....

12
13 Laura.

14
15 MS. GREFFENIUS: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman. Members of the Council. I have several
17 questions just for clarification. You had mentioned
18 about doing the corridors in the other units, 9B and C,
19 besides 9E. I just wanted to, just as a reminder, that
20 the deferred proposal, the one that we had discussed
21 earlier, 31, we're proposing for Federal public lands
22 closed in 9B and C. So then, if you want to do this
23 one, then it would be more specific to corridors. I
24 just want to know, do you want to do both -- this is,
25 you know, for the Council to discuss, do you want to do
26 both where you have one proposal where it says Federal
27 public lands are closed for the whole subunit, and have
28 the one where it's for the corridors? And I know we
29 had talked about 9E, and I just had a question for
30 clarification for that. But that's my first question.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: yeah. You know, the
35 more we talk about it, the more it comes back to me.
36 You know, when we submitted the last time, a couple
37 years ago, the corridors, didn't we withdraw our
38 proposal because it was deemed not following the rules
39 of ANILCA, because of -- if there wasn't a problem with
40 the resource, if there wasn't a shortage in resource,
41 then you really couldn't shut out one user group? But
42 that doesn't seem to be the case now. The case is that
43 there's not enough to go around. So it seems to me we
44 could ask for corridors. And it would probably still
45 allow non-residents to hunt if they stayed away from
46 the areas that the residents typically use. You know,
47 like Dan had mentioned or from Port Heiden there or
48 some place up there where the locals can't get to. So
49 unless there's hardly any moose left, there shouldn't
50 be anybody hunting, but if there's enough to have a

1 non-resident hunt, then they could do it where they're
2 not in conflict with the resident user. That seems to
3 me why that proposal didn't go anywhere last time.

4
5 And then because it didn't go anywhere,
6 and then the circumstances have changed, we asked for a
7 complete closure. So, you know, we can -- in my
8 opinion, we can throw out both proposals to the Federal
9 Subsistence Board and let them decide what meets the
10 circumstances, if any at all.

11
12 Sandy.

13
14 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you, Mr.
15 Chairman. I recognize you're still deliberating and
16 trying to, you know, put together one or more
17 recommendations.

18
19 Two things I would add into the mix. I
20 think a bunch of you have a copy of this map, or you've
21 got a book open with it. And what I would point out is
22 that you might not need this kind of proposal in 9A for
23 the following reason, that all the purple land in 9A is
24 Lake Clark Park land, so that land is not opened to
25 sport hunting.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, we weren't
28 going to, or recommend not submitting a proposal for
29 9A.

30
31 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. Maybe I missed
32 that. I was just trying to save us all some paperwork.
33 So good on that.

34
35 And the other thing, and I'm just going
36 to pass a few sheets of paper around and you can sort
37 of look at them. Over the lunch hour I was able -- my
38 office is really close, and I printed out the most
39 updated information that I have in the Part Service
40 about moose harvest in Katmai, which is the Preserve,
41 not the Park, Lake Clark, which is Park and Preserve,
42 and Aniakchak, which is Preserve and Monument. They're
43 all a little different. And the data only goes up to
44 '05, so, you know, it's not quite as fresh as any of us
45 like it. So I'll just pass these around and you can
46 look at them, and they're real self-explanatory.

47
48 The other thing that I would point out
49 is this data is 100 percent State data. State harvest
50 ticket data. So that's what it is. It's not more, not

1 less. That's where it comes from. And what we've
2 simply done is we've simply excised out the data that
3 goes inside the NPS boundaries. So that's what these
4 three charts are. And so I'll just pass them around.
5 You can look at them.

6

7 So thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

10

11 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. I agree with you,
12 Randy, that if we could have a few proposals out there
13 to take a run at it, and whichever one might be the
14 best vehicle at the time as we get more information.

15

16 And this latest motion of mine is
17 admittedly very imperfect. My intent would be that it
18 would only be on lands and under circumstances where we
19 have jurisdiction to address this kind of hunt.

20

21 I was trying to remember why all that
22 our previous corridor proposal was rejected, and there
23 may have been a jurisdictional question as well. So
24 I'm still looking for a way to where we have
25 jurisdiction, where we could help these folks, when
26 it's like four, six years now that they're making
27 complaints they don't have enough moose, and they're
28 getting less moose they say, and at the same time the
29 cost of getting those less moose has skyrocketed. It
30 makes a lot of pressure. And I think again emphasizes
31 their need for these animals. So it's again to kind of
32 flesh out my intent behind this really rough proposal.
33 And I could be happy to work with Donald on language
34 that will work. Or that seem a little -- be acceptable
35 to get into a proposal form.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I think we
40 probably need to work with some of these -- ask some of
41 these villages in 9E exactly where they go, you know,
42 because we can't -- I don't think we should ask for
43 corridors everywhere in Federal land in 9E. And, you
44 know, the goal is to protect -- if there's corridors,
45 to protect the area that they use. And if there's an
46 area that they don't use or can't get to, it should be
47 still open to non-residents if there's enough -- if the
48 Federal Subsistence Board deems there is enough for
49 both -- other user groups.

50

1 And I guess we have Mr. Hedlund on
2 line. Are you there. Thomas Hedlund, are you there.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We'll try again in a
7 minute.
8
9 Any more comment on this. Okay. Molly
10 and then Dan.
11
12 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I think Nanci had her
13 hand up before I did.
14
15 I just had a comment regarding
16 collecting information of where the concerned villages
17 harvest. I think by doing that, we need to remember to
18 collect the historical. Because as the gas prices came
19 up, the hunters weren't able to get to their historical
20 harvest areas, so in collecting information like that,
21 we need to remember to include historical harvesting
22 locations.
23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a -- before
25 we get to you. One question.
26
27 Sandy, can you tell me what LACL is and
28 KATM?
29
30 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes. I'm sorry.
31 LACL is Lake Clark. I meant to write it on there.
32 KATM is Katmai. And then I think Aniakchak's spelled
33 out.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Aniakchak is
36 spelled out.
37
38 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes. So Lake Clark
39 and Katmai.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Nanci, did
42 you have a comment?
43
44 MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, I do, and I
45 don't want to sidetrack anything for working on your
46 proposal, Dan, but my thought, you know, with the
47 concerns of putting people out of business in addition
48 to this, was I in my mind grasped it coming at it from
49 a different angle. Would it be feasible or even
50 possible for us to possibly make it a requirement in

1 the future, and to include this perhaps in the
2 proposal, to require in the future that non-qualified
3 users submit a plan and/or proposal in some form to
4 show their usage areas and the amount of use they plan
5 on having in an area to the Council for approval a year
6 in advance, so that we could steer them away from the
7 areas we feel are sensitive and perhaps alleviate some
8 of the villages problems with those areas that they
9 feel they're getting, you know, too much pressure from
10 and eliminating their own harvest?

11
12 I don't know if that has any place to
13 go or any ability to go anywhere, but that was a
14 thought I had.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That sounds like a
17 good idea to me.

18
19 Molly.

20
21 MS. CHYTHLOOK: You know, any time our
22 resources are of concern, the local user groups are
23 required to do a customary and traditional use of our
24 areas. The local people that have used these resources
25 forever are required to do a customary and traditional
26 use to prove that they harvest in these area. Do we do
27 that same thing for people that are coming in from
28 elsewhere besides our areas here to prove that they use
29 these resources.

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Isn't there some
32 kind of report that these guides have to fill out on
33 Federal land on the areas they use and how much they
34 take?

35
36 Laura.

37
38 MS. GREFFENIUS: Just from my
39 understanding, I'm not one of the Fish and Wildlife
40 Staff out in King Salmon, but my understanding is that
41 when these permits are provided to the guiding
42 companies, they are permitted by the Federal land
43 managers. For example, the refuge manager in King
44 Salmon. So certain stipulations are put in those. And
45 I know in other parts of the State there might be, you
46 know, certain areas that they're asked not to -- or
47 they're required not to go to.

48
49 So it sounds like it's feasible, and it
50 would be something that would be done through the local

1 refuge manager or park superintendent, whichever would
2 be applicable.

3

4 And then I just had one other
5 clarification question, when we're off of this
6 particular discussion.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was thinking, too,
11 on this proposal, would it be appropriate to make this
12 proposal now and then sometime -- by the time we meet
13 again, to ask the villages what their land use area is,
14 or what, you know, their use area to protect -- actual
15 boundaries of the corridor at the next meeting. Or
16 approve of the boundary. Because we're not certain
17 where those boundaries need to be. And I don't want to
18 put them everywhere when it would essentially impact
19 the guides where it wouldn't need to be.

20

21 Polly.

22

23 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We
24 could do one of two things. I mean, we can make our
25 best guess -- or we can take the direction of the
26 Council and craft a proposal based on what's been
27 talked about today. And then at the fall Regional
28 Advisory Council meeting, it will be an opportunity --
29 you know, the proposal will be analyzed as it. Then
30 that will be an opportunity to collect public testimony
31 on these corridors, you know, where they need to be,
32 where they shouldn't be, and that's a good opportunity
33 to get it on the record so that it supports -- you
34 know, there's additional support for the Council
35 recommendation, and it will enable you to refine your
36 recommendation a little bit more. I mean, that's the
37 whole -- the beauty of this system where the public
38 input to weight in on these types of issues.

39

40 Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That sounds good.

43 Thank you.

44

45 Nanci.

46

47 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, that's a great
48 idea, Polly, because we can do that, we can form a
49 proposal and then through Council recommendation as a
50 proposal advances, we can have it filtered in, the

1 information we really want in there filtered in. I
2 agree with that.
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. What did we just
7 do?
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, we're
10 proposing -- we haven't proposed it yet.
11
12 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, it's a motion on the
13 floor, I understand.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And to put in
16 corridors, 9B, 9C, and 9E. And Staff if going to
17 determine around the villages what areas are being used
18 by locals so that when it comes before us at the next
19 meeting, we'll look and see with the testimony from the
20 villages and the guide user groups, and then we'll
21 determine if that is enough or too much at the next
22 meeting for the areas for the corridor.
23
24 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Mr. Chairman. The
25 reason I asked Dan, we're putting this in motion. It's
26 not going to go before the Board at the next meeting
27 and become hard facts. I just talked to Tony Gregori
28 (ph). I don't know if he's gotten back here or not.
29
30 But there's a couple of guys down in
31 Port Heiden and Perryville and the Lakes that guide, do
32 guiding. And the three people that are local, I mean,
33 you know, that guides at Perryville and at Lakes I
34 believe, and then Jay, it would put all those guys out
35 of business. And, you know, we really can't do that.
36 I mean, we don't want to put anyone out of business.
37
38 So if we can refine it so that the
39 thing will work, then that's exactly what I would want.
40 So if you want to put it in motion and then refine it
41 as we go along, I would vote for that.
42
43 Thank you.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think that's the
46 plan. Unless somebody doesn't believe that. Anybody
47 have.....
48
49 Donald.
50

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
2 believe we've captured Mr. Dunaway's intent. We have
3 anthropologist Staff here and wildlife biologist Staff
4 here, and I. We can help draft the proposal as stated
5 by Mr. Dunaway.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any more comment.
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 MR. O'HARA: Call the question
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Laura, you had.....
14
15 MS. GREFFENIUS: Just one more. I know
16 people were taking notes, but just for clarification,
17 and Dan was mentioning for 9E, the corridors on either
18 side of the waterways for particular communities in 9E.
19 Could you please say again which ones that you had
20 initially stated as part of your motion.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.
23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Laura.
25 The ones I had written down at the time were Egegik,
26 Ugashik, Pilot Point, I said the Chigniks, meaning all
27 three, Ivanof, Perryville.
28
29 MR. O'HARA: Port Heiden.
30
31 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. I hadn't gotten
32 Port Heiden written down. My intent was for these
33 communities, the traditional hunting areas that they
34 typically use. And, yes, I'd make that now, expecting
35 we'll really need a lot of input from these
36 communities. And I hope that it's amended and refined
37 considerably, because it's really rough. But I didn't
38 want to just put some really vague placeholder proposal
39 in there that could either be misinterpreted or twisted
40 up.
41
42 And, no, like Dan says, I don't want to
43 destroy the economies of these small communities
44 either, but maybe those folks can speak up and say what
45 would work for them.
46
47 Is that sufficient? Mr. Chair.
48
49 MS. GREFFENIUS: Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks,
2 Dan. Okay.
3
4 The question's been called. All in
5 favor signify by saying aye.
6
7 IN UNISON: Aye.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
10
11 (No opposing votes)
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Motion
14 carries.
15
16 Mr. Hedlund, are you on.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I guess he's
21 not on.
22
23 So are there any other -- Dan, did you
24 feel any need for any bear proposals? I don't know
25 what to do, you know. They're pretty liberal on
26 Federal qualified. But we can't do much for, you know
27 -- well, we could ask the State to -- of we wanted to
28 propose something to the State to take an agenda change
29 request, but that might not be -- they just got done
30 with.....
31
32 Nanci.
33
34 MS. MORRIS LYON: I guess I would want
35 to know if anybody would support a second for a
36 proposal that would include what I described earlier.
37 I'm still not sure -- okay. Let me try and put
38 thoughts together as they go screaming through my
39 feeble little brain.
40
41 I'm thinking in case we do not get
42 corridors to work or capture what we are trying to
43 achieve or we stumble, I'm wondering if we shouldn't
44 also do a proposal if we feel there's enough support
45 for it on the Board for the non-subsistence users to be
46 required to give notice of their usage and their areas
47 through management offices so that into the future as
48 well as traditional uses change and areas change, so we
49 would be able to evolve with this into the future as
50 far as the non-qualified users go. You know, to make

1 that a requirement in all areas or one area at a time,
2 either way the Council might find that appealing.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. One more
5 thing, you emailed me about Mulchatna caribou. You
6 wanted the Council to discuss aligning regulations.

7
8 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I was waiting for
9 an opportunity to bring that up.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Now is your
12 opportunity.

13
14 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, Mr. Chair, first I
15 was going to maybe say something to Nanci, give her an
16 answer.

17
18 Are you -- I've got a few questions.
19 Number 1, are you kind of envisioning something like,
20 what was it, Ron Hood adopted for, what was it,
21 Severson Peninsula, for caribou quite some time ago
22 where they kind of nudged the guides out of that area.
23 I forget how that worked out.

24
25 There's two things. We could put a
26 proposal in and see where it goes, or some things like
27 that might be handled administratively. But maybe
28 putting a proposal in is a way to head-s up all the
29 folks involved. But I know some of that, if it's not a
30 subsistence user, do we have any authority to make any
31 regulations. So anyway that's two more.

32
33 But the last thing, to answer Randy, is
34 I did want to speak briefly about Mulchatna caribou
35 regs, but let's get through the moose first.

36
37 Doi.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well,
40 then.....

41
42 MR. O'HARA: Nanci had a question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

45
46 MS. MORRIS LYON: I don't know that
47 answers to that, and I'm hoping these folks with a lot
48 more brain power than myself do have those answers,
49 because it's my intent with this proposal would be to
50 shape a proposal whereby into the future we can address

1 this problem more immediately than what we've been able
2 to do for the past five, six, seven years that the same
3 problem has come before us where villagers are feeling
4 like commercial entities, or at least people from
5 outside their area are taking advantage of their source
6 of food. And so that would be my intent would be to
7 somehow address on Federal lands the ability for people
8 to arbitrarily come in and hunt in areas that might in
9 the long term be detrimental to villagers.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.

12

13 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ms.
14 Nanci Morris' comments brought up some thoughts to me,
15 but the comments you made sounds very similar to what
16 the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge had in place
17 in Unit 18 for transporter licenses. I think the
18 refuge manager required that the transporter stay away
19 from traditional use areas that the local villagers
20 mainly hunt traditionally for moose. And the refuge
21 manager I believe in their transporter license made
22 some sort of requirement that they stay away from these
23 traditional use areas. Thank you. And I can look
24 further into that and see what the details entail.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: George.

27

28 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 George Pappas, Fish and Game.

30

31 The question I had was we're talking
32 about commercial operations that are permitted through
33 the Federal process or you're talking about all
34 residents of Alaska. I'm not aware of regulations that
35 would require to file a plan to hunt on Federal
36 properties as a private resident with private
37 equipment. That's what I was looking for
38 clarification.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

41

42 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes. And, Mr.
43 Pappas, I would recognize the difficulty in making that
44 work. However, I figure because the commercial, both
45 transporters and guides are required to be regulated
46 already, we would have an avenue to go through for
47 that. So I acknowledge that as a problem. And I don't
48 think I'm ready to tackle that one at this point.
49 However, the one that's a little bit more tangible
50 would be the one I would be focusing on.

1 MR. PAPPAS: Through the Chair. Thank
2 you.
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So where are we at
5 on the -- do you want to make a motion we do something
6 or was it just discussion.
7
8 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'll go ahead and
9 make a motion. Do you have something?
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess. Could we
12 do it?
13
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: It sounds like we
15 can.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.
18 So I guess, Nanci, made a motion on that. Do we have a
19 second.
20
21 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll second.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dan
24 Dunaway.
25
26 MR. O'HARA: Can we have the motion
27 read back.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We'll have to have
30 Donald. Can you repeat that? If you can't, ask Nanci
31 to explain it to you.
32
33 MR. MIKE: Okay. I'll try my best, Mr.
34 Chair.
35
36 Ms. Nanci Morris, her motion was to in
37 corridors where the transporters or guides should
38 submit a plan where -- their plan of operations and to
39 keep away from subsistence use areas. Is that correct,
40 Ms. Morris Lyon?
41
42 MS. MORRIS LYON: That is correct. And
43 I guess I would expand it, in Unit 9E at this point,
44 because my thought is that it will give us an
45 opportunity -- when this happens, again this has been a
46 complaint and a problem that we've not been able to
47 address for years for a variety of number of reasons.
48 And into the future, that if we just expand the area to
49 include the entire area that they need to submit a plan
50 for, as usage changes, we will be able to address those

1 changes through the plans submitted by the commercial
2 user.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Polly.

7

8 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 Just to clarify here, I understand the intent and I'm
10 sure it's been captured in different -- I mean Donald
11 and the court transcriber.

12

13 I would caution you that this may fall
14 out side of the scope of what this Regional Advisory
15 Council can do, the parameters of what the Federal
16 Subsistence Board can do, and maybe that it's an annual
17 report topic. But I think for the purposes of this
18 group, the concern is on -- the concern has been noted.
19 We'll pursue it in whatever way we can. It may not end
20 up being a proposal, but it could end up being
21 direction to -- in other places. I just think it's a
22 bit outside the scope -- or outside -- it crosses a lot
23 more than what the Federal Subsistence Board can do.
24 But your concern is noted and we'll follow through on
25 it.

26

27 Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I understand
30 what you're saying. So if the Federal Subsistence
31 Board, if it's beyond their scope, but then we could
32 work with the land manager to implement such a program?

33

34 DR. WHEELER: Yeah. My commitment to
35 you is that we won't just say, no, it's beyond our
36 scope and leave it at that. We'll pursue it and, you
37 know, we'll figure out what we need to do and we'll
38 help you out in that way, if it is beyond the scope.
39 I'm not saying -- I think it is, but I don't want to
40 answer yes or no for sure.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So you
43 seconded it, Dan. So would you agree with this now?

44

45 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I have
46 the same intuition nagging at the back of my head, but
47 it's kind of like, my golly, we've got to find
48 something. And I think that's what drove the Severson
49 Peninsula concerns quite some time ago. And I think
50 there are administrative answers that seem to work out.

1 But, yeah, so that it's not forgotten, I guess I'm
2 willing to second the motion to make it a proposal and
3 let them tell us we can't.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You did. I was just
8 asking you if you agreed.

9

10 We have a gentleman back here that
11 wants to testify on this. Would you state your name.

12

13 MR. FITHIAN: Mr. Chairman. For the
14 record my name is Bobby Fithian. I live in Lower
15 Tonsina, Alaska and I represent the Alaska Professional
16 Hunters Association as their executive director.

17

18 Related to the proposal that Nancy just
19 came up with, and thought concept, on all National Park
20 Service preserve and U.S. Fish and Wildlife refuge
21 lands, the guides, not the transporters necessarily,
22 but the guides have been awarded those areas through
23 concession prospectuses. A significant part of that
24 prospectus policy and the criteria for selection has to
25 do with the applicant's ability, willingness, desire,
26 how he is going to cooperate with local communities and
27 other user groups. In addition to that, he has an
28 annual use report that he has to provide annually.

29

30 It's pretty well documented that his
31 proposed activities are in relationship to local
32 communities and social atmospheres, other user groups
33 through his plan of operations and his annual use
34 reports. And he gets graded on those annual use
35 reports annually by the Federal agencies.

36

37 So as far as the guide industry goes,
38 that accountability already exists and is there.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
43 you, Mr. Fithian?

44

45 MR. FITHIAN: Correct.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. So I
48 guess then Staff will check into this and then make
49 sure that if it already is taking place.

50

1 Dan, you had a question.
2
3 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. I think it's a good
4 motion, because it becomes actually more informational
5 for us. I don't want to get into the guide's plan just
6 because we're Federal subsistence people. You know,
7 I've been to some of those places. I need to know more
8 information on how we can make a better decision in
9 relationship to the first motion that was made. So I
10 think to me it's getting some good stuff that I would
11 like.
12
13 Thank you.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Dan. Nanci.
16
17 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. One more point
18 for clarification, too, is the other part of this
19 intent is actually to make sure we don't put people out
20 of business because of conflicts, okay. So there's
21 support out there for the commercial as well as support
22 for protecting local subsistence use is the intent in
23 this proposal. It's not to exclude anybody. Okay.
24
25 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. The
28 question's been called. And all in favor signify by
29 saying aye.
30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.
32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
34
35 (No opposing votes)
36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.
38
39 Yeah. You know, I think I agree with
40 Nanci on that. You know, we don't want to put them out
41 of business, but if there's not enough resource, then
42 somebody has to bear the brunt of it, and the non-
43 subsistence user would have to go first. So -- but the
44 Federal Subsistence Board would have to determine that.
45
46 Okay. Mr. Dunaway.
47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I
49 believe you're turning to me regarding Mulchatna
50 caribou.

1 I just kind of wanted to the RAC and
2 general, I thought we were going to be entertaining
3 support for a proposal from possibly the biologist at
4 Togiak Wildlife Refuge regarding getting Federal and
5 State caribou hunting regulations out of conflict and
6 meshed better. There's some little slivers of land
7 that through oversight, some changes in the State
8 regulations, there's differences in season lengths and
9 bag limits as we've, by State and by our actions, have
10 reduced seasons and bag limits. But there's a few
11 places that got forgotten.

12
13 I talked to Andy Aderman at the Togiak
14 Refuge and he was working on it really carefully to
15 make sure he addressed it all.

16
17 I brought it up to the Nushagak
18 Advisory Committee, thinking that in general we've
19 worked real hard to -- well, it sounds like he might be
20 on line here as I speak. I thought there might be
21 general support for meshing them so there's reduced
22 confusion of where you can hunt and when you can hunt
23 and under what bag limits and rules and stuff.
24 However, when we got into quite a discussion of it at
25 the Nushagak Advisory Committee, and both as a member
26 now of the Nushagak Advisory committee and a member of
27 this RAC, I have to say there's quite a variety of
28 opinions, and there are -- quite a few folks spoke up
29 expressing that they would like to see some rural
30 preference opportunities continue under Federal
31 regulations, whether or not they're meshed with the
32 State.

33
34 Especially some upriver villages
35 expressed, that would be Koliganek and New Stuyahok
36 expressed a real interest in a pretty late spring
37 opportunity to take caribou. Apparently there's times
38 where the herd will get within reach of those two
39 villages in late March/early April. And that's an
40 important opportunity for them.

41
42 So at this point I'm not sure if
43 there's going to be -- I'm not sure from the group I'm
44 supposed to come from if there's much of a consensus.
45 So I just want to express that, that I had already
46 encouraged the Togiak Refuge to submit that proposal
47 from them, and if Andy's on, he may want to speak to
48 that, Mr. Chair.

49
50 And so I'm not going to be advocating a

1 proposal for us, but we may expect to see one.
2
3 Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Andy, are you on
6 line?
7
8 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, I am, Mr. Chairman.
9 This is Andy Aderman, Togiak Refuge. Can you hear me
10 okay?
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I can hear you fine,
13 yeah. Would you like to comment on what -- did you
14 hear Dan Dunaway?
15
16 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, I did hear Dan.
17 Yeah, and then I just got looking at the Federal
18 regulations, and it's quite varied as far as season
19 dates go. Most of the bag limit is three throughout
20 the range, but there are some differences. Like in the
21 Alagnak drainage there's a limit of one caribou, and
22 then over in 9A there's a limit of four caribou.
23
24 And I've talked to folks with the State
25 within the region of the Mulchatna herd, and there is
26 support for, you know, making the State and Federal
27 regulations as consistent as possible. But right now
28 they're kind of all over the place from the Y-1 start
29 date to August 1, August 10th, the ending dates March
30 15th, March 31, April 15th.
31
32 We all know the herd has been in
33 decline. There's been pretty poor bull to cow ratio
34 for the last eight or nine years, below the management
35 objective. Calf numbers haven't been very good as
36 well, but that's -- you know, that kind of explains the
37 decline.
38
39 I just think it's something worth
40 taking a look at and maybe aligning them or making them
41 consistent, or more consistent throughout the range of
42 the herd.
43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
45 you, Andy.
46
47 Molly.
48
49 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Chair.
50 Another -- I don't know if I should call it a problem,

1 but there's the State caribou season closed, when was
2 it, March 30th?

3

4 MR. DUNAWAY: Fifteenth.

5

6 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Fifteenth. And except
7 the Federal caribou season is open until the 15th.

8

9 Around our area, Dillingham and the
10 Nushagak locations, there's not too many Federal lands
11 except little dots here and there, but if the villagers
12 in that area could pinpoint those little dots, caribou
13 season's still open until April 15th. The problem is
14 not too many people have, what are they called, GIS or
15 GPS, and in order to get into those little dots of land
16 to get your caribou right now until the 15th, you need
17 to find that location, that little dot, and see if
18 there's any caribou in there. So I think that's
19 another problem we have.

20

21 And BBNA, our subsistence coordinator,
22 was trying to work with New Stuyahok, which was wanting
23 to harvest caribou still. They requested an extension,
24 but they requested it too late after the State caribou
25 season closed, so their request wasn't taken up. But
26 then they realized that there was this little location
27 that they might be able to harvest caribou, so I think
28 they're in the process of maybe trying to figure out or
29 find that location.

30

31 And I don't know what -- how we can
32 correct that. If there's these little pockets of land
33 that are still open, there needs to be a way to
34 identify them so that possibly the local people could
35 make use of them. And I think the reason why they
36 haven't in the past is because of the same problem.
37 They are not sure, you know, and are afraid to find
38 these little pockets to get their caribou.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Thanks,
41 Molly. I know some of them are not that small, you
42 know. If you look at BLM land, maybe we can get the
43 BLM representative up here, and tell us how these
44 boundaries were drawn out, but they're not that small.
45 If you look just south of Igiugig, that piece of yellow
46 land there, BLM land, that's -- if you look at how long
47 it is across from -- it's at least 15 to 25 wide and
48 probably almost -- it's that from the top to the bottom
49 to where it crosses the Alagnak, or meets the Alagnak
50 River. So that's quite a bit of land right there, you

1 know. And it -- if I was to go home now and go
2 hunting, I'd have to hunt their caribou, because State
3 land is closed.
4
5 I could stay in Federal land right
6 there, but those little tiny pieces, you know, then,
7 you know, there could be a problem with being out of
8 Federal land there.
9
10 But, you know, like -- and around New
11 Stuyahok to the east, you know, those guys from New
12 Stuyahok, I think they should be able to have a -- be
13 able to harvest caribou in that, as long as they didn't
14 get too close to the border I would, you know, think.
15
16 Can you -- I can't remember your name,
17 but can you come up and.....
18
19 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's Dan Sharp.
20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan. Explain this,
22 how these boundaries got defined?
23
24 MR. SHARP: I wasn't going to tell you
25 my name, but since I've been identified, I'm Dan Sharp
26 with BLM.
27
28 The boundaries generally for BLM lands
29 are artifacts of what wasn't selected, so that's
30 probably why they're so scattered and broken up is
31 because BLM is the repository of Federal lands that
32 otherwise aren't spoken for. So that pattern is
33 common even, well, throughout the State.
34
35 As far as being able to adequately
36 describe for hunters and such where boundaries are, in
37 truth if you wanted to take advantage of some of those
38 small little plots, you would need to a GPS to find
39 where it was. I don't think it's within BLM's ability
40 to go stake out all these lands and make it obvious as
41 to where they are. But that's sort of how that
42 checkerboard pattern was created.
43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.
45 Yeah, I see that now. Just a sec.
46
47 And, are you still one? Aderman?
48
49 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, I am.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Were you -- was the
2 Togiak Refuge thinking about putting something in? A
3 proposal?

4
5 MR. ADERMAN: Well, I think at a
6 minimum something that is more Refuge specific, you
7 know, that deals with Unit 17A, maybe that portion of
8 17C that's on the Refuge, but I kind of view this as a
9 much wider issue, and, you know, I could see various
10 agencies submitting proposals or, you know, for their
11 areas, and you'd end up with probably a dozen or more
12 proposals, just about the subunits and whatnot, and,
13 you know, I see value in one big proposal that covers
14 the range of the herd, kind of what the Board of Game
15 has done. I mean, there's basically one regulation
16 throughout the range of the herd, one bag limit, and so
17 I.....

18
19 To answer your question, I think the
20 Refuge at a minimum would submit something or the area
21 most directly associated with Togiak Refuge at least
22 for now

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks. Dan,
25 did you have something.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. I've got a few
28 things here. To kind of add to what Molly was saying
29 about what shows on the map as BLM land and what Dan
30 Sharp was saying, I've seen some maps that show some
31 very small tracts of land I think near the Iowithla
32 drainage don't even show up on here.

33
34 And then one of Molly's employees,
35 Frank Woods, was reminding us at our Advisory Committee
36 meeting that these yellow spots are just
37 approximations, and there's been a lot of surveying and
38 final conveying and finalizing of selections both by
39 villages and individuals. So these are just
40 approximations, very rough ones, and I know Frank Woods
41 warned everybody that to charge off and go hunting in
42 some of these, he didn't have enough information to
43 pass onto them, and he was still hoping to get that
44 kind of information from BLM.

45
46 To add on, I've been struggling with
47 whether to propose this or not, but from what Andy
48 brings up, I'm wondering if rather than as an advocacy,
49 but just to get it on the table in a tidier form, if
50 this RAC shouldn't consider at least for the

1 opportunity to discuss it, a proposal, a single
2 proposal to get these seasons and bag limits in
3 uniformity. It would be a service to a lot of the
4 public that has a real hard time sorting out where
5 things are.

6

7 And then I know -- I think it's within
8 the Refuge there's one little sliver of land that still
9 has a five animal bag limit, but I think that season is
10 to be established by the State or the Feds or jointly
11 State and Feds. Andy or Jim Wellington is constantly
12 getting questions about it. I think they'd like to get
13 that out of there.

14

15 And I would be willing to make the
16 motion just to get it on the table for discussion to
17 get it out there, but I have to say that a lot of the
18 folks I live around and I guess supposed to be speaking
19 for have very mixed opinions on how the final outcome
20 should be.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: A motion on what
23 area?

24

25 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, in this case I
26 would make a motion to adopt Federal subsistence
27 regulations to get them meshed into -- in agreement
28 with the State Mulchatna Caribou Herd seasons and bag
29 limit regulations as much as possible. And possibly
30 look to Andy to supply the specifics on that.

31

32 Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess I don't see
35 a second on that.

36

37 But here's an instance right here. If
38 you look at the Federal land where it says New
39 Stuyahok, the BLM land, for instance, this BLM land,
40 that -- half of that part there in 17C closes March
41 31st, but if you go on the other side of that where
42 that's 9B, then it closes April 15th. So I could, you
43 know, go along with closing it on the end of March in
44 9B, but I wouldn't go along with closing the season
45 March 15th as in State land, because like Molly had
46 said, people were still interested in getting caribou,
47 because they hadn't gotten their limited caribou. And
48 keeping it open until the end of March, it's still good
49 traveling conditions, but once you get to April 15th,
50 and then it's pretty dangerous in my opinion. Some

1 place may not be, but it would probably be beneficial
2 right in that area, because that one area of BLM land
3 there where it says New Stuyahok, is two different
4 closing dates. So, you know, but I would -- I could
5 certainly see shortening the 9B up to March 31st
6 instead of April 15th like the season above there and
7 the season below is. You know, that would take away,
8 you know, of shooting a caribou in the wrong side of
9 the boundary line after March.

10

11 Molly.

12

13 MS. CHYTHLOOK: My recommendation I
14 think would be to get the harvest numbers meshed
15 together, because with the State I think it's, what,
16 two? And with the -- or three.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Three with the
19 Federal.

20

21 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Three with the Federal,
22 two with the State. And in this location that's still
23 open, it's still harvest of three. My recommendation
24 would be to keep the Federal open until the 15th, but
25 -- the caribou in the BLM lands, but mesh the harvest
26 numbers with the State.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You mean the 15th of
29 April. So we would have to make a proposal to extend
30 the season in 9A and 9C, and 17C to the middle of
31 April.

32

33 MS. CHYTHLOOK: No, I'm not. I think
34 we -- couldn't we just keep the seasons as they are and
35 correct the amount of harvest? Or are we trying to --
36 the closure dates to match with the State? And I'm not
37 agreeing with that, because I want to give the Nushagak
38 villages and anybody else that would be interested in
39 harvesting until the 15th, just to harvest two still
40 that the State has on board for two harvest.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The Nushagak
43 villages, the Federal season closes in 17C the end of
44 March. It's only 9B where it's open until April 15th
45 according to the regulations.

46

47 You know, and I could support aligning
48 the bag limits, because I suppose if a family needs
49 more than two caribou, you need to send out more than
50 one hunter. And if there's only one guy hunting, they

1 probably have a small family, so they could
2 probably.....

3
4 The reason why I say this is if we're
5 going to get the Board of Game to be more receptive to
6 doing predator control in 17C and 9B, you know, we
7 probably should try to align these. Because to do
8 predator control, it has to be a pretty poor situation.
9 And if the situation is that poor, maybe a bag limit of
10 three caribou is too much. That's what I'm saying, you
11 know.

12
13 Anybody else want to comment on that.
14 Dan.

15
16 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. We had
17 a little bit of this kind of discussion at the advisory
18 committee meeting, and I was just finally finding it in
19 my notes. I know one of the representative from
20 Koliganek said that running a hunt into late March
21 could be important.

22
23 It seems like I heard somebody else say
24 they might be more inclined to compromise a little on
25 the bag limit, but still have a little more opportunity
26 on the season.

27
28 But there's two ways we could look at
29 that. We could debate this now and decide whether or
30 not to make a motion and put a proposal forth, or we
31 could say clearly there's room for a lot of discussion,
32 and if we're willing to have confidence in the system
33 and throw a proposal on the table and then let people
34 really weigh in on it. Then there may be places where
35 everybody's willing -- in agreement that things should
36 be cleaned up.

37
38 And so I am looking for a little -- I
39 don't want to make a motion if I'm not going to really
40 get a lot of support, but I would be willing to make
41 that motion just to get it out there for discussion and
42 we sort out among the communities and the various users
43 what would be the best solution.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

46
47 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Dan, I would
48 support a motion for those very purposes as well. I
49 think we're hearing both from management as well as
50 user groups that this needs to be addressed. And I

1 think for the purposes of getting it on the table, and
2 in the hopes that if it wasn't put on the table in a
3 form that was palatable to the entities, we could
4 through recommendations this fall when we review it
5 hopefully make the changes necessary at that time.

6

7 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. It sounds
10 like the way to do it. You know, like I said before,
11 you know, we can't take it up if we don't have
12 something before us to take up.

13

14 So, you know, I don't like -- I don't
15 think that BLM land where it says New Stuyahok is --
16 one side being closed on the end of March and the other
17 side of that piece of BLM land opened until April 15th,
18 and it would be hard to determine and even hard to
19 enforce. But April 15th is kind of late in my opinion.
20 This year is different I think. You know, it's
21 probably going to be huntable until then. But this was
22 a cold year.

23

24 And we probably should show that we --
25 you know, I'm trying -- we need to show that we, you
26 know -- how am I supposed to day it.

27

28 MS. MORRIS LYON: Addressing the
29 problem?

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, address the
32 problem so that hopefully if it gets any worse that the
33 Board of Game would implement predator control in this
34 area. And if we don't show that we are trying to help
35 the situation, they would be hesitant, in my opinion,
36 to do anything.

37

38 So I would support moving the season
39 back from April 15th in 9B to March 31st, even though
40 that affects us more than anybody else. But it does
41 show that we need to -- we have a problem.

42

43 And if the rest of you guys think that
44 we should move the season -- move the bag limit to two
45 from three, you know, I could support that. As I said,
46 you know, if you need more caribou, you need to send
47 somebody else in your family to get a couple more.

48

49 Is there any more comment. Dale, I
50 haven't heard from you.

1 MR. MYERS: Well, I don't know, I was
2 just looking at all this, and, you know, we have to do
3 something. I kind of hate to see closures and cut-
4 backs and everything. I mean, you look at the lower
5 Peninsula in 9E for the caribou herd down there.
6 That's been cut back completely to the max and totally
7 shut down. And it hasn't helped their populations any.

8

9

10 It's kind of a trend that's growing.
11 There's an obvious predator problem, and it's starting
12 to creep throughout the State in quite a few different
13 areas, and, I mean, it just -- it's a politically ugly
14 thing, but, you know, at a certain point it's a dirty
15 job, but somebody's got to do it. And, you know, I
16 don't know what we can come up with. We should try to
17 come up with something.

18

19 That's my thoughts.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And I see
22 part of 17B and 17C also has a three bag limit for
23 caribou, open until April 15th.

24

25 MS. CHYTHLOOK: That's what I was
26 trying to tell you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, I was looking at
29 Unit 9. All right. Sorry, Molly.

30

31 So who made a motion.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: I can.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Dan made a
36 motion.

37

38 MS. MORRIS LYON: No, he's going to.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, Dan, you're
41 going to make a motion or did.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I mean,
44 I guess at this point I'm willing to move that we
45 develop a proposal, maybe with the help of Mr. Aderman
46 and possibly the State biologist to get seasons and bag
47 limits for caribou hunting, the Mulchatna Caribou Herd,
48 in the range of the herd, and to be more uniform, well,
49 seasons and bag limits.

50

1 It sounds to me like from the
2 discussion, we even have -- this could serve the
3 subsistence public as well as -- the rurally qualified
4 subsistence public as well the commercial and sport
5 public, reduce confusion.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Why don't you put a
8 date on it, March 31st.
9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'll do March 31st.
11 And I don't know what the prevailing start date is. I
12 think whichever is the most common start date for the
13 range of the caribou herd. Because this goes on into
14 Unit 19 and 18 as well. And I guess I'm open to Andy's
15 comments, if he know what date that might be for a
16 start date in the fall.
17
18 Mr. Chair.
19
20 MR. ADERMAN: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.
21 Andy Aderman with The Togiak Refuge. August 1st is the
22 most common start date throughout the range of the
23 Mulchatna herd.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,
26 Andy. So we're looking at an August 1st to March 31.
27
28 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.
31
32 MR. O'HARA: I'll second that motion so
33 we can have discussion.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The motion been
36 seconded. Okay.
37
38 Yeah, you know, I could support it.
39 I'm in one of those areas where we would be shortened,
40 but, you know, we need to do this for conservation
41 measures. And I'd also clarify it's easier for
42 protection to enforce. And also I'm kind of hopeful
43 that by doing this the State Board of Game favorably
44 looks at it. Because if it does get any worse, it
45 might be -- in fact, it might be in a measure right
46 now, that would implement predator control. By doing
47 what we're proposing, it would show that we are trying
48 to help the problem, so I would be in support of that.
49
50

1 Anybody else. Molly.
2
3 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Just clarification. So
4 the April 15 closure was only on BLM lands and not
5 Togiak Refuge.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: On both I thought,
8 wasn't it, Dan? The Federal lands in 17A and C and B?
9
10 MR. O'HARA: Is Andy still on line?
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Andy, are you on
13 line? Aderman.
14
15 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I am
16 on line. It's April 15th closure on Federal lands in
17 17B, which just the very western tip is Togiak Refuge,
18 the area around Hart Lake. And then there's the BLM
19 lands that you talked about earlier, and then I believe
20 Lake Clark Preserve is in the very eastern portion of
21 17B.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So the intent
24 was not to take 17A or 17 -- part of 17C in the Togiak
25 National Wildlife Refuge. Dan Dunaway?
26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. As the
28 maker of the motion, yeah, I think my intent was within
29 our area of jurisdiction, wherever the Mulchatna
30 Caribou Herd ranges. My understanding is the
31 biologists would like to have very similar, if not
32 identical, seasons and bag limits throughout the range
33 of the herd, which has expanded considerably the last
34 30 years. So, yes, 17 A, C, wherever.
35
36 And through this discussion, I'm not
37 sure where the season closure will end up, but I guess
38 I'd entertain having the discussion.
39
40 Thank you.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So this
43 proposal is pertaining to the Mulchatna caribou. Any
44 more comment on this.
45
46 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.
47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.
49
50 MR. O'HARA: So open August 1 and close

1 the end of March, that's your proposal? Okay.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, the State
4 regulations are open until March 15th, but it would be
5 a little longer than that, but it would show some
6 protective measures and also trying to align the season
7 in that one area a little bit better.
8
9 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
12 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.
13
14 IN UNISON: Aye.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
17
18 (No opposing votes)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.
21 Okeydoke.
22
23 Krista, can you -- I forgot.....
24
25 MS. GUNN: That's fine. I do have to
26 leave though.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.
29
30 MS. GUNN: I can stay -- how long do
31 you think.....
32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: How long would
34 you.....
35
36 MS. GUNN: Well, I can just give you
37 the handouts and answer any questions.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, can you
40 sit there and give us a brief discussion of your
41 handouts.
42
43 MS. GUNN: Absolutely.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And tell us your
46 name and who you represent.
47
48 MS. GUNN: I shall.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You have the floor.

1 Would you turn your mic on.

2

3 MS. GUNN: I shall. And it's Krista
4 Gunn. I'm with the Office of the Federal Coordinator.

5

6 I do apologize. I had a more detailed
7 presentation for you, but due to the lack of time, I
8 can just go over the slides pretty quickly.

9

10 The first slide has my contact
11 information, so if you do have any further questions,
12 please feel free to give me a call.

13

14 The second slide is basically a fact
15 sheet on the Office of the Federal Coordinator. Who we
16 are, what we represent, what our mission is. And
17 obviously the end goal is to build the pipeline.

18

19 The third slide details the Federal
20 agencies that we are going to be coordinating with for
21 the natural gas pipeline. There are 22 agencies
22 involved, and as you all probably know, there are four
23 proposals at this point. There are the two big
24 pipeline and the two in-state natural gas pipelines.

25

26 For the two larger pipelines, we
27 anticipate that those two proposals, the first from the
28 AGIA representee, Trans Canada, and the second from
29 Denali. We propose that they will merge at some point,
30 because we know that only one larger line is going to
31 be built. We just don't know when. And if you take a
32 look at the next slide, the FERC pre-filing
33 environmental review process, that checkmark is the
34 point where they're going to have to merge.

35

36 We may see two environmental impact
37 statements or EIS's, and so those 22 Federal agencies
38 are going to have to coordinate on both of those EIS's
39 at this point. So a lot of work. And where our office
40 comes into play is we're going to expedite that
41 coordination, ensure that those Federal agencies don't
42 levy any additional requirements on the companies, so
43 that we can ensure that the pipeline does get built.

44

45 The next slide details the FERC
46 resource reports. They are the lead for the EIS as
47 well as there are the 11 resource reports. I would
48 take note of number 4 and number 5, because those are
49 probably going to have the greatest impact to you, and
50 those are cultural resources and the socio-economics.

1 And finally the last two slides are the
2 timelines for the two larger line projects, the first
3 one being Denali and the second one being Trans Canada.

4
5 And I'm sure many of you know that
6 Denali has prefiled with FERC, so that basically begins
7 the process for them to meet the open season in 2010.
8 Trans Canada has not prefiled yet, and they're
9 basically looking at the process about a year ago, and
10 they're following that process versus the legislation
11 that was just passed. But you'll probably be seeing
12 them prefile soon.

13
14 And again that was kind of a shortened
15 version. So if you have any quick questions, I would
16 be happy to take them.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, what is FERC?

19
20 MS. GUNN: Federal Energy Regulatory
21 Commission.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. And I guess
24 the gas line, is it going to run kind of along the
25 Trans Alaska Pipeline, or it really hasn't come out
26 and.....

27
28 MS. GUNN: The proposals, and again
29 would you look at this one. I only have one copy of
30 this, I apologize.

31
32 Those are all four proposals, and as
33 you can see, the two larger pipelines do propose at
34 this point to come down the TAPS corridor.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Any
37 questions. Molly.

38
39 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. What do you mean
40 by like Trans Canada hasn't prefiled?

41
42 MS. GUNN: Basically the slide that
43 says FERC prefiling environmental review, Trans Canada
44 hasn't submitted their application to FERC. So that
45 application has to have some detailed information on
46 the engineering specifics of the pipeline, what their
47 proposed corridor is. And so they haven't really
48 reached that process yet, so they have not submitted
49 that documentation and paperwork to FERC.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.
2
3 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Krista or
4 Christina? Krista.
5
6 MS. GUNN: Yes, sir.
7
8 MR. O'HARA: That pipeline's a long way
9 from Bristol Bay.
10
11 MS. GUNN: Correct.
12
13 MR. O'HARA: And so is it just kind of
14 information for us then to think in general terms,
15 because 4 and 5, you know, is going to affect a lot of
16 things.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The Counsel,
19 specifically Nanci and the Chairman, asked me to give
20 you a brief update.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And we appreciate
23 it. Anybody else. So I guess it's still -- a lot is
24 still up in the air yet.
25
26 MS. GUNN: It is. It's still very much
27 in the planning stages. We anticipate about 10 years.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So.....
30
31 MS. GUNN: So, again, lots more
32 updates.
33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yep. All right.
35 Well, we expect to see you again then.
36
37 MS. GUNN: Absolutely.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And hopefully we
40 have more time.
41
42 MS. GUNN: Yes. And thank you, Mr.
43 Chairman and the Council.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're welcome.
46 Dan, do you have something.
47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: The way these things go,
49 you say approximately 10 years. Ten years to what, the
50 pipeline or the beginning of a pipeline?

1 MS. GUNN: No, until construction is
2 complete, until we see the first gas. So 10 years
3 until the first gas.
4
5 MR. O'HARA: Do you think we'll have a
6 pipeline?
7
8 MS. GUNN: I do. The Administration is
9 very favorable at this point. And I know that there's
10 been a lot of press on the shale gas and that market.
11 And obviously the economics in the United States right
12 now. But it's the right time, so we really believe
13 that we'll see it through fruition.
14
15 MR. O'HARA: When you say
16 Administration, you're talking about the Federal
17 Administration?
18
19 MS. GUNN: The Obama Administration,
20 correct.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: One more. Dan
23 Dunaway.
24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: It just occurred to me
26 there's quite a few folks pretty concerned about oil
27 development out in Bristol Bay. Would this same
28 process occur out there or will you be involved or -- I
29 guess I'll leave it at that. Or what.
30
31 MS. GUNN: The LNG plant or
32 specifically -- I'm not sure what you're referring to.
33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. The oil lease
35 sales and possible drilling, although I hear that there
36 may be more gas than oil out in what's called the North
37 Aleutian Basin.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
40 you, Krista.
41
42 MS. GUNN: Just to answer your
43 question, no, we would not be involved with that. We
44 are involved just with the natural gas projects. And
45 again thank you.
46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're welcome.
48
49 MR. O'HARA: About time for a break.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, it is. Liz has
2 a comment.
3
4 MS. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
5 Sorry to interrupt. Ronald Lind is on the line. He
6 was from Chignik Lake and he wanted to testify, and
7 he's been waiting for awhile. We were on Unit 9 when
8 he called and then we got off while he was waiting.
9
10 Are you still there, Ronald?
11
12 MR. LIND: Yeah, I am, but I never
13 heard what unit or subunit you guys were one. I just
14 heard 9B and that was not what I was on here for. I
15 thought it was 9E.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, Ronald, this
18 is Randy Alvarez. We discussed 9E on moose proposals
19 for 9E to do -- to implement corridors along some of
20 the rivers and creeks and streams so that locals and --
21 some of the communities that use Federal lands in 9E
22 where they hunt typically moose, to have corridors in
23 those areas to keep -- to restrict specifically non-
24 residents and people that are not qualified subsistence
25 users, to help locals get more moose.
26
27 And the Staff is going to be working on
28 exactly where these corridors are in Unit 9E on the
29 rivers and streams and creeks that they utilize to hunt
30 moose. So they're probably going to have to be
31 contacting these villages, Egegik, Pilot Point,
32 Ugashik, Port Heiden, the Chigniks, Perryville and
33 Ivanof Bay on what -- where they hunt moose on Federal
34 land with boats so that there can be a corridor put
35 there.
36
37 And our intent is not to eliminate non-
38 resident hunting. It's just to protect the local
39 people where they hunt so that they don't have to
40 compete with the non-residents.
41
42 Do you have any comment on that.
43
44 MR. O'HARA: It's two miles.
45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, and it's a two-
47 mile corridor on each side of these rivers and streams.
48 So do you want to comment on that, Ronald.
49
50 MR. LIND: Well, I guess if it's

1 anything like Nushagak Rivers, I wouldn't have any
2 problem with the way they're going to set it up if it's
3 two miles off the river. But I guess the only people
4 you're going to really hurt is the ones that are in our
5 area for any kind of commercial hunting, but anybody
6 that's outside of our corporation land won't have to
7 deal with anything like this. They could go out and
8 hunt for, you know, any moose and don't have to worry
9 about being away from the rivers, because they have
10 their airplanes to go after them. And if that happens
11 in our area and we can't do any commercial hunting for
12 moose, all we're doing then is saving the moose for the
13 guys that are hunting on the outside of our corporation
14 land.

15

16 That's all I have to say about what you
17 guys are trying to do with the two-mile limit. And I
18 see it up in the Nushagak area, and they have a lot of
19 area to hunt, but down here where we're at, I mean, the
20 rivers we hunt out of, you know, they're not very far
21 -- I guess to go hunting off of corporation land, to
22 get away from the two-mile regulation you're putting is
23 going to be -- it won't affect those guys that are
24 hunting outside of our corporation lands. I don't know
25 if you understand what I'm trying to say.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kind of. We don't
28 want to eliminate, you know, the guided hunts, but we
29 want to keep them separated, and, you know, most of the
30 local people, they have their specific areas that they
31 hunt with. They run up the rivers and creeks with
32 their boats usually as far as they can go, and that's
33 kind of the areas we wanted to protect for them. And
34 you guys are going to have to be working with Staff to
35 determine what your areas are. Because, you know, we
36 don't want to close any more area than needs to be,
37 unless there's just not enough moose to supply
38 everybody.

39

40 So the Staff is going to be working on
41 these corridors in the next -- we're going to take up
42 these proposals again in October at our next meeting,
43 and then we'll finalize where these corridors will be.
44 So everybody should have an opportunity to have their
45 say. In fact, there also will be public testimony
46 again in October at our next meeting on these same
47 proposals. The meeting's going to be in Dillingham I
48 believe, so you'll have another opportunity, Ronald,
49 besides contacting Fish and Wildlife Staff to where
50 these corridors are going to be around your villages.

1 MR. LIND: I understand what your
2 proposal is there for, but I just am thinking that, you
3 know, for guys that like I said have airplanes, they
4 can get away from this two-mile corridor and still be
5 able to hunt for the moose out there, so we're not
6 really doing anything about protecting our moose.
7 We're just -- you know, they're not able to come in our
8 areas, so they'll still be able to get to them with an
9 airplane. So if you're trying to protect the moose,
10 then you need to, you know, put a cap on the amount
11 that a guide could get. Otherwise that don't seem
12 right to just go two miles off the rivers, and then our
13 rivers are -- you know, you can't get to certain places
14 because it's so shallow, but to me it seems like this
15 is not going to really work out very long, because
16 these guides still can get out, way out past two miles
17 with their airplanes and still be able to get to the
18 moose. And all we're doing is saving the moose in our
19 area where we're supposed to be hunting them for
20 ourselves, but yet we can't commercially hunt them, but
21 these guys with the airplanes are going to be able to
22 get to them and, you know, there just needs to be
23 something put in with that if this two miles doesn't
24 really work. I mean, I understand what you're trying
25 to do, but still it don't see like it's going to work.
26 But anyways, like you said, there's more meetings
27 coming up in October, so.....

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah.
30 Ronald, so you think more needs to be done from that I
31 can gather. It probably should be close. See, Pilot
32 Point Traditional Council is supporting a closure of
33 the sport hunting on Federal lands in Unit 9E. So
34 you're kind of believe in this also?

35
36 MR. LIND: Yeah, I can see the moose
37 numbers went down over the years, you know, and I don't
38 very many hunters at all for moose. The most I ever
39 took was four. But, you know, not everybody gets a
40 moose, because they're just quite a ways out there, but
41 I'm just trying to say that, you know, the moose
42 numbers, even if you're putting in this two-mile
43 corridor on each side of the river to stop the sport
44 hunting, or, you know, to make it -- like to have
45 subsistence users get their moose and then the
46 commercial guys, but it's still not going to slow the
47 commercial guys down, because like I said, their
48 airplanes could take them wherever they want to go to
49 get to the moose, and they could be, you know, three
50 miles out and still get their moose, and what we're

1 doing to protect them is not by doing this two-mile
2 corridor. We need to do something else by, you know,
3 putting a cap like I said on the commercial hunting for
4 moose and, you know, have them only do up to four, you
5 know, because some of these guys get 15, 20 moose
6 hunters. And all we're doing in our area is, if we're
7 going to put this two-mile in place, we're not doing
8 anything to slow them down.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. You know, you
11 guys, you can submit a proposal into the Federal
12 Subsistence Board on this. That's kind of something
13 that you -- what you just said was something different
14 than what anybody had discussed, was putting a limit on
15 how many hunters guides can have in this area. And
16 maybe that's something you should submit. That sounds
17 like a good proposal to me. In fact, even Pilot
18 Point's proposal to close sport hunting is a legitimate
19 proposal.

20

21 You know all this is going to hinge on
22 how many moose there are, is in my opinion how much the
23 Federal Subsistence Board restricts it. You know, if
24 there's quite a bit of moose, they'll go with a
25 corridor where everybody can harvest. If it's even
26 less, maybe the guides should be limited to only take a
27 few hunters out, say four like you said. Or if there's
28 not enough moose for everybody, like some people think,
29 Pilot Point, Port Heiden, it should be closed to sport
30 hunting in Unit 9E. And these proposals need to be
31 sent in, otherwise we're not going to be discussing
32 them next October.

33

34 So I hope you guys, like you or Chignik
35 or Port Heiden or Pilot Point send some proposals in.
36 Otherwise -- and not leave it to us to submit a
37 proposal for every one of these. So I just wanted to
38 say that.

39

40 Dan, you have a comment?

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes, Mr. Chair. For Mr.
43 Lind, I was the maker of the motion. I wanted to get
44 something on the table to open the door to discussing
45 moose hunting, to address a growing and on-going
46 concern for moose. I think our final wording in this
47 proposal will include some language to the effect of
48 not just the corridors, something to the effect or
49 other options to possibly include reducing the fall
50 moose season for qualified users, slightly increasing

1 the winter moose season for qualified users, or seek
2 ways to reduce, but not necessary close the take by
3 non-qualified hunters in these areas.

4
5 But like Randy, I 100 percent agree,
6 you guys need to submit proposals. The more proposals
7 addressing a problem, somebody might have a better
8 idea, and probably has a better idea out there.

9
10 One other item, it sounds like you're
11 also a guide though. I really struggle with talking
12 about widespread closures to sport, commercial use or
13 other use in areas far, far from any local community or
14 far, far away from traditional hunting areas if that
15 community still allows sport and commercial hunting
16 essentially in their backyard or on their lands. If
17 there's enough moose to support some sort of commercial
18 activity close to home, and yet other folks in that
19 very community aren't getting enough moose to eat, it
20 seems to me it's the community's responsibility to sort
21 out a solution closely, whether it's a requirement that
22 every guided moose taken on corporate lands, half of it
23 goes to the community or something.

24
25 Anyway, but we'd certainly welcome your
26 input and encourage you to stay involved, because it
27 can only help, because there's certainly a problem.
28 Thank you.

29
30 MR. LIND: Well, just to let.....

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Go ahead, Ronald.

33
34 MR. LIND:you know, when I go out
35 to do these moose hunts, whatever moose we get, I give
36 to everybody in the village, because people need the
37 moose, and sometimes some of them can't get out there
38 to get to the moose, so whatever we get, I share with
39 everybody, and it goes to them.

40
41 But we'll follow up before the next
42 meeting I guess and I'll get ahold of some numbers to
43 put in a proposal.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Ronald, the deadline
46 for proposals is April 30th I believe so you need to
47 send a proposal in, if you are going to, by April 30th.
48 And if you need help on that, you can call Donald Mike.
49 Donald, would you tell him your number and fax number
50 or whatever he needs from you.

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My
2 office number is 786-3629, or our 800 number is 1-800-
3 478-1456. And our fax number is 786-3898. Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Did you get that,
6 Ronald, or do you need him to say it again.
7
8 MR. LIND: Yes. All right. 786-3629,
9 800-478-1456, 786-3898.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is that right,
12 Donald?
13
14 MS. WILLIAMS: Correct.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So.....
17
18 MR. MIKE: No, it isn't.
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Tell him again.
21
22 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. My desk number
23 is 786-3629.
24
25 MR. LIND: 786-3629.
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So if you need help
28 to send in a proposal, call him up and he'll fax you or
29 give you the paperwork and tell you how to do it. But
30 it would probably -- what you were discussing would
31 probably be a good proposal before us, besides the
32 corridor, and I hope Pilot Point's closure proposal
33 gets sent in. And then if you send in one dealing with
34 the amount of guided hunters a guide can take, it would
35 probably be another good option.
36
37 All right. Ronald, is that all for
38 your testimony.
39
40 MR. LIND: Yep, that's about it I
41 guess. I missed the first part. I didn't know what
42 was being talked about. So you guys took care of it.
43 Thanks.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that was it.
46 We discussed a lot, but we didn't make very many
47 proposals. All right. Talk to you later.
48
49 Now we shall take a recess.
50

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We'll come back to
6 order. So I guess we need to discuss if we want to
7 align the bag limit. Sandy asked if that was part of
8 our intent. And so we need to discuss that.

9

10 Here's my thought. I would be in
11 support of moving the bag limit for Mulchatna caribou
12 from three down to two on Federal land if we could get
13 the State to move the deadline -- I mean the closing
14 date from March 15th to March 31st. If the Alaska
15 Department of Fish and Game would support that, then it
16 would at good chance that the Board of Game would pass
17 it. Because if the intent is to align the regulations
18 for bag limit and closing dates, maybe that's what we
19 should ask for.

20

21 Donald.

22

23 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Just
24 sort of following Robert's Rules, if the Council is
25 going to take this up on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd,
26 there was a motion already made and passed. If the
27 mover of the motion agrees and the majority agrees with
28 the mover to reconsider this motion that the Council
29 just passed, we'll need to go through that step.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Why don't we make it
32 a second motion. That way like I always say, it's
33 better to have two motions in case one gets thrown out
34 and then everything gets thrown out. So they might
35 want to pass aligning the dates, but might not want to
36 pass aligning the bag limit, so maybe that should be a
37 separate proposal.

38

39 Dan.

40

41 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. When I
42 was discussing that initial Mulchatna proposal, I think
43 I mentioned, and I finally did find in my advisory
44 committee notes where I had a line that somebody said,
45 maybe we ought to reduce the bag limit from three to
46 two. My sense is that there may be more acceptance of
47 that reduction than an extensive reduction of the
48 season dates.

49

50 So to get it on the table, I'd be

1 willing to make a motion to the effect of what you were
2 just saying, to support a bag limit of two, and a
3 season end of March 31st for Mulchatna caribou I think
4 would be the cleanest way.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. The
7 motion's been made. Do I have a second.

8
9 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'll second it.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Nanci.
12 Any more comment on this proposal.

13
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would like to
15 comment.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

18
19 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I just would
20 like to clarify for the record, too, what you said,
21 that, you know, I'd like to see this done in the
22 interest that the State would acknowledge somewhat of a
23 give and take here. We're trying to take the lead to
24 bring things in line and make things less confusing for
25 all user groups. And we would like to see an extension
26 on State lands to March 31st of hunting season
27 closures. Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody else.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in
34 favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

39
40 (No opposing votes)

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.

43
44 Thomas Hedlund, are you on?

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

49
50 MS. WILLIAMS: Is somebody on?

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is somebody on line?
2
3 MR. DUNAWAY: Is Andy on line?
4
5 MR. ADERMAN: I'm still here. This is
6 Andy Aderman with Togiak Refuges.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Andy. Good.
9 So your heard our proposal.
10
11 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, I did. Loud and
12 clear.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So now is
15 there any other game issues we want to take action or
16 move on.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't see any. So
21 we're at number 12, closure review and Council
22 recommendation. A. Wildlife closure review briefing.
23 Laura Greffenius.
24
25 MS. GREFFENIUS: All right. Thank you,
26 Mr. Chair. And members of the Council. I'll be
27 covering this, the wildlife closure review briefing.
28 And this starts on Page 15 in your book.
29
30 The closure review briefing and the
31 actual policy on closures to hunting, trapping and
32 fishing, it's in your Counsel book on Pages 15 through
33 19. I'm going to go through some -- summarize that,
34 some highlights of that, and then I will cover the two
35 closure reviews that are in your book.
36
37 Section .815 of ANILCA allows the
38 Federal Subsistence Board to establish closures to
39 hunting, trapping and fishing on Federal public lands
40 and waters when necessary for the conservation of
41 healthy populations of fish and wildlife, and to
42 continue subsistence uses of the populations.
43
44 In 2005 the Federal Subsistence
45 Management Program began a periodic review of all
46 Federal wildlife closures to hunting. The reviews are
47 to determine whether the original justifications for
48 the closures continue to apply.
49
50 The closures were originally

1 established by the Board according to the following
2 considerations. Is the wildlife population sufficient
3 to provide for both Federally-qualified subsistence
4 users and other users? Is the wildlife population
5 sufficient to sustain uses by all Federally-qualified
6 communities or just certain communities? Is the
7 closure necessary for reasons of administration,
8 limited funds or resources or public safety? And is
9 the closure necessary for reasons pursuant to other
10 applicable law.

11
12 These reviews are being conducted in
13 accordance with guidance found in the Federal
14 Subsistence Board's policy, which begins on Page 16 in
15 your book. And this policy on closures to hunting,
16 trapping and fishing on Federal public lands and waters
17 in Alaska, and was adopted by the Federal Board in
18 2007.

19
20 Mr. Chair and members of the Council.
21 The closure policy clearly states that the Board will
22 consider the recommendations of the Regional Advisory
23 Councils before it takes regulatory action on these
24 Federal closures.

25
26 And according to the policy, existing
27 closures will be reviewed on a three-year rotational
28 schedule. All of the closures being reviewed this
29 cycle were originally reviewed by the Regional Advisory
30 Councils and the Federal Board in 2006. Three years
31 have passed and it is time once again to take a look at
32 the closures to hunting and trapping. So today I will
33 present to the Council two reviews on Federal closures
34 that were originally reviewed three years ago.

35
36 Through these reviews we will summarize
37 if the status of wildlife population has changed in
38 three years. In other words, has it remained the same
39 or has it grown or decreased in size. And we must also
40 consider if the wildlife population has improved to
41 where it can sustain the needs of subsistence users and
42 other users.

43
44 Again, the Board would like a
45 recommendation today, and that will be passed on to the
46 Federal Subsistence Board, on these closure reviews
47 that I will present to you shortly. And after each
48 presentation, the Council will have the opportunity to
49 recommend to either maintain the status quo and leave
50 the closure in place or initiate a proposal to the

1 Federal Subsistence Board to modify or eliminate the
2 closure, or the Council can make some other
3 recommendation to the Board.

4

5 This concludes my presentation on the
6 wildlife closure review and the Board's closure policy.
7 I'll stop and answer any questions you might have
8 before I present the closure reviews for this region.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 MS. GREFFENIUS: If no questions, I'll
13 go to the first closure review. It begins on Page 20
14 in your Council book.

15

16 This one pertains to Unit 9C, that
17 portion draining into the Naknek River from the south,
18 so it's the King Salmon neighborhood. And under
19 current Federal regulation, that italics portion, the
20 closure is for the winter season only.

21

22 I'm not going to go through all the
23 specifics on this, but just touch upon some of it, just
24 for the highlights of it.

25

26 This was originally initiated in 1992,
27 and more recently with WP06-24. That proposal, that
28 the Board passed, eliminated the hunting of antlerless
29 moose during the December season. That was to
30 discontinue the cow harvest out of concerns for the
31 population there.

32

33 And now I'm on Page 22, if you wanted
34 to follow along just as far as the resource population
35 trend.

36

37 There have been management concerns
38 based on the declining moose population and the low
39 calf/cow ratio in the Big Creek area. Because of this,
40 harvesting of cows is not considered sustainable in
41 this area. And based on surveys in the park border
42 trend area south of the Naknek River, the moose
43 population has been declining by five percent annually
44 since 1988. And that was as of 2006. The cause of the
45 decline has been related to poor calf recruitment. In
46 all the trend count areas of 9C the moose population,
47 there's been declines in this area, raising concerns
48 about harvesting cows. That's not sustainable in this
49 area.

50

1 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
2 maintain the status quo for the closure of Federal
3 public lands during the winter season, closure to non-
4 Federally-qualified subsistence users.

5
6 And the reasons being, and I'll just go
7 through the justification. In 2006 the Federal
8 Subsistence Board adopted Proposal WP06-24, which
9 eliminated the antlerless moose hunt in this areas,
10 thus implementing conservation measures to help
11 increase the moose population and eventually provide
12 improved hunting opportunity for subsistence users.
13 Since only two years have passed since WP06-24 was
14 adopted, it is recommended that the closure remain in
15 effect.

16
17 The fall and winter hunters for Federal
18 subsistence users provide opportunities to harvest
19 moose in Unit 9C in that portion that drains into the
20 Naknek River from the south. The status quo is
21 necessary to continue subsistence uses according to
22 Section .815 of ANILCA. And maintaining the closure is
23 also consistent with sound management principles and
24 the conservation of healthy wildlife populations while
25 providing a preference for subsistence uses.

26
27 So this concludes my review for this
28 closure, and I'll answer any questions if you have them
29 before I go to the next one.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Laura. Thank
34 you. It says here in your justification on 22, WP06-24
35 which eliminated the antlerless moose hunt in this
36 area. So the winter season has to be antlered moose,
37 but it doesn't say that. It says one bull. It only
38 says antlered bulls in 9E, is that right?

39
40 MS. GREFFENIUS: We're in 9C.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 9C, on the -- where
43 it says one bull, September 1st to September 15th,
44 December 15th to January 15th. It doesn't say one
45 antlered bull. But, you know, it says antlered bulls
46 on the bottom in 9E there.

47
48 MS. GREFFENIUS: Well, what -- excuse
49 me.
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And also 9C and 9B
2 and 9A, they all say one bull, except for 9E. It says
3 one antlered bull. I'm just making a comment, because
4 the Alaska Board of Game just passed a proposal, a
5 regulation for moose in 9B and C, or all of 9 I
6 believe. They changed it from one bull to one antlered
7 bull. So the lack -- I was saying that they're
8 aligning regulations. But what you said there would
9 only pertain to 9E; is that right? Or am I reading it
10 wrong?

11
12 MS. GREFFENIUS: This particular
13 closure review is for 9C, Charlie, and only for that
14 portion draining into the Naknek River from the south,
15 so it's just -- it's kind of that little portion south
16 of King Salmon on the boundary there with Katmai.

17
18 And also referring just back to, I
19 brought a copy of it, to this WP06-24, the language
20 that used to be in for the December hunt was that
21 antlerless moose could be taken by Federal registration
22 permit, and that it would be up to five antlerless
23 moose could be taken. That was what was in the strike-
24 through, and is no longer allowed. So it's just for
25 the one bull.

26
27
28 But, you're right, it doesn't specify
29 antlered bull, but the antlerless is what was the
30 strike through in this proposal several years ago. So
31 when I'm referring to antlerless, I'm kind of referring
32 to the language that was in the strike-through that was
33 changed by this proposal a couple years ago.

34
35 Does that help clarify?

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So, yeah, it
38 eliminated the cow hunt. All right. I guess that.....

39
40 Who do we have on line?

41
42 MS. WILLIAMS: Did someone just come on
43 line or did someone hang up?

44
45 MR. WOODS: This is Frank Woods out of
46 Dillingham. I just got on line.

47
48 MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Great, Frank.
49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Any more
2 comment.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Laura. I
7 guess you can continue.
8
9 MS. MORRIS LYON: I think we need to
10 make a recommendation to approve their recommendation
11 or not.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, were you done
14 with your briefing on this closure?
15
16 MS. GREFFENIUS: I'm done with this
17 closure. And then the Council -- I can either do both
18 of them, and then you make your recommendation of what
19 you want to do, or you can make your recommendation
20 based on what I just presented and then go to the next
21 one. However you prefer.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We probably should
24 make a recommendation on each one. So would that be
25 all right? So anybody want to move on keeping this
26 status quo.
27
28 MS. MORRIS LYON: I will.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci so moves. Do
31 we have a second.
32
33 MR. MYERS: Second.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dale.
36 Any question.
37
38 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'll speak to it.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci wants to
41 speak.
42
43 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I so make that
44 motion in the interest of conservation practices, and
45 once again trying to promote a healthy population for
46 the users in that area so that we can bring it back to
47 a population base that we can use a little bit more
48 liberally.
49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Any more.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in
6 favor signify by saying aye.
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
11
12 (No opposing votes)
13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried.
15
16 Okay. Laura, the next one.
17
18 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
19 Chair. The next closure review begins on Page 24 in
20 your book.
21
22 And this one is pertaining to portions
23 of Unit 17A and 17C, the Nushagak Peninsula area for
24 caribou. And Federal public lands are closed to the
25 taking of caribou except by the residents of Togiak,
26 Twin Hills, Manokotak, Aleknagik, Dillingham, Clark's
27 Point, and Ekuk hunting under these regulations. And
28 the closure dates are continuous for the fall and
29 winter seasons.
30
31 And this hunt was established in 1994.
32 The caribou were reintroduced to the Nushagak Peninsula
33 in February of 1988. The reintroduction was intended
34 to reestablish caribou in an area where they had been
35 an important subsistence resource for area residents.
36 And the principal objective was to establish a
37 population large enough to sustain a reasonable harvest
38 while still allowing the herd to grow.
39
40 So Federal public lands for this hunt
41 when it was established were closed to the harvest of
42 the Nushagak caribou except by the residents in those
43 communities that I mentioned. And the closure was
44 established to allow subsistence use of this limited
45 wildlife resource.
46
47 As far as the current resource
48 abundance, in January 2008 a census was conducted and
49 estimated the caribou population at approximately 556
50 caribou. The management plan sets a harvest level of

1 not more than 10 percent when the population is between
2 600 and 1,000 caribou.

3
4 And the permits, the permits are
5 allocated to eligible communities based on a formula
6 for each community.

7
8 And so based on just those current
9 population census information, there were no fall hunts
10 in 2006, 2007 and 2008 due to the population remaining
11 below 600 animals. As prescribed by the management
12 plan, those hunts didn't take place.

13
14 There was a limited number of permits,
15 five, that were available for the winter hunt in '06 to
16 '07 and '07 to '08, but no harvest was reported.

17
18 OSM preliminary recommendation is to
19 maintain a status quo for the closure of Federal public
20 lands to non-Federally-qualified subsistence users.

21
22 And the justification for that is that
23 while the population of the Nushagak Peninsula Caribou
24 Herd has declined, there is close monitoring by the
25 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge biologists and current
26 regulations allow the refuge manager to adjust the
27 harvest limit to allocate the number of permits
28 available to hunters, and to close the season if
29 necessary.

30
31 A continued closure is necessary to
32 conserve the caribou population and to continue
33 subsistence uses according to Section .815 in ANILCA.
34 And the status quo is consistent with sound management
35 principles and the conservation of healthy wildlife
36 populations while providing a preference for
37 subsistence uses.

38
39 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. I move.....

40
41 MS. GREFFENIUS: So that concludes my
42 review for this closure. And I should mention Andy
43 Aderman was very helpful in gathering the information
44 for this. So if there's any questions, this is his
45 area.

46
47 So thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Laura.

50

1 Dan O'Hara moves to keep the status
2 quo.
3
4 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I'll second the motion.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Molly.
7
8 Any questions.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
15 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.
16
17 IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
20
21 (No opposing votes)
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried.
24
25 Okay. We are -- number 11. Bering Sea
26 chinook salmon bycatch update.
27
28 MR. O'HARA: How did we go from 11, 12
29 and then to 11 again.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: A long day.
32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: That's new math.
34
35 (Off record comments re numbering of
36 agenda)
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I didn't even
39 know what you were talking about. Now I see. We're
40 backing up here. Okay.
41
42 Back to the new 11. Donald, do we have
43 somebody to report on that.
44
45 MR. O'HARA: Did the Federal people
46 (indiscernible, microphone not on.) Mr. Chairman.
47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What's that?
49
50 MR. O'HARA: Have the Federal people

1 weighed in on this bycatch thing? Do they do things
2 like that?

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.

5

6 MR. O'HARA: I guess they can do it.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald, do we have
9 somebody to report to us on this issue, update.

10

11 MR. MIKE: No, I can give the Council
12 an update. And I'll have Staff assist me with it.

13

14 At our fall meeting, the Bristol Bay
15 Council made a resolution to maintain a hard cap of --
16 I'm sorry, I've got to find the numbers here. Not to
17 exceed 38,000 fish annually. And the Federal
18 Subsistence Board weighed in on this bycatch, and they
19 issued a letter to the National Marine Fisheries
20 Service, and the Board's recommendation was a hard cap
21 not to exceed 29,000 chinook salmon.

22

23 There's a difference between what the
24 Board made their recommendations on a hard cap and the
25 Council's recommendations on a hard cap, so we have two
26 different hard cap comments to the National Marine
27 Fisheries Service. But it will be up to the -- I don't
28 know if you want to revisit your resolution and support
29 the Board's letter or if you want to keep with your
30 resolution.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, let's discuss
35 it. Okay.

36

37 As most of you know, I went to Kodiak
38 last April and testified on our behalf to the North
39 Pacific Management Council, which is going to be
40 meeting -- is meeting right now over here day after
41 tomorrow. They're going to be taking public testimony
42 for this bycatch issue again. And I'll be testifying
43 on behalf of this Council on that issue again.

44

45 And there's other people here I believe
46 from Yukon-Kuskokwim RACs that will be also testifying.
47 In fact, there was -- when I went to Kodiak last
48 spring, Pete Probasco and Rod Campbell were Staff, and
49 then me and three other Yukon-Kuskokwim RAC people went
50 over and testified on behalf of the -- for the Federal

1 Subsistence Board.

2

3 And when I testified last spring, our
4 recommendation was the cap of 38,000 chinook. That's
5 what we recommended -- that's what I recommended to the
6 North Pacific Council last year, because 38,000 was the
7 average from 1996 to 2001 of the bycatch. And after
8 2001, that's when it really shot up. So that's where
9 that number came from.

10

11 And I think the Yukon-Kuskokwim people
12 think that number is way too high. And now there were
13 -- let's see. The number of 29,000 -- yeah, right
14 there. Let me turn to that page also.

15

16 DR. WHEELER: Page 28 in your Regional
17 Advisory Council books. That kind of gives a history
18 of the numbers and where they came from. Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.
21 Thank you, Polly.

22

23 On Page 28 we have an update here. And
24 -- what's that?

25 MS. MORRIS LYON: It says right here
26 that's how they came up with that number, consistent
27 with the stated goal of the U.S./Canada Yukon River
28 agreement.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.
31 You'll see on the bottom bulletin point, it says we
32 will send a letter to the North Pacific Management
33 Council with a recommendation of 29,300 so it has gone
34 down. Note, this amount of chinook bycatch is
35 consistent with the stated goals of the U.S./Canada
36 Yukon River agreement signed in 2002, and mostly likely
37 will be most beneficial to subsistence users in Western
38 Alaska.

39

40 Well, the U.S. has an agreement with
41 Canada to let so many chinook up in the Yukon River
42 into Canada. But the last couple years or so only
43 about half of the goal has been met.

44

45 So we probably need to -- I would
46 recommend we support the smaller bycatch number of
47 29,300 as the 38,000 that we supported last spring.

48

49 And, Nanci, did you have?

50

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: No. (Indiscernible,
2 microphone not on)

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I've got a
5 newsletter here from the Bering Sea Fishermen's
6 Association. And it talks about four alternatives that
7 the Council is going to be considering when they take
8 action on this to determine a number.

9
10 And, for instance, the first
11 alternative, number 1, calls for status quo, but that
12 in my opinion is not going to work, leaving it, doing
13 nothing.

14
15 Alternative number 2 that they have
16 before them deals with some sort of chinook salmon hard
17 cap for the pollock fishery. Within this alternative a
18 broad range of numbers available to choose from if they
19 wish to set a chinook salmon hard cap. These hard
20 number amounts range from a low of 29,323 up to 87,500
21 chinook salmon.

22
23 Alternative number 3 considers
24 triggered area closures. This alternative would close
25 areas that have high chinook salmon bycatch when a
26 certain amount of bycatch is reached. Under this
27 alternative pollock fishing would not be allowed to
28 consider outside the closed area without further
29 restriction.

30
31 And then alternative number 4 is known
32 as the preliminary preferred alternative. It was
33 created at the Council's June 2008 meeting, and is a
34 specific set of options chosen from alternative 2, hard
35 cap, and with an additional element that includes
36 provisions implementing of chinook salmon bycatch
37 incentive plans from the pollock industry. In summary
38 this PPA would allow a hard cap of 68,392 chinook
39 salmon if the pollock industry can present an
40 acceptable incentive plan or plans that rewards or
41 penalizes vessels based on their chinook salmon bycatch
42 performance. If the industry doesn't come up with an
43 acceptable incentive plan, then they get a hard cap of
44 47,591 chinooks.

45
46 Well, that doesn't sound like a good
47 plan.

48
49 I'm kind of in supportive of
50 alternative number 2. Alternative number 2 has a hard

1 cap, would give them a hard cap in the range from
2 29,323 up to 87,500, but I would support, you know, a
3 hard cap of 29,323, because looking at the ADF&G -- I
4 was on line looking at the ADF&G website for 2008
5 salmon season. And the last couple years the chinook
6 harvest or the chinook return was less than forecasted
7 by the ADF&G. In fact, the amount of harvest was 36
8 percent less than what they had predicted it should.
9 And so if that was the case, we probably in my opinion
10 should ask -- go with the lower bycatch, because I'm
11 pretty certain that those people up in Yukon-Kuskokwim
12 are going to be asking for none, because last year they
13 did not get a king fishery in the Yukon River. And
14 they had some subsistence fishery and they ended up
15 being closed even for subsistence because they didn't
16 have enough to even make it into Canada.

17
18 So we need to come up with -- if I'm
19 going to testify before the North Pacific Council, we
20 need some recommendations so I can present -- so we
21 need some discussion and also probably need to vote on
22 what alternative to support and a number, if any.

23
24 Nanci.

25
26 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
27 Yeah, I missed the fall meeting, but I was very glad to
28 see that you guys had put forth an effort on this. And
29 I would definitely like to weigh as saying that right
30 now my mind is totally headed towards alternative 2 and
31 100 percent towards a lower limit than what was decided
32 acceptable in the fall by the Board.

33
34 My justification mirrors yours and
35 includes the fact that we have so many rivers and -- I
36 think it would be nice if we had the ability, and I
37 don't know if we have the ability to do it in time for
38 you, Randy, to give you some armor to go in there with,
39 but I would like to see the number of streams in the
40 Bristol Bay area, both from the State side and the
41 Federal side with escapement goals that are way below
42 30,000 fish. I know for the Naknek alone it's only
43 5,000 fish. And with that realization, the number of
44 streams that could be literally wiped out in one set
45 for these fisheries is brutal to think about. And I
46 wish we could have a number of streams for you to go in
47 there with. But I think that I'm going to be hard
48 pressed to be swayed from anything other than the
49 lowest possible number for us to be supporting, for the
50 reasons you mentioned as well as that reason also.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
4 you, Nanci.

5

6 I know when I was looking on line, the
7 only forecast numbers they had was for the Nushagak,
8 and I couldn't find any for Naknek and Egegik or
9 Ugashik for what they have predicted for a return. But
10 those might be out there, but I don't know.

11

12 Dan, did you have something.

13

14 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Thank
15 you. Yeah, I don't think they have enough data to do a
16 forecast on anything but the Nushagak. And the
17 Nushagak I believe is forecast for a run of 145,000.
18 It's considerably down from recent years.

19

20 I've heard it roundabout, I've never
21 seen the data, but supposedly some king salmon tagged
22 up off of Kuskokwim Bay, showed up down around the
23 Nushagak.

24

25 So if some of these trawlers are taking
26 kings out there, it may be affecting Bristol Bay as
27 well as the Yukon. And I've had a lot of personal
28 experience with the Nushagak King Salmon Management
29 Plan for the inshore waters between commercial,
30 subsistence and sport. And I like to say that that
31 plan was forged in fire, and any little threat to make
32 it go tilt and pits a lot of the users against each
33 other. And if there's a removal out at the Bering Sea,
34 it throws us all in an unpleasant situation. So if
35 there's any potential that that Bering Sea fishery is
36 affecting runs to the Bristol Bay.....

37

38 And I don't think there's any genetic
39 data. I think we were wishing for that at the advisory
40 committee meeting. But maybe this will be one way to
41 spur them on to collect it.

42

43 I could, like the rest of you, support
44 the 29,000 hard cap, and I don't want to see any flex
45 to 80,000. That's unacceptable to me.

46

47 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

50

1 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. No, this sliding
2 scale thing is not good. We'll take hard lower
3 numbers.

4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. At our last
6 borough meeting we discussed this bycatch, and our
7 mayor brought up a good suggestion, that I suggest to
8 the Council, North Pacific Council, that maybe there's
9 some way where they can enhance the chinooks returning
10 into the Yukon, Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay where the impact
11 they're making wouldn't be so big. But I don't know
12 how they would do it.

13
14 You know, I know that this fishery,
15 this pollock fishery is big money according to our
16 information from our manager, that the CDQ groups in
17 the Bering Sea, maybe DEC is one of them and the other
18 one's up the Yukon, and all up the Norton Sound, only
19 get 10 percent of the allocation. The other 90 percent
20 goes to Seattle or Oregon or wherever. So I know how
21 much money the CDQ groups receive. And if that's only
22 10 percent, they have an awful lot of money available
23 where, you know, if they wanted to try some
24 enhancement, maybe that's something that they should
25 consider. I don't know what kind of program or even if
26 they could do it, but I was going to suggest that to
27 them. But I'll ask you guys first if that's a good
28 idea.

29
30 Dan.

31
32 MR. O'HARA: What did -- well, did you
33 guys send a letter of support on a lower number from
34 your borough?

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, we did. It was
37 the 29,000 number.

38
39 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Our borough sent I
40 think it was 36,000.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: In fact, it was. It
43 was 30,000 I think. Yeah. But that's what the Lake
44 and Pen Borough Assembly voted on was I think 30,000.

45
46 Anyway, so I was thinking, you know,
47 asked to convey that to the North Pacific Council of,
48 you know, do an enhancement if one could be done. But
49 I don't know how. The least they should do is consider
50 it.

1 Anybody else have any comment.
2
3 MR. DUNAWAY: I have a question.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.
6
7 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Do you
8 think by enhancement your mayor meant like hatcheries
9 or something up in the Yukon? And the first question I
10 come to right away is we seem to be succeeding in
11 convincing the public to buy -- that buys commercial
12 fish that they want wild fish, and I don't know if the
13 enhancement would compromise that marketing issue or
14 not. That's just kind of a side comment.
15
16 Thank you.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I don't know.
19 You're right. I guess hatchery fish is not as valuable
20 as fully wild I guess, because if you look at some of
21 the areas where they do fish for -- Cordova, for
22 instance, their first run is wild fish, and then I
23 think the hatchery sockeyes come in later. Isn't that
24 right? And I don't think they're worth as much for
25 that reason. So maybe that wouldn't be a good idea.
26 But I might be wrong.
27
28 Dan.
29
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I think just being
31 able to say they're wild.
32
33 The other thing though is I seem to
34 remember glancing at a paper just this spring. There
35 is some concern that when you start -- and look at the
36 Columbia River. When you start putting hatcheries on
37 and diluting your wild stocks with hatchery-based
38 stocks, that sometimes there's a question of the
39 viability of all the stocks, that hatchery fish tend to
40 evolve to work well in hatcheries. And there's some
41 folks that are concerned -- I might look to whether
42 Dan's reading these papers or George or Polly, but
43 concerns whether your strength and your vitality of
44 your wild stocks get compromised. So another concern.
45
46 I know personally we're -- oh, stuff I
47 used to be involved in, we're pretty proud to keep with
48 wild stock fisheries management for your sports species
49 in Bristol Bay.
50

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So it might not be a
4 good idea then. All right.
5
6 Dan.
7
8 MR. O'HARA: I have a question on the
9 agenda. Will we here tomorrow again probably?
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think so, right?
12 I was supposed to meet with some the other RAC
13 representatives, and we were supposed to.....
14
15 MR. O'HARA: My question was, are we
16 going to get done tonight.
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What do we have
19 left?
20
21 MR. O'HARA: The reason I'm asking,
22 I've got to -- I unfortunately have to go do a service
23 here, and I'll leave my stuff here if we're going to
24 come back. Oh, I can come back in here anyway.
25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, we probably
27 won't get done. We've got to listen to all the
28 reports.
29
30 DR. WHEELER: I can go really fast.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.
33
34 MR. O'HARA: Anyway, one of you guys
35 call me on the cell.
36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I will.
38 Okay. We've just got the reports to do.
39
40 MR. O'HARA: Well, we're going to be
41 hard core on (indiscernible, away from microphone),
42 right?
43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I would support it.
45 Let's -- somebody's got to move.
46
47 MS. MORRIS LYON: Make your motion,
48 Dan.
49
50 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I would go with the

1 29 that the Board went with. (Indiscernible, away from
2 microphone)
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, that's
5 unreasonable. That's way too high.
6
7 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would second that
8 to change our proposal to that, or our.....
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Our recommendation?
11
12 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes.
13
14 MR. O'HARA: I don't think that
15 (indiscernible, away from microphone). We'll vote
16 again. What was it, 29,000?
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 320-some. All
19 right. A motion made by Dan O'Hara.
20
21 MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Nanci to
24 recommend to the North Pacific Council 29,323.
25
26 Any more discussion. Polly.
27
28 DR. WHEELER: Just to clarify, Mr.
29 Chair. The Board actually did send a letter to the
30 Council with a hard cap amount of 29.3, so it wasn't a
31 sliding scale. It was a hard cap.
32
33 And just to also let you know, I
34 appreciate you supporting Randy to attend this meeting,
35 but also we're sending representatives from the Eastern
36 Interior, Western Interior, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
37 Council, and also the Seward Peninsula Council. And
38 the Federal Board Chair is prepared to testify at
39 Friday's meeting as well. So they'll get a consistent
40 message from the Federal Subsistence Management
41 Program.
42
43 Mr. Chair. Thank you.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank
46 you, Polly.
47
48 So any more question. Donald.
49
50 MR. MIKE: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

1 Just looking at the agenda, I talked with the Chair,
2 and I thought we could get done with the agenda in one
3 day. So if we can have a break for dinner and come
4 back at seven maybe and work for a couple hours, but
5 it's up to the Council.

6

7 The other option we can do is I can
8 extend the contract for this room and we can meet
9 tomorrow. I have the Council discuss those options.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's finish this
14 first.

15

16 MR. O'HARA: Call the question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
19 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

20

21 IN UNISON: Aye.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

24

25 (No opposing votes)

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried. All
28 right, Dan.

29

30 And let's see, I was going to mention
31 something.

32

33 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would propose that
34 we dig into the reports and see how long they take, if
35 you want to hear my two cents. Because I'd just as
36 soon be done and not have to come back.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Now I remember what
39 I was going to say. So I guess on that 29,323, I guess
40 I'll have to -- I'll report that we support alternative
41 number 2.

42

43 MS. MORRIS LYON: That's the hard cap.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we probably
46 should have had that in the motion. We'll have a hard
47 cap between -- in alternative number 2 here is a range
48 from 29,323 up to 87.5. Okay.

49

50 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Now we
2 should move on to -- Polly.
3
4 DR. WHEELER: Just a recommendation,
5 Mr. Chair. You may just want to clarify that you
6 support option 2, but not the range. You support the
7 lower hard cap number.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.
10
11 DR. WHEELER: So it's sort of a
12 modification of option 2. Just to clarify, because
13 they'll be getting a lot of testimony. You want to be
14 as clear as you can.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Maybe I
17 better not mention option 2 then. I won't even. I'll
18 just go with the hard cap. All right.
19
20 And we are on fisheries resource
21 monitoring. Back to 12 again.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: The IRS doesn't let me
26 count like that.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Polly.
29
30 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
31 can make a brief report on the Fisheries Resource
32 Monitoring Program. We will actually -- the review --
33 I'm sorry, the request for proposals went out in
34 November, and in response to that request for
35 proposals, we received 68 proposals dealing with
36 fisheries issues across the State.
37
38 The Technical Review Committee met
39 several weeks ago and recommended forwarding about 43
40 of those proposals. Or I think about 43 of those
41 proposals. My numbers may be a slight bit off. And
42 those investigators were just notified this week that
43 they need to develop investigation plans. Those will
44 be reviewed by OSM staff and the Technical Review
45 Committee this next summer.
46
47 At your fall meeting, you will have a
48 full discussion of the investigation plans, the
49 projects that are up for consideration in your region,
50 both the projects that have been recommended for

1 funding and the projects that have been recommended not
2 for funding.

3

4 And for Dale's benefit, since you're
5 new to the Council, the Fisheries Monitoring Program,
6 the mandate of that program is to provide -- is to fund
7 projects that provide information for Federal
8 subsistence fisheries management. And we fund projects
9 across the State. We fund projects that are kind of
10 your standard weir projects, telemetry projects, but
11 also projects that collect and analyze traditional
12 knowledge, and harvest monitoring, harvest assessments.
13 So it's a wide range of projects.

14

15 So we'll have copies of the
16 investigation plans, copies of the recommendations for
17 funding or not at the fall meeting, and we'll be
18 prepared to talk to you in detail about those projects.

19

20 But just to give you a head's up, we
21 had a good response to the request for proposals, and
22 we're moving forward, so it should be exciting coming
23 up in the fall.

24

25 Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. We don't
28 need to take action on that?

29

30 DR. WHEELER: No, sir. That was just
31 an informational item. You'll be needing to take
32 action in the fall, so come prepared to talk about
33 projects.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Good. Now
36 we're on 13. Agency reports. BLM.

37

38 MR. SHARP: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. Dan
39 Sharp with BLM. I'll be very brief.

40

41 A couple of things. Generally Jeff
42 Beyersdorf would be here to present the BLM report.
43 Currently he is being a diligent Federal employee and
44 flying aerial surveys in Unit 21. Of note, with
45 respect to that particular survey initiative, it's with
46 the Innoko and Department of Fish and Game Staff.

47

48 And they're doing something a little
49 different this year in which they have the airplane and
50 the capability, but they are taking locals up along on

1 the surveys. One, to give them a sense of what it is
2 the management Staff is seeing. And again I guess to
3 try to buy some credibility for the survey program.

4
5 The other issue I guess I'll bring
6 forth is the timber policy that I presented at the last
7 RAC meeting with respect to BLM and subsistence timber
8 harvesting. Right now that's still in a draft status.
9 What is has run up into is the free use timber policy,
10 or Free Use Timber Act of 1898 which mandates that
11 permits must be issued. But what BLM is trying to do
12 is allow Federally-qualified subsistence users to
13 harvest up to 15 cords of firewood in acceptable
14 without a permit. We're trying to work through that to
15 allow that to happen, but again these ancient rules,
16 much like the mining laws of 1872 seem to still hold
17 sway. But we're still working on that and trying to
18 have a credible subsistence policy. Again that was at
19 the behest of the Western Interior RAC where they
20 wanted their subsistence use of timber and forest
21 products recognized under ANILCA and not under standard
22 BLM laws.

23
24 I guess as a side note, too, with the
25 chinook bycatch, I've been tracking the issue upstairs
26 a little bit. I was attending the meetings yesterday,
27 just to give you some information. They do have a lot
28 of science behind it. They do have all of the State's
29 genetic information plugged into their analysis.
30 They've actually compared that to the past scale
31 pattern analysis. They've thrown a lot of fairly high-
32 powered science at trying to figure out by stock of
33 origin what they're impacting. They're giving it a
34 very hard look.

35
36 I guess the word that I've picked up
37 is, as you said in that Yukon newsletter, the were four
38 alternatives, the first being that the industry had to
39 come up with a credible savings plan. I believe they
40 have put one on the table. I was trying to find one,
41 at least a hard copy of it, but I believe that's being
42 given serious consideration. And it has, just from the
43 conversation in the hallway, a number of formulas
44 attached to it with respect to I guess promoting clean
45 fishing and such, but the details I couldn't even begin
46 to explain.

47
48 But again I know the industry is
49 putting forth their own proposal and that will probably
50 get a consideration.

1 Taking off my BLM hat, I guess having
2 had observer experience and knowing how that program is
3 running, at least from conversation I understood that
4 bycatch so far this year is up. It had been a downward
5 trend from '07, you know, and so folks were thinking
6 '08, it went down. They were hoping it was going down.
7 I think just the initial fishery, they were getting
8 some fairly high rates that if it continued would be
9 another high catch.

10

11 One of the problems with all of the
12 initiatives being put forth is that these savings
13 initiatives wouldn't be implemented until 2011. I
14 guess perhaps a recommendation would be to maybe ask
15 them to try to do something in 2010 if they have a plan
16 on the table. Again, just as a thought to sort of spur
17 things along. Regardless of the plan they come up
18 with, if there's a savings, and the industry has come
19 forward with it, I guess I might recommend that your
20 testimony include they speed that up. But that's my
21 own two cents worth.

22

23 That's all I have. If there are
24 questions.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That sounds like a
27 good idea. I forgot about that part, because last
28 spring after I testified and left, and then I heard
29 that they what they were planning on doing wasn't going
30 to take effect for three years, because it has to be
31 written up and go through the book, and then by the
32 time it comes out in regulation, it takes that long.

33

34 So you're right, I need to urge them to
35 do something right away.

36

37 Do you know what -- you said the
38 bycatch was up from last year. Last year I know in I
39 think -- wasn't it the start of '08, the first season,
40 it had dropped. Because from what I understand, they
41 were fishing farther west over towards Russia, so they
42 were bycatching less chinooks out there. From what I
43 seen, from information I gathered before going to the
44 meeting, is most of the bycatch when it went up, they
45 were fishing just outside the three-mile State
46 boundaries out of, you know -- I don't know, maybe 100
47 or 200 miles, but that's where most of it went up. And
48 then I guess they quit -- from what I understand, they
49 couldn't catch their allocations, so they were going
50 farther and farther out, and I guess when they're going

1 farther and farther out, they were catching less
2 bycatch.

3

4 Is that correct, what I'm saying there?
5 Dan.

6

7 MR. SHARP: I guess I can't speak to
8 the specifics of how last year's fishery was conducted.
9 I agree that they were moving further west and stuff.
10 They're going to go where the fish are. They're not
11 going to work hard to -- you know, that's their target
12 species I guess. And what was telling was in addition
13 to Western Alaska and Bristol Bay stocks, there were
14 Oregon stocks, Washington stocks, Russian stocks. It's
15 not, you know, the closest river, it's up and down the
16 west coast, and again Russian stocks also. So many
17 fish are impacted.

18

19 And they had some fairly telling maps
20 as to where the hot spots were based on by vessel and
21 such. If you can catch that presentation, I think
22 they'll show it another. Diane Stram who gave the same
23 talk to all the RACs, it's been enhanced a little bit
24 there as to additional information.

25

26 But the folks upstairs know exactly
27 what number of chinook have been caught thus far to
28 date. You know, there's a lot of people in this
29 building right now that probably, you know, know what
30 their boats are doing out in the Bering Sea. And I
31 suspect, you know, the word I got on numbers being up
32 was strictly hallway talk, you know. But that's just a
33 head's up.

34

35 And again I think that particular
36 industry knows they've been put on notice, and they
37 know that they have to respond in some fashion. And
38 they're going to try to carve the best deal for them,
39 and I think you guys have to try to carve the best deal
40 for your own stakeholders.

41

42 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I would just
43 make one quick comment, Randy, that as a Council
44 member, you would have my support, and also assuring
45 that they would implement this as quickly as possible,
46 and not wait for the normal timeline that they need,
47 but fast track this thing in any way possible, because
48 it's adding up year by year.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I guess we

1 shall move on. B, OSM. 1. Memorandum of
2 understanding. That's informational. Page 30.

3
4 DR. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. I do have
5 some talking points on the MOU. I know it's been a
6 controversial issue for some people, and so I'm
7 prepared to make a few comments on that. But I assure
8 you they're short. And I'm prepared to answer
9 questions if you have any.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

12
13 DR. WHEELER: Thank you. And again for
14 the record, Polly Wheeler.

15
16 The memorandum of understanding can be
17 found on Pages 30 to 36 in your Council books.

18
19 As of December 2008, the MOU was signed
20 by all parties, which included the Chairs of the Alaska
21 Board of Fisheries and the Alaska Board of Game, the
22 Commissioner of ADF&G, as well as the Chair of the
23 Federal Subsistence Board and its members, consisting
24 of the Alaska Regional and State Directors of the
25 Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
26 National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
27 and the USDA Forest Service.

28
29 The purpose of the MOU is defined
30 fairly early on in the document. It is, quote, to
31 provide a foundation and direction for coordinated
32 interagency fish and wildlife management affecting
33 subsistence uses on Federal public lands. And the
34 purpose of this MOU is to occur while allowing the
35 Federal and State agencies to continue to act in
36 accordance with their respective statutory authorities.

37
38 The MOU helps to address the necessity
39 of having some degree of communication and coordination
40 between State and Federal governments in order to aid
41 in effective management of fish and wildlife resources
42 in Alaska. In fact, several sections of Title VIII
43 expressly require the Secretaries to communicate and/or
44 consult with State representatives on certain issues
45 relating to subsistence uses by rural Alaskans. And
46 these can be found in the Alaska National Interest
47 Conservation Act, Section .802, .806, .810, .812 and
48 .816.

49
50 The body of the MOU contains several

1 references to State law, which was, I would note, some
2 concern to some observers, and it prompted some people
3 to express concern that in signing the MOU, the Board
4 undermined its obligation under Title VIII to provide
5 for a subsistence priority for rural Alaskans on
6 Federal public lands.

7
8 However, the Board's authority, charge
9 and obligation to rural residents comes only from Title
10 VIII and any other applicable Federal statutes. The
11 MOU will not and cannot and cannot change that. Board
12 members are well aware that they have no authority to
13 undermine or ignore the legal obligations imposed upon
14 them by ANILCA.

15
16 And all signatories agree to several
17 things. Number 1, no memorandum of understanding can
18 change Federal law or impose State legal requirements
19 on a Federal decision-making body. And, 2, none of the
20 parties to the MOU intend or desire for it to have any
21 impact on the decision-making authority of the Federal
22 Subsistence Board or its obligations to rural
23 residents.

24
25 Board members and State representatives
26 did agree that once the MOU was signed and an initial
27 trial period had passed, the signatories will engage in
28 another review process, the goal of which will be to
29 update and edit the document to address any concerns,
30 ambiguities or problems that may arise, including any
31 language which may be potentially subject to
32 misinterpretation.

33
34 So that's all I have to say about that,
35 but I'm happy to answer any questions or address any
36 concerns that you might have.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any concerns or
39 questions for Polly.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, we are
44 -- the two-year cycle projected regulatory schedule.
45 Polly.

46
47 DR. WHEELER: Okay. Page 37 in your
48 books has a diagram which basically points to the two-
49 year cycle that the Office of Subsistence Management is
50 going to be operating under. As you may remember, due

1 to budget issues, budget -- you know, you've heard the
2 song all along on budgets. We haven't gotten an
3 increase, so functionally it's kind of gone downhill,
4 because of -- in absorbing the cost of living and
5 everything else. So in order to address some what
6 really amount to budget cuts to our program, we decided
7 to go to an every other year cycle, so that one year
8 we're dealing with wildlife proposals, the next year
9 we're dealing with fisheries proposals. And this
10 diagram kind of outlines how we'll move through those
11 regulatory cycles.

12

13 I will say that we are going to revisit
14 this whole idea of doing an every other year cycle
15 soon, because I'm telling you, the work hasn't
16 decreased. I mean, we've received 25 wildlife special
17 actions. You know, the idea was we'd do a wildlife
18 proposal every other year, and in the interim, you
19 know, we'd -- and those regulations would be in effect
20 for two years, but if something came up, an emergency
21 arose, we could do a special action. Well, we're
22 getting a lot of special actions. We've gotten like I
23 said 25 wildlife special actions, we've gotten a couple
24 -- so far only a few, well, I think four fish special
25 actions. But needless to say, I mean, if the idea is
26 to kind of reduce or, I don't know, to kind of deal
27 with things more efficiently, a reasonable person could
28 say, is dealing with -- are we really dealing with it
29 more efficiently? Maybe we would be more effective to
30 go back to an every year cycle. So I would say the
31 jury's still out on whether this has saved us anything.

32

33 So I'm just putting that out there.
34 There's been nothing formal. I think we're just going
35 to look at it. I mean, you have to let a cycle play
36 out to see if you're really saving anything, but I
37 would be in favor of looking at it sooner rather than
38 later in terms of seeing how efficiencies have been
39 achieved.

40

41 The other thing is the Regional
42 Advisory Councils are meeting twice a year, so that's
43 not changing.

44

45 I'm getting the feeling there's some
46 activity going on behind me. Is there some -- okay.
47 We've got some public that are coming in. I don't want
48 to distract from more important issues here.

49

50 But anyway, if you have any questions

1 about the regulatory cycle, we're trying to keep
2 everybody apprised. Like I said, the wildlife cycle,
3 the regulations will be good for two years. The same
4 with the fisheries regulations, which start effective
5 today.

6
7 Yeah, Nanci.

8
9 MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, I would just
10 say, Polly, that as a Council member, I remember when
11 this decision was made kind of -- it was just informing
12 us that that's what it was going to be without any
13 input from us, and I didn't have any big objections to
14 it. Only I said exactly pretty much what you're saying
15 now. If it appears, however, that this is not going to
16 work, we should be ready to revert to what will work
17 and what will become necessary. And so I guess that I
18 would just urge the administrative parties that be that
19 they should maybe revisit.

20
21 Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

24
25 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Chair.

26
27 Polly, could you explain the special
28 action, what that is? Is that because of overload or
29 just -- explain it to me, please.

30
31 DR. WHEELER: I can certainly try. We
32 have the regulations, the wildlife regulations are
33 effective for two years. Fisheries regulations are
34 effective for two years as well. If a situation arises
35 where there's an extenuating circumstance, then people
36 can submit a proposal. You know, if there's changes in
37 the resource abundance, if there's some administrative
38 issue that comes up, if there's an extenuating
39 circumstance that arises, then a proposal can be
40 submitted. It can go on the fast track.

41
42 We have temporary special actions and
43 emergency special actions. Emergency special actions
44 are good for the regulatory -- I always get.....

45
46 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: For less than 60
47 days.

48
49 DR. WHEELER: For less than 60 days,
50 and temporary special actions are more than 60 days.

1 For temporary special actions, we have to have a public
2 hearing. But all that's bureaucracy for saying that we
3 have a mechanism for dealing with issues as they pop
4 up. So if there regulations that are in effect for two
5 years aren't working for people, people can say, well,
6 hey, I want to submit this to see if I can change it or
7 get it fixed. Get a short-term fix.

8

9 I will say that sometimes bureaucracies
10 being what they are, it's maybe not as responsive as it
11 could be. We go through a lot of layers of review.
12 We're a multi-agency program. We do the Staff work
13 internally and then it goes out for review. So I think
14 there's been some times this winter where I would think
15 -- I think that our program hasn't been as responsive
16 as it could or should be. I'd like to see that change.

17

18

19 But it's supposed to help people deal
20 with circumstances that pop up that aren't addressed in
21 the regulatory -- through the regulations.

22

23 Does that help you, Molly?

24

25 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. Thanks.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.
28 Any other comment for Polly on the two-year cycle.

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, Polly,
33 we're going to take some public testimony. We have
34 some folks here from the Yukon-Kuskokwim. They want to
35 testify on the bycatch issue.

36

37 When you gentlemen come up here, would
38 you state your name and who you.....

39

40 MR. WALTERS: Would you like to have
41 some copies?

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure.

44

45 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. My name is Alexie
46 Walters, Sr.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And who you
49 represent or are from?

50

1 MR. WALTERS: Mountain Village City.
2 The City of Mountain Village sent me over this way.

3
4 Before I came, I'll clarify that we had
5 a joint meeting with the tribe, city and the
6 corporation, since this is a very important issue.

7
8 My name is Alexie Walters, Sr. I was
9 born and raised in Mountain Village, Alaska on the
10 lower Yukon River. I have hunted and fished all my
11 life, and that has been my livelihood. I am 69 years
12 old.

13
14 Today I stand before you to testify
15 against the Alaskan pollock fishery and the amount of
16 damage I and many of us believe the fishery has been
17 doing to our way of life.

18
19 We have heard and know that the pollock
20 fishery is a multi-billion dollar industry, which is a
21 lot of revenue for many, many people, including the
22 State.

23
24 What I want to know is how do you weigh
25 these benefits when they have such a big impact on
26 Alaska Native families, who have relied on the salmon.
27 This fishery is hurting. And we know that industry is
28 having is having an effect on our salmon based on the
29 amount of bycatch in recent years. How can it not.

30
31 Mr. Chairman. Questions have been
32 asked to many of us, such as, how important is chinook
33 salmon to you, your family and community? For many,
34 many of us who live along the river, it everything.
35 The anticipation of salmon returning in itself is
36 something all of our families look forward to. Every
37 one.

38
39 Mr. Chairman. We as people have no
40 control over other factors that have been reducing our
41 salmon. Global warming, predation by other species of
42 animals, perhaps natural changes or extreme conditions
43 at their spawning grounds. This is one factor that we
44 can control now, and that is bycatch.

45
46 Although there are many who would
47 rather see a moratorium placed on the pollock fishery,
48 but if that cannot be done, a hard cap on bycatch is
49 definitely in order.

50

1 Mr. Chairman. Our community of
2 Mountain Village has asked for such a moratorium or
3 hard cap by way of resolution, Resolution Number 09-03,
4 which you may have seen. If a moratorium on pollock
5 fishery cannot be done, we would like to ask that a
6 hard cap on bycatch be set at 29,300.

7
8 Also, this is for -- I just thought
9 about this, too earlier. You know, Mountain Village is
10 located at the lower Yukon River towards the mouth,
11 about 84 miles from the mouth of the river.

12
13 Before we used to get -- our fishery,
14 the fishermen there, the most restricted to me by
15 everything, due to the Canadians. Now we're getting a
16 problem from the pollock fisheries. And we're right
17 smack in the middle of it. I'd sure hate to see our
18 families do without what they're been living, eating
19 all their lives.

20
21 Our grandkids are not only in Mountain,
22 it's all the way up the river, north, west, east.
23 We're not the only ones hurting. Other problems are
24 out there besides fish, too, you know.

25
26 So something is happening and we would
27 like to see this resolved in a sensible matter somehow.
28 Come up with a solution. If that don't work, have an
29 alternate solution. I mean, it's got to fit some
30 place.

31
32 This is the first time in the history
33 of subsistence I was told not to use my king gear. I
34 not only could not use it, it goes in my table, and I
35 got restricted. We're following what other people want
36 us to do to try and get more salmon to return to our
37 rivers, and we abide by that. We try to follow
38 whatever restrictions or rules they set up in our area.
39 We do our best to abide by them. Because they weren't
40 placed there just to let us read or look at them.
41 They're there for a reason.

42
43 I believe that this problem we're
44 facing could be solved. Somebody's got to sacrifice
45 something somewhere. That I know. Things are just out
46 of hand right now.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,
49 Mr. Walters. Yeah, I know.....
50

1 MR. WALTERS: Yes. Thank you for
2 having me.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I'm going to
5 be testifying, too, before the North Pacific Council on
6 Friday.

7
8 And we just passed our -- we took up
9 the bycatch a little earlier, about probably 15, 20
10 minutes ago. But we also support the cap of 29,300
11 chinooks. You know, we -- the hard cap. So it's --
12 you know, it affects us also, but not as much as it
13 does you guys. And we know that they need to do
14 something. And if the North Pacific Council doesn't,
15 you know, there's other alternatives that can be done.
16 So we want to thank you. Is there.....

17
18 MR. WALTERS: Well, you know,
19 subsistence overrides everything to me. It's priority.
20 That's been that way all my life. So if they can't see
21 it from their side, I don't know.

22
23 Thank you for having me.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yep. Does some of
26 the other guys back there want to come up and testify.
27 State your name and.....

28
29 MR. BLANKET: Mr. Chairman. My name is
30 David Blanket. I'm representing Azachorak,
31 Incorporated, the village corporation.

32
33 Thanks for the opportunity to testify
34 on salmon bycatch reduction or closure in the Bering
35 Sea pollock fishery. My name is David Blanket, born a
36 subsistence user and commercial fisherman since 1967.
37 The return of chinook salmon plays a major role in our
38 way of life and economy throughout western Alaska.
39 I've seen a boom of chinook salmon to today of no
40 commercial openings and restrictions on subsistence.
41 Failure of management crosses my mind and over-harvest
42 of the species.

43
44 Protection of the life cycle of the
45 chinook salmon has to reach out into the Bering Sea in
46 order to help rebuild salmon stocks.

47
48 Over the years we fishermen and
49 fisherwomen on the river system have abided all
50 restrictions in hope of rebuilding the salmon stocks,

1 and yet they are still declining. Should pollock
2 fisheries do the same, I say shut down the Bering Sea
3 side of pollock fisheries to avoid bycatch of chinook
4 salmon until salmon stocks have rebounded. Then you
5 can install hard caps.

6
7 I would like to comment on the five-
8 year moose moratorium that happened below Mountain
9 Village, Unit 18. Management and people working
10 together made it a success. Now there is enough moose
11 for future generations. I believe salmon rebuilding
12 can be achieved by doing similar actions by management
13 and people working together to ensure the survival of
14 our fishing activities.

15
16 On behalf of future commercial and
17 subsistence users, thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's a good
20 testimony, Mr. Blanket. I was at the Board of Game
21 meeting when they took that up, and because of your
22 moratorium on your moose, now you have enough moose to
23 have a season. So, you know, it's a good example of
24 maybe what could be done.

25
26 MR. BLANKET: Because right now there
27 -- there was hardly any moose, but now we've got over
28 3,000 moose running around like rabbits.

29
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Send some our way.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Yeah. Thank
33 you for your testimony.

34
35 Do we have another gentleman back there
36 that wants to testify.

37
38 MR. WILDE: I've got no papers.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's all right.
41 Me either.

42
43 MR. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. My
44 name is Harry Wilde. I'm a member of Yukon-Kuskokwim
45 Delta Regional Subsistence Council.

46
47 We've been wondering how come these
48 Subsistence Regional Councils never meet together and
49 talk about fisheries. Right now Yukon is really hard
50 time, and we don't have no support. Like in the Yukon

1 River last summer we had to barely go catching few for
2 subsistence. They kind of dried away. And we used
3 six-inch mesh and we catching fish all right, but in
4 the Yukon what we try to same some fish for upriver.
5 That's where they spawn. And we have to set aside and
6 try to make sure this king salmon go up there.

7

8 And sometime I always wondering, is the
9 only people out in the -- or fishermen out in the ocean
10 catching a lot of our king salmon. How about these
11 fishermen or subsistence fishermen and also commercial
12 fishermen right along the beach of Bering Sea. We
13 never heard of them. But we heard of them, they're
14 catching king salmon in the areas.

15

16 Like one of the boys, elder like me,
17 I'm 79, upriver in upper Yukon River, she told me,
18 Harry, I never even have a taste of king salmon for
19 three years. Three years. Well, I think we're
20 subsistence fishermen, and we need to get together from
21 Bristol Bay up, because some people up there, up north,
22 Unalakleet and in that area, we need to get together
23 and do something. There must be a way to save some of
24 this fish that goes up to Canada and, you know, where
25 the spawning streams are, where they spawn.

26

27 Like this year -- last year, 2008, they
28 didn't even -- about maybe 85 percent didn't make it
29 there, U.S./Canada negotiation. U.S./Canada
30 negotiation item, that one that first signed
31 negotiation. And I've been with the U.S. Subsistence
32 Regional Advisory Council for quite a while. And I've
33 been with State, work with them for quite a while.
34 They're doing the best as they can I think. Like when
35 I used to have advisor in State, we do very good,
36 because we work hard, really hard. So I think it would
37 be good.

38

39 We don't know how much CDQ catch king
40 salmon out in mouth of Kuskokwim, and mostly catching
41 quite a few of them. We sure would like to see some
42 time that how much they catch and all that.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Mr.
47 Wilde. so what is your recommendation to the North
48 Pacific going to be?

49

50 MR. WILDE: Recommendation?

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.
2
3 MR. WILDE: For what?
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For bycatch?
6
7 MR. WILDE: Bycatch is what I
8 recommend, they've got to reduce the catch. They have
9 to.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I know that.
12 I mean they realize that. But what kind of number?
13
14 MR. WILDE: 29,000. Mine is 29,300 and
15 something.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's ours also,
18 you know. You know, I went to Kodiak last spring, and
19 I testified to the North Pacific Council on bycatch
20 then, and then we recommended 38,000 back then, but
21 since then we have -- now we came up with that 29,000
22 also, because 38,000 I think is still too much, you
23 know.
24
25 MR. WILDE: Yeah. I think that the
26 reason I'm -- I'm kind of with subsistence fishermen in
27 the lower Yukon and because I'm with the corporation,
28 we try to do as we can to try to -- if there are too
29 much, maybe they wouldn't accept it or whatever. So we
30 just put that 29,300, somewhere in there.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Mr.
33 Wilde, thank you.
34
35 Dan.
36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I just
38 want to thank these three men for coming and talking to
39 us. I had a little experience at least being in
40 meetings that Harry ran when I was working with the
41 Kuskokwim fisheries. It's good to see you again,
42 Harry. And thanks for bringing your concerns to us.
43 And again I want to emphasize we share your concerns.
44 And I'm from Dillingham. Dillingham area is sending a
45 guy name Kenny Wilson to this North Pacific Fisheries
46 meeting for this very concern as well.
47
48 So I like your idea of possibly getting
49 together with the other RACs at some time if we have
50 shared concerns.

1 So again, just good to see you, and
2 thank you for coming to talk to us.

3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Polly, I
5 guess we're back to you again on tracking of
6 handicrafts made with brown bear claws. Just a second.

7
8
9 Donald, did you say we had something at
10 six, or that can wait, or how long should we go.

11
12 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. We can go until
13 we're done or take a break for dinner. But I realize
14 you had a premeeting with our Staff prior to this North
15 Pacific Council meeting tomorrow I believe.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, if
18 that's -- I would just rather get it over with.

19
20 MS. MORRIS LYON: Me, too.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we might be here
23 another half hour, maybe an hour, but I don't think any
24 longer than that.

25
26 All right. Polly.

27
28 DR. WHEELER: I'm warned. So I'll make
29 it short and sweet, Mr. Chair. Thank you.

30
31 On Page 38 in your Council books you'll
32 see a briefing on the tracking of handicrafts made with
33 brown bear claws. You may remember that this issue has
34 been before off and on for the past few years.

35
36 Last year there was a proposal
37 submitted by the State of Alaska to refine Federal
38 regulations. The State was concerned that existing
39 Federal regulations allowed for unconstrained
40 commercial sale of handicrafts made from brown bear
41 parts and created a market incentive for poaching.

42
43 The Board heard a fair amount of
44 testimony on this. The Councils weighed in. The
45 Commissioner of Fish and Game was at the meeting. He
46 offered that -- he suggested that one option would be
47 for the Federal Board to defer the proposal and have a
48 work group that would address this issue of tracking of
49 bear claws, and, you know, do we need to track these
50 claws. These claws are taken by subsistence -- the bears

1 are taken for subsistence, the claws are made into
2 handicrafts. So the idea was the work group would
3 discuss this issue and if there was a way to track
4 these claws in -- almost slipped up there -- track
5 these claws in a non-burdensome way to the subsistence
6 user.

7

8 So there were State and Federal Staff
9 that got together in January to kind of explore this
10 notion, look at the idea of a work group. They came up
11 with a charge for the work group. And then the idea
12 would be that the work group would meet one or two
13 times this spring or summer to address this issue.

14

15 There still is concern on the part of
16 some of the Councils that it's really not an issue, but
17 that could be addressed in the context of the work
18 group, too.

19

20 So what we're asking each of the
21 Councils is let them know where we're standing with
22 that, because, again, the Federal Board deferred that
23 proposal, saying, okay, we'll go with your idea of a
24 work group. The Board was pretty insistent that
25 Regional Advisory Council members needed to be part of
26 this work group, so we're talking to each of the
27 Councils and ask if you all want to be participate --
28 if you want to participate in these work group
29 meetings.

30

31 I'll tell you up front, I don't know
32 what it means as far as participation. I don't know if
33 we're going to fly a representative from the Council
34 in, if we're going to be able to do it by
35 teleconference. So it may be a meeting or two. It may
36 be in person, it may be by phone.

37

38 We've had kind of mixed interest on the
39 part of the Regional Advisory Councils. Some have been
40 very interested and some that have been kind of
41 tracking this issue all along, no pun intended,
42 tracking the claws, tracking the issue. But we are
43 looking to see if you are interested, if you want to
44 have a representative participate in these meetings.

45

46 We'll keep you up to date as far as
47 what's happening with this, but that's all I have for
48 you. It's a question for you, if you're interested in
49 participating, and if so, who do you want to designate
50 as a participant.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When.
2
3 DR. WHEELER: I'm sorry.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When. What date.
6
7 DR. WHEELER: We don't have a date.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Next year?
10
11 DR. WHEELER: No, it will likely be
12 this spring or this summer. I mean, the Federal Board
13 deferred on the proposal with the understanding that
14 some work would happen on the work group, and then they
15 would take the proposal up probably January 2010
16 actually, because that's the wildlife cycle. So
17 they'll probably be taking up that issue again.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly looks
20 interested, so.....
21
22 DR. WHEELER: She's looking pretty
23 excited over there.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I designate her.
26
27 MS. CHYTHLOOK: No, I was -- I didn't
28 raise my hand to be interested. My recommendation was
29 going to be not to -- I don't know who the coordinators
30 are, but just make sure that the coordinators are going
31 to be somebody that's working on these and not let it
32 drag like the other working group that were assigned.
33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I think that
35 would be a good -- Molly is a good choice. But anyway
36 I don't see a problem. Is there, has there been a
37 problem with bear handicrafts since it's been
38 initiated?
39
40 DR. WHEELER: This issue comes up every
41 time there's a proposal before the Federal Subsistence
42 Board, and there seems to be -- all I can say is that
43 there's a difference of opinion. There are some people
44 that think there is a problem, and there's others that
45 think there isn't a problem. And there are some that
46 say, well, if we had some mechanism to track legally
47 harvested claws in handicrafts, then it would protect
48 legal users. There's some concern that there's a big
49 market out there for bear claws.
50

1 But I appreciate your question, because
2 this is the crux of the issue right there. Is it an
3 issue. And some people think it is and some people
4 think it isn't. And I would say most of the Councils
5 that I've spoken to or that I've been involved with on
6 this issue don't really believe it's much of an issue.
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Neither do I. Okay.
9 I guess then we'll move on. So if.....
10
11 DR. WHEELER: Just to clarify, so
12 you're interested in being kept informed. Is Molly
13 your representative?
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, Molly's a good
16 representative. But have Donald contact her. And if
17 you can't find anybody, then I guess we won't have
18 anybody.
19
20 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.
23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: Just real quick. Thanks.
25 I'd like to stay informed and appreciate it if Molly
26 will do it. Somebody called me about this issue quite
27 some time ago, and I was kind of flattered that they
28 called me. I wasn't entirely sure why, but.....
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They were trying to
31 sell you claws.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MR. DUNAWAY: No, they were just asking
36 my opinion. But anyway, what I got a sense of was that
37 the working group was working, trying to come up with a
38 solution.
39
40 And I'm kind of with Randy. I worried
41 about it at one time, but I think it's time to move on
42 and move forward.
43
44 Thanks. I hope they make fast
45 progress.
46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Polly, I
48 guess we're down to the Chistochina court case summary.
49
50 DR. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. By

1 the time I'm done, you will have had more than enough
2 of me, I'm sure.

3

4 The Chistochina court case, a summary
5 of that can be found -- or a summary from our attorneys
6 can be found on Page 39 in your Regional Advisory
7 Council -- actually it's 39 to 43 in your Council book.

8

9

10 And just to give you a little bit of
11 background, you've all dealt with, or most of you
12 anyway, have dealt with customary and traditional use
13 determinations as a Council. A summary of the Ninth
14 Circuit Court of Appeals decision on the most recent
15 case having to do with customary and traditional use
16 determinations is called the Chistochina case. A
17 summary of that case can be found on Pages 39 to 43 in
18 your Council book.

19

20 Just to give you a little bit of
21 background, in 2004 a village in Interior Alaska
22 submitted a proposal requesting a customary and
23 traditional use determination for moose throughout an
24 entire unit, which was Unit 12. Both the Southcentral
25 and Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Councils
26 recommended that customary and traditional uses of
27 moose throughout Unit 12 be recognized as was the
28 request in the proposal.

29

30 Fish and Game did express reservations
31 about this request. At its meeting, the Federal Board
32 supported the recommendation from the Councils and
33 recognized -- the community was Chistochina, just so
34 you know, recognized Chistochina's customary and
35 traditional use of moose throughout Unit 12. The State
36 of Alaska filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court, it's
37 a Federal decision so it has to be filed in Federal
38 Court, challenging the Board's decision. The State
39 alleged that this decision was made without substantial
40 evidence, was inconsistent with ANILCA and would cause
41 unnecessary restrictions on non-subsistence uses,
42 which, of course, is not allowed under ANILCA.

43

44 In 2007 the U.S. District Court found
45 in favor of the Federal Subsistence Board decision.
46 The State appealed that District Court's decision to
47 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. And last fall, in
48 September of 2008, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
49 validated and vindicated the Federal Subsistence
50 Board's decision on Chistochina's customary and

1 traditional use of moose in Unit 12.

2

3 There's been a lot of talk about what
4 this means in terms of how the Federal Board will deal
5 with customary and traditional use decisions. There's
6 been some interpretation saying it really changes how
7 the Federal Board will have to make customary and
8 traditional use determinations. But the bottom line
9 is, the Federal Subsistence Board's process was upheld
10 through the court decision and then its subsequent
11 appeal. And so the court basically found that the
12 process that the Federal Board used to make the
13 customary and traditional use determination, and that
14 is using the eight factors not as a checklist, but as a
15 holistic approach, kind of understanding this pattern
16 of use in a particular area, and validated that.

17

18 So you're not going to see a lot of
19 changes. I can't promise you that C&T, customary and
20 traditional use determinations won't be any less
21 agonizing, because they do tend to be some of the more
22 difficult kind of -- but there's -- it's maybe a little
23 less black and white than some other issues that are
24 before the Board. But I know it's frustrating. You
25 know, some people say, well, we need benchmarks, we
26 need thresholds.

27

28 But, you know, ANILCA was passed to
29 protect and continue subsistence uses and sometimes
30 benchmarks and thresholds don't really figure in there.
31 And the court actually made some specific findings with
32 regard to benchmarks and thresholds.

33

34 But the bottom line is that it
35 supported the Federal Board's approach to making these
36 determinations.

37

38 So that's just a point of information,
39 Mr. Chair. So you'll be seeing more C&T determinations
40 in front of you, I'm sure. And we'll do our best to
41 help you through them.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.

44

45 Number C, Tribal and nongovernmental
46 organizations. I don't see any. Do we still have
47 Frank Woods from BBNA on teleconference.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: I doubt it.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Frank, are you on?
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We do not
6 have anybody in BBNA.
7
8 D. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
9 Togiak.
10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: Is Andy still on?
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Andy, are you on?
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nope. Number 2.
18 Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. Anybody.
19
20 (No comments)
21
22 MS. MORRIS LYON: They haven't been on
23 all day.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: George, you're still
26 here. Number E.
27
28 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. No report from
29 the State. Our Staff are out doing surveys right now.
30 And Lem Butler's probably running from an angered
31 moose.
32
33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.
36
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: Donald has something
38 for you.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.
41
42 MR. MIKE: Yeah. Mr. Chair. The
43 Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National Wildlife Refuge
44 did submit an agency report, and I forgot to make
45 copies for the Council members, but I have a copy here,
46 and if you wish, I'll provide a copy or mail it to you.
47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Nanci.
49
50 MS. MORRIS LYON: One more point, too.

1 Togiak entered a report on Page 44.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Togiak has a
4 report on Page 44.
5
6 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. It
7 seems like Togiak Refuge always provides us a really
8 nice written report, and I really appreciate it. It's
9 very helpful.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yep. Okay. Where
12 are we. National Park Service, Lake Clark National
13 Park.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mary's gone.
18 Aniakchak National Monument.
19
20 (No comments)
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Man, we're going
23 through this stuff like butter.
24
25 MS. MORRIS LYON: That's the trick from
26 now on.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Other business. A.
29 2008 annual report. Donald.
30
31 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. At our fall
32 meeting in Dillingham, the annual report issues came
33 up, and there was no issues that the Council forwarded.
34 But if you wish, you were talking about concerns about
35 moose surveys, and it's been ongoing. But I'll leave
36 it up to the Council.
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're right. Dan
39 O'Hara -- I guess that should go into our annual report
40 that we would like to see moose surveys done every
41 year, because otherwise without these surveys, it's
42 hard to make a good decision. Anyway, all we've got to
43 rely on is this harvest report, so without the surveys
44 we do, we -- I rely on harvest reporting, so if the
45 harvest reporting doesn't look good, it tells me that
46 there's -- the population isn't good.
47
48 Okay. Number B, Council topics for May
49 2009 Board meeting. That's for the Federal Subsistence
50 Board?

1 MR. MIKE: Yes, that's for the Federal
2 Subsistence Board coming up in January. If the Council
3 members have any concerns that they'd like the Chair to
4 present to the Board, this is an opportunity for
5 members of the Council to provide their comment to the
6 Chair so he can bring those issues to the Federal
7 Subsistence Board.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess the main one
10 then would be the surveys.

11
12 Anybody else have anything they want to
13 bring before the -- Polly, have you got something?

14
15 DR. WHEELER: Sorry to interrupt, Mr.
16 Chair. I think this might be an artifact of -- you
17 know, it used to be that we had two Federal Board
18 members a year. Now we just have the one Federal Board
19 member a year. So you'll be meeting at your fall --
20 you'll be meeting again in the fall, and at that
21 meeting you can come up with topics to be discussed at
22 the January 2010 Board meeting.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, okay. So there
25 is no May meeting.

26
27 DR. WHEELER: Yeah. There is not a May
28 Board meeting, no. Sorry about that.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

31
32 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chair. I would confer with the Council before adding
34 this to a list by any means, but perhaps also in light
35 of the letter that we've deemed was worthy writing to
36 the Fish and Wildlife Service, bringing in front of the
37 Federal Board our frustration with wanting to know what
38 limits or guidelines are necessary for implementation
39 of predator control. And I think that we're well
40 justified knowing of all the populations we have that
41 are in not healthy standing in our area. How would the
42 members feel about something along those lines as well.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's good. That's
47 probably -- and your comments should be on our annual
48 report then.

49
50 Is there any other comments. Donald,

1 did you have something to say?

2

3 MR. MIKE: Yeah, I was just going to
4 suggest that Nanci's comments should be included in the
5 annual report. This has been ongoing. Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Future meeting
8 plans. We need to confirm the time and location for
9 the fall '09 meeting. Look on Page 51. And it shows a
10 calendar for the fall meeting. And October -- we have
11 scheduled October 27th and 28th in Dillingham.

12

13 But I was asked that we probably should
14 change that to Naknek, because with all these proposals
15 that we proposed, they deal with Unit 9 B, C, and E.
16 And so Naknek would be a better place. We'd have
17 better public testimony as people -- it would be closer
18 to the people.

19

20 MS. CHYTHLOOK: So move.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Moved by Molly and
25 seconded by Dan to have the meeting in Naknek this
26 October. Any comments on that.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 MR. MYERS: Question.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been
33 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried.
42 The meeting's going to be in Naknek.

43

44 Now, number 15. We are adjourned. Is
45 there anything else? I guess it's too late. Dan.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: A couple comments. First
48 I want to commend Donald for scrambling during this
49 volcano thing. I think it was harder to have a meeting
50 here, and it was I'm sure frustrating and difficult for

1 the communities that wanted to participate. But to
2 acknowledge Donald and any other Staff, he's doing the
3 best he could with a hard situation.

4
5 But also I guess it emphasized to me
6 that if we can, and this is no reflection on you,
7 Donald, but to the best that we can, I think we want to
8 avoid being out of area.

9
10 And then the last thing was whoever
11 provided us with this map, thank you, because it's a
12 lot easier for me to talk about a lot of topics --
13 maybe he'll take it away from me so I won't talk -- but
14 it's sure nice to have this map in front of me when
15 we're talking about a lot of things. It really helps a
16 lot.

17
18 MS. MORRIS LYON: We could maybe make
19 that a regular thing.

20
21 MR. DUNAWAY: I might save this one.
22 And I just want to thank all the staff for hanging on
23 to the bitter end.

24
25 Doi. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Good comment,
28 Dan.

29
30 Nanci, you've got something?

31
32 MS. MORRIS LYON: I do. And this is to
33 you personally, Randy. I appreciate you going in front
34 of the North Pacific Management Council and carrying a
35 voice for us. And I would say that I am open should
36 anything else come to mind, or you have any other
37 questions, please feel free to contact me for my
38 opinion. I'll be happy to be available in whatever
39 capacity I might be able to help you out on that with.
40 And thank you for doing that.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. And
43 you'll be here -- well, let's see. Tomorrow, when do
44 we meet? When am I supposed to meet with the other
45 representatives from the RACs with Staff to discuss our
46 testimonies?

47
48 And then if you want, you can show up
49 there. Because what I need to do is get information to
50 write a testimony, so I need to put a testimony

1 together tomorrow. And then the schedule, I believe
2 public testimony if Friday, day after tomorrow.

3
4 So, Donald, do you have a time that
5 we're supposed to meet?

6
7 MR. MIKE: Yeah, in 10 minutes, Mr.
8 Chair, at the Marriott. It's a good thing we got done
9 early, but I'm sure they'll be waiting for you. But if
10 you want help with your testimony, writing it up, you
11 know, I can be available, and other Staff can be
12 available, and we can.....

13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Polly is shaking her
15 head.

16
17 DR. WHEELER: I believe it's 6:00
18 o'clock tomorrow night, Donald. Another crisis
19 narrowly averted. But it's 6:00 o'clock tomorrow
20 night.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: At the Marriott?

23
24 DR. WHEELER: Yes.

25
26 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. I stand
27 corrected. I've been dealing with so many details, I'm
28 getting lost.

29
30 MS. MORRIS LYON: But I've already
31 entered personal testimony as well.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Well, I kind
34 of heard what, you know, you had to say. I'm not going
35 to talk for 15 minutes, I can tell you that. I don't
36 have that much to say, you know. I'm not going to talk
37 about the enhancement. That probably won't be
38 appropriate. So I just don't see a whole lot that I
39 have to -- it's not going to take me long, probably
40 three minutes.

41
42 MS. MORRIS LYON: No, but I appreciate
43 you doing it.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, all
46 right. Dan.

47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm going to stay in town
49 until Friday about 2:30 for personal business, so I
50 don't know if I can help out. I have some other

1 appointments and such, but I've thought about trying to
2 duck into some of these meetings, too. I can give you
3 my cell number.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We are
6 adjourned I guess. See you guys later.

7

8

(Off record)

9

10

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and
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Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 03/12/12