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1
           BRISTOL BAY ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2
              REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3
4
                       PUBLIC MEETING
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6
                          VOLUME I
7
8
9
                  City Hall Council Chamber
10
                     Dillingham, Alaska
11
                      October 12, 2011
12
                          8:30 a.m.
13
14
15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
17 Molly Chythlook, Chairwoman
18 Peter Abraham
19 Alvin Boskofsky
20 Dan Dunaway
21 Nanci Morris Lyon
22 Daniel O'Hara
23 Richard Wilson
2.4
25
26 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike
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PROCEEDINGS
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              (Dillingham, Alaska - 10/12/2011)
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5
                   (On record)
6
7
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: A quorum on
8 our Board. Oh, sorry. Yeah, remember to turn your
9 mics on. I was just reminded and forgot again.
10
11
                  Okay. We've got a quorum now, so we'll
12 get started. I'll call the meeting to order at -- I
13 can't see what time it is.
14
15
                   SEVERAL: 8:35.
16
17
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: At 8:35. And
18 before we go into the roll call, number 2, I'm going to
19 ask Abraham to do an invocation. So if we can all
20 stand, please?
21
22
                  MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
23
2.4
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
25 you, Abraham.
26
27
                  We'll go down to the roll call.
28 Donald.
29
30
                  MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 Roll call for Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.
32
33
                  Mr. Pete Abraham.
34
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Here.
35
36
37
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan O'Hara. Madame
38 Chair. Mr. O'Hara will be in later on today, so he
39 will be present for the meeting tomorrow.
40
41
                  Ms. Nanci Morris.
42
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Here.
43
44
45
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Dale Meyers. Madame
46 Chair. Mr. Meyers was out in the field hunting.
47
48
                  Mr. Alvin Boskofsky.
49
50
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: Here.
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1
                  MR. MIKE: Ms. Molly Chythlook.
2
3
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Here.
4
5
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
6
7
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Here.
8
9
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Moses Toyukak. Madame
10 Chair. Mr. Toyukak informed me that he won't be able
11 to make this meeting. He's traveling.
12
13
                  Mr. Thomas Hedlund. Madame Chair. Mr.
14 Hedlund wasn't able to make it. He's out in the field.
15
16
                  Mr. Richard Wilson.
17
18
                  MR. WILSON: Here.
19
                  MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. You have six
20
21 members present. You have a quorum.
22
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
24 you. Excuse me. Thank you, Donald.
25
                  Then we'll go ahead and go into our
27 welcome and introduction. I want to welcome each one
28 of you to Dillingham. We ordered this weather just for
29 you. We've had so much rain through the summer that
30 it's been good to see the sun, well, today and
31 tomorrow, and it sounds like we may get back to rain
32 again. But anyway, I welcome you to Dillingham.
33
                  I'll start the introductions starting
35 from our Board members. We'll start with you, Richard.
36 Turn your mic on.
38
                  MR. WILSON: Good morning. Richard
39 Wilson out of Naknek. Pretty busy summer. Fall's
40 turned out real great. Got a few red fish earlier on,
41 and a pretty happy camper at the moment.
42
43
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm Dan Dunaway. I
44 live here in Dillingham, and I think I sit on here as a
45 commercial and sport member. I'm pretty happy this
46 fall. I caught a moose for the first time in five
47 years.
48
49
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Nanci Morris Lyon.
50 I'm from over in King Salmon, and I'm a subsistence and
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1 sport user over there. And I'm still busy with my
  season, and I'm loving this nice weather as well.
  Welcome.
5
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Good morning.
6 I'm Molly Chythlook. Originally from Aleknagik, but
  I've been residing in Dillingham here for the last
7
8 probably 30 years. So welcome again to Dillingham.
9
10
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Peter Abraham, Togiak.
11 I've been over there for 47? I don't know, it's been
12 too many years anyway. I come from Bethel, was
13 supposed to be for two weeks. I'm still working on
14 that two weeks, so I might as well stay there.
15
16
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: Alvin Boskofsky from
17 Chignik Lake.
18
19
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
20 you, Board members. And then I'll go to the public
21 there, and we'll start with you, Andy.
                  MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, wildlife
24 biologist for the Togiak Refuge here in Dillingham.
25
                  MS. GAMACHE: Jean Gamache with the
27 National Park Service. I'm the Alaska Native liaison
28 for the Park Service.
29
30
                  MR. VIRDEN: Gene Virden. I'm with the
31 Bureau of Indian Affairs. I'm the regional director
32 and a Board member.
33
34
                  MR. CHEN: Good morning, my name is
35 Glenn Chen. I'm with the Alaska Region of the Bureau
36 of Indian Affairs. I'm the subsistence management
37 (indiscernible).
38
39
                  MR. WILSON: Verner Wilson, World
40 Wildlife Fund. I'm originally from Dillingham, but
41 (indiscernible).
42
43
                  MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg with Subsistence
44 Division, Fish and Game here in Dillingham.
45
46
                  MS. KENNER: Pippa Kenner. I'm an
47 anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence
48 Management in Anchorage.
49
50
                  MR. PAPPAS: Good morning. George
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Pappas, Fish and Game, subsistence liaison.
3
                  MR. McKEE: Good morning. Chris McKee,
  wildlife biologist, OSM, Anchorage.
4
6
                  MR. FRIED: Good morning. Steve Fried
7
  with OSM. Fisheries biologist.
8
9
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
10 you. Welcome again to this meeting.
11
12
                   I'm going to quickly go through our
13 agenda here. We're down to number 4. Number 4 is
14 review and adoption of agenda. Number 5, review and
15 adoption of minutes. Number 6, Chair's Report. Number
16 7, Council Member's reports. Number 8, Reports on
17 tribal consultation and ANCSA corporation
18 teleconferences. Number 9, administrative business.
19 10, public testimony.
20
21
                  11, wildlife proposals for Council
22 review and recommendations to the Federal Subsistence
23 Board, and we have several. You can see them on upper
24 sections of Page 2.
25
26
                  And then number 12, review and make
27 recommendations on the draft 2012 Fisheries Resource
28 Monitoring Plan. Number 13, Agency/organization
29 reports, and there's several agency, excuse me, and
30 organizational reports under 13. Then 14, there's a
31 place for other business. Number 15, future meeting
32 plans. 16 is adjournment.
33
34
                  And, excuse me, throughout this meeting
35 I'm going to watch the clock and maybe every hour we'll
36 take a quick five-minute stretch so that we won't glaze
37 over. So as people give reports, make comments, you
38 can keep that in mind.
39
40
                   Okay. We're to number 4, review and
41 adoption of agenda. We did that. Is there any
42 corrections to the agenda at issue.
43
44
                   Okay. I guess we need to move to adopt
45 the agenda first. Nanci.
46
47
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: I move that we adopt
48 the agenda.
49
50
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Second.
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
  been a motion by Nancy and seconded by Dan Dunaway to
3
  adopt the agenda.
5
                   MR. MIKE: I'm sorry. Madame Chair.
6 We need to discuss adoption of the agenda, so there's
7
  some items I'd like to bring forward to the Council.
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess
9
10 we're to the point where we need to discuss the agenda.
11 Any comments.
12
13
                   Donald.
14
15
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16 Donald Mike, OSM.
17
18
                   I was contacted by Caroline Woody;
19 she's a prime contractor with fisheries resources out
20 of Anchorage, and she would like to do a presentation
21 in front of the Council on the fisheries program in the
22 Bristol Bay region, specifically related to Pebble
23 Mine. So if we can put her after World Wildlife Fund,
24 we can designate that as item H, Caroline Moody on
25 fisheries resources.
26
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Did he say agenda
28 number 8, item number 8?
29
30
                   MR. MIKE: I'm sorry, Madame Chair. It
31 would be under agency reports. We can designate it as
32 item number H.
33
34
                   MR. DUNAWAY: H.
35
                   MR. MIKE: Yeah, H as Caroline Woody,
36
37 fisheries resource relating to Pebble Mine.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
40
41
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Actually, Richard,
42 did you want to bring yours forward, the moose?
43
                   MR. WILSON: Is this a good time to do
44
45 that? Madame Chair. Yeah, once we get on the issues
46 of our proposal on Unit 9, it would be -- there's going
47 to be some discussion on further adoptions or
48 amendments to this proposals.
49
50
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
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MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I would
2 propose perhaps that we would put it ahead of even the
3 Bristol Bay regional proposals, before we go over them,
4 because there might possibly be information that we'd
5 like to hear before we make decisions on proposals. If
6 it would please the Chair.
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Nanci,
9 so they would be before Bristol Bay regional proposals,
10 item B?
11
12
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: That is correct.
13 Madame Chair. Let's just make them -- either that or
14 -- well, yeah, let's just put them B.1 and then we can,
15 B.5 and then fit in there.
16
17
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan.
18
19
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Molly, this is a
20 question for Donald. Do we do disclosures each meeting
21 or just once a year, or just kind of -- I didn't see
22 that in the agenda.
23
2.4
                  MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.
25 We don't do any more disclosures. That was decided at
26 our office level, so we don't do disclosures any more,
27 unless we hear further from our office on the policy.
28
29
                  Thank you.
30
31
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
32 more additions, corrections to the agenda.
33
34
                  (No comments)
35
36
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not....
37
38
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
39
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
41 question called.
42
43
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Second.
44
45
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Just say aye, all for and
46 all opposed.
47
48
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. All in
49 favor say aye.
50
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1
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3
                   (No opposing votes)
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. It's --
6
  the review and adoption of agenda is passed.
7
8
                   We'll move on to number 5, review and
9 adoption of minutes.
10
11
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Move to adopt the
12 minutes.
13
14
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
17 motion and second to review and adopt the minutes.
18 Discussion.
19
20
                   (No comments)
21
22
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
23
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Been a
25 question called. All in favor to adopt the, let's see,
26 March 9 to 10, 2011 minutes say aye.
27
28
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
29
30
                   (No opposing votes)
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
33 Then the motion has been carried.
34
                   Okay. Moving down to, we're moving
35
36 pretty fast, number 6, Chair's report. Donald.
37
38
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The Chair's
39 report on 6.A., the Federal Subsistence Board 2010
40 annual report response. That letter didn't make it
41 into publication, but the letter was sent out to each
42 Council member.
43
44
                   And if you recall, the annual report
45 item was the population management of bears and wolves
46 in this region. And the Council during its discussion
47 at this last winter meeting discussed the possibility
48 of having a joint meeting with the Regional Advisory
49 Council and the local advisory committee to discuss,
50 you know, potential, what do you call it, as far as
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1 population management of wolves and bears and see how
  they can come up with solutions to bring up the moose
  and caribou populations. So I think this might be a
  good time for the Council to discuss if they still want
5 to pursue that joint meeting. And I'll leave it up to
  the Council.
8
                   Madame Chair.
9
10
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
11 there any -- Nanci.
12
13
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
14 Chair.
15
16
                   Yes, I have gone over the response, and
17 I would definitely still be in favor of pursuing this.
18 I understand that they -- there's a long history of
19 them not wanting to establish any sort of predator
20 control, but, you know, I've made a number of notes to
21 their responses, and, you know, I'd be happy to point
22 those out if you want me to take the time to do so.
23
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, let's
25 review it.
26
27
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Discuss it? Okay.
28 Thank you.
29
30
                   In the first paragraph, one of the last
31 comments, the last sentence is that establishing
32 management plans for wolves and bears would be costly
33 and time consuming, even if there were sufficient
34 resources available to complete this task. My argument
35 for that is they would not have to be. That's their
36 evaluation of it. I do not feel it would have to be
37 costly or time consuming either way. It's been done
38 before in a fairly efficient and effective manner.
39
40
                   On the second paragraph they make
41 reference to, in the second sentence, the Service is
42 legally precluded from managing wildlife refuges with a
43 singular focus to reduce predator populations. And I
44 would like to point out to them that we are not asking
45 for a singular focus. It's part of a whole, entire
46 plan and it's not something that we're trying to make
47 as a singular focus.
48
49
                   In the last sentence of the third
50 paragraph they say that the proposed action would
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1 constitute a major Federal action. And I would just
  like to know who says that it would be a major Federal
  action. It doesn't have to be made into a major
 Federal action. It's only if they choose to make it
  that way.
7
                   In the last sentence on the next
8 paragraph it says, in the end the negative impacts of
  wolf control on conservation of fish and wildlife
10 populations and habitats in their natural diversity and
11 maintaining wilderness character were deemed to
12 outweigh the potential benefits of possible future
13 subsistence uses. And they're referring to the
14 environmental assessment that they did down in Unimak
15 Island. And I just feel like this is going to vary by
16 the human that's making that evaluation. That was
17 their determination, and my determination might have
18 been something different. I think that there's a human
19 reasoning that's involved in a lot of these decisions,
20 and it's going to depend on the human being whose
21 making those decisions.
22
23
                   And then with the next paragraph, that
24 they're saying that they're not -- that they also made
25 it clear that it's not rejecting the use of predator
26 control as a valid wildlife management tool, but once
27 again it's only if different judgment calls are made.
28 Perhaps it's time to try predator control. I have not
29 seen a change in the caribou herds, neither the
30 Northern Peninsula nor the Southern Peninsula Herd,
31 with the management that's currently in place. And
32 we've had a really, really long dry spell with those
33 herds. Much longer than history has given us before.
34 And I think we have a valid case that perhaps it's time
35 to try a different method.
36
37
                   And those were my comments, Madame
38 Chair.
39
40
                   Thank you.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
43 you, Nanci.
44
45
                  Any other discussions regarding this.
46 Dan.
47
48
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I'm becoming
49 ambivalent on some predator control some places.
50 read this and if there's any place to preserve some
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1 diversity of animals, allowing the wolves to nearly
  exterminate the caribou on Unimak Island seems to be
  contrary to what they're saying right here. And if
4 there was any place to have predator control, I kind of
5 think it should have been done down there. The last I
6 heard after the decision was that there weren't very
7 many calves survived, but I haven't looked into for
8 some time. I was really disappointed to see that they
  didn't allow the State to act on Unimak Island.
10
11
                   So, yeah, I don't want to entirely drop
12 it. We want to be very careful, want to be
13 biologically sound on it. But there are places where I
14 think it's necessary. And I don't like getting blown
15 off sometimes on this.
16
17
                   Thank you.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
20 other discussions regarding this.
21
22
                   Nanci.
23
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
2.4
25 Chair.
26
27
                   You know, one of the other comments
28 that they had made is that they -- I don't know, in
29 some ways I read it almost as a challenge, but the next
30 to the last paragraph says that if the Council believes
31 these issues can be more effectively addressed through
32 a joint meeting with the advisory committees in your
33 area, then perhaps the Board encourages the Council to
34 pursue this through your coordinator. And I guess I
35 would be interested to hear what all the other councils
36 would have to say about it. I certainly don't want our
37 voice to be the only one that's being voiced, and I
38 would like to know that we have -- quite frankly I'd
39 like to know we had 100 percent of the councils behind
40 us, so I guess -- I think that maybe that would be one
41 place to start before we responded again. And I don't
42 know if Mr. Mike could make that possible or not.
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald, do you
45 have a comment.
46
47
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. If
48 this joint meeting gets 100 percent support from the
49 Council, you know, I certainly can pursue it and work
50 with BBNA and the State advisory committees and start
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1 developing a plan. And it's going to be a lengthy
  process, but I can report on the progress, you know, in
  our winter meeting. And if things move smoothly, you
4 know, and the advisory committees and the RAC want to
5 meet earlier before our winter meeting, I mean, we can
6 make it happen, but I cannot guarantee that it will go
7
  through smoothly, but I can start the planning process
8 if it's the wish of the Council.
10
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan.
13
14
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I think that would be
15 good. I sit on the Nushagak Advisory Committee.
16 There's a lot of interest in predator control. There's
17 some mixed data available right now. I think some of
18 our guys upriver were really efficient and reducing the
19 wolves all on their own this winter. But I think at
20 least the Nushagak Advisory Committee would be eager to
21 meet.
22
23
                   We do have a problem in Bristol Bay
24 right now. The coordinator for those kinds of
25 meetings, that position's vacant, and I don't know
26 who's doing that work. I think -- I just heard
27 yesterday that they're trying to kind of tag team with
28 some of the other coordinators out of either Bethel or
29 Anchorage, which will make it a lot more difficult.
30
31
                   But I would encourage efforts to try to
32 come together at some time to discuss it. And I'm sure
33 the advisory committee would be eager to meet.
34
35
                   Thank you.
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Did you
38 have an additional comment.
39
40
                   MR. MIKE: madam Chair. Yeah, if it's
41 the wish of the Council, you know, just give me
42 direction and I'll go forward with it and I'll work
43 with, you know, Frank Woods, he's the staff with BBNA.
44 He's the one that brought it up, and I'd like to have
45 -- if the Council would like to have him involved, and
46 I can work with ACs and people from this RAC, and I can
47 just send a short memo out to the Council and give a
48 progress report.
49
50
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. Without
2 the -- would the actions of the coordinator for
  advisory councils, BBNA already kind of has made an
4 effort to be connected and be information center for
5 the local regulations, so if it's the wishes of the
6 Council, Natural Resources Department, BBNA will gladly
7
  work with Mike or Donald to get this coordination
8 started.
9
10
                   Dan.
11
12
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Do we need to like make a
13 motion on this or can we just kind of all agree that
14 we'd like Donald to pursue this?
15
16
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: We need a motion.
17
18
                   MR. MIKE: You don't need a motion, but
19 -- it's up to the Council, but if you come to a
20 consensus, that will be fine.
21
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'm in
22
23 agreement. I think this is going to be a good first
24 step here to -- and it can be -- I think it would be
25 very well taken over on the Naknek/ Kvichak side also.
26
27
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Allen.
2.8
29
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Yeah, I agree.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Allen,
32 you're -- Pete.
33
34
                   (In Yup'ik)
35
36
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Uh-huh.
37
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pete
39 says yes.
40
41
                   Okay. With that, Donald, BBNA will be
42 willing to work with you on this process.
43
44
                   Any more discussions on this, and we'll
45 move on.
46
47
                   (No comments)
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any more
50 information under this item?
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MR. MIKE: Yes, Madame Chair. Under
2 the Chair's report there's item B, discussion of 2011
  annual report topics. This is the time for the Council
4 to bring up issues from 2010 for our annual report to
5 the Federal Subsistence Board. This can be ongoing, if
6 you want, during the duration of the meeting if you
7 have some issues, you can bring it up and we can just
8 make note of that.
10
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
13
14
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
15 Chair.
16
17
                   Donald, I don't -- we don't have
18 anything on here either with the redfish issue. And I
19 would definitely like to see that on the spring report.
20 It's probably not appropriate for the annual report,
21 but before I forgot it, I wanted to bring that to your
22 and the rest of the Council's attention.
23
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We can
2.4
25 include that as part of the annual report as far as the
26 process going in to see what kind of resolution we can
27 come up with.
28
29
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And with
32 Donald's suggestion, we will keep this open. And as we
33 go through our agenda, if anything comes up that we may
34 want to add, then we'll do that.
35
36
                   Okay. Are we through with this
37 section.
38
39
                   (No comments)
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll
42 move on down to number 7, Council member's reports.
43 Richard.
44
45
                   MR. WILSON: I guess I come a bit
46 unprepared here, Madame Chair. Are we just looking for
47 just an outline of what we discussed in the past year,
48 what we're looking for as a.....
49
50
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: What you've heard
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from, you know, people in your area.
3
                   MR. WILSON: Because, excuse me,
4 there's been a lot of effort in our area over there,
5 excuse me, in the last month of September and part of
6 August for moose in our area over there, and there's a
7 lot of no-shows. A lot of effort went out and the
8 moose typically in the last few years haven't been
  moving very early on anyways. We started getting them
10 a little later on in the season, but right towards the
11 end of closure there was a few more taken, but we
12 really aren't seeing the numbers over there. Everybody
13 I'm talking to, I just came out of a couple villages
14 from the lakeside there, and there's just not a whole
15 lot of population out there it seems to be found.
16
17
                   And the bears very abundant. Got them
18 chewing on our fourwheeler seats sitting next to the
19 cabin, and, you know, just generally being a nuisance.
20 And they're actually, you know, the old males are
21 killing the sows and the cubs, you know, right in front
22 of people. So, there's plenty there.
23
2.4
                   The fish stocks this summer, we thought
25 we did very well over in our area. It was nice to hear
26 Alvin yesterday about him still getting fish down in
27 the creeks down where he's at. It looks like the place
28 to be here today.
29
30
                   Thank you.
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
33 you, Richard.
34
35
                   Dan.
36
37
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I don't have a whole lot.
38 I asked around a little bit. I don't know of really
39 any burning issues other than I did have one person
40 from upriver express that they were wondering where the
41 predator control effort was going to go by the State,
42 and there was apparently some survey results from this
43 summer, but I haven't heard them, but this person
44 indicated that he was concerned whether we could push
45 forward with predator control or not.
46
47
                   Other things, listening to Richard, on
48 thing several of us noticed while we were moose hunting
49 is we didn't see very many small moose calves. We saw
50 yearlings, but not -- I think I saw one small one.
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I think in our area with the much
  relaxed bear season, I think there's been an increase
  harvest, but that's just my gut feeling. I haven't had
4 a chance to talk to Jim Wellington, but I know of a few
5 bears that were shot during moose season this year,
6 which in the past we couldn't do. So maybe we're
7 making a little inroads.
8
9
                   That's all I have. Thanks.
10
11
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
12 Dan.
13
14
                   Richard.
15
16
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'm sorry,
17 I did bring up another thought here. On the redfish
18 issue, you know, in our area there, that's something
19 we've been trying to connect with with the park over
20 there, and we haven't. I don't know if it's, you know,
21 lack of effort coming from the community or lack of
22 effort coming out of the Feds there, but we haven't --
23 that list that they claim that they need to, you know
24 -- for things to function there, we haven't -- nobody's
25 come up with that list yet. And I would really like to
26 be talking more like with Jean, you know, liaison here
27 on possibly, you know, some sort of better
28 communication with the system that we have over there,
29 because it's very difficult. And it's just very
30 difficult to deal with with the Park there.
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
33 you, Richard.
34
35
                   Okay. Pete.
36
                   MR. ABRAHAM: I just want to thank the
38 office people, well done on the moose count. And I
39 like to think back and say, yeah, when they first
40 started the moratorium in Togiak Refuge, I thought for
41 a while it's not going to work, but now today, I'd like
42 to thank Andy and the Staff for the moose population we
43 have over there.
44
45
                   And then the moose season, the moose
46 hunt over there was successful it seems like this year.
47 And then we have one citation over there, but it wasn't
48 from our department.
49
50
                   The people frown on the State coming
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1 with the helicopter over in the area there, because the
  hunters don't have access beyond the corridor of the
  river or it's maybe a mile or so. I don't think it's
  fair for law enforcement to use a helicopter to do the
  iob over there.
7
                  Not only that, the State coordinated
8 with our law enforcement over there. So people are
  complaining about that. I think we're going to have --
10 you're going to hear a couple complaints from the
11 traditional council from somewhere else over there.
12
13
                  But anyway, the moose hunt was
14 successful over there. And we have younger hunters,
15 not like me, you know, the old guys stay back and stay
16 home, and watch them hunt. But I'd like to say we've
17 done a good job over there, and even goose hunting,
18 too, over there.
19
20
                  The other thing we have, we've been
21 having problem like from Quinhagak, Goodnews, Togiak,
22 we've been having bear problem over there. The young
23 ones, three, four-year olds that come into the village
24 begging for food practically, you know. And this fall
25 I think one went to the porch looking for something to
26 eat. And I think about three or four were eliminated
27 by local people over there. I have not even pursue who
28 done it, because they're getting too dangerous, they're
29 getting too close to the village over there.
30
31
                   So that's all I have from Togiak, but
32 the chum salmon didn't show up to the river over there,
33 just only a few of them. So therefore the Arctic char,
34 Dolly Varden, that connected to a lot of fish, they're
35 not so healthy over there. You catch Arctic char in
36 the river, it's skinny, because they feed on chum eggs
37 for the summer. So does the Dolly Varden. I hope next
38 year they show up. The chum I mean.
39
40
                   Although the red salmon was very
41 healthy over there this summer. The count -- I checked
42 with the counting tower over there a couple of times.
43 Well, they're beyond, the cup's overflowing over there.
44
45
                   Quyana.
46
47
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
48 you, David. Any -- I'm sorry. Pete. Any questions
49 for Pete.
50
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1
                   (No comments)
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I'd like to
4 expound on the helicopter issue, because several of --
5 well, as NR director and dealing with the resources for
6 all of our 31 communities, we had -- both Frank and I
7 had several calls from Togiak regarding the helicopter
8 harassment. Well, it was considered harassment,
9 because there were three known hunters camped out along
10 the river, and the one, the helicopter hovered over and
11 permitted the moose to escape. The hunters weren't too
12 happy with that, because once the helicopter left, then
13 that animal was never relocated again.
14
15
                   And the other issue was that the
16 helicopter landed where the two elders were -- had been
17 -- or stayed behind. After the kill, the younger
18 person that was with them took their harvest back, and
19 that the two elders stayed behind to probably deal with
20 fish and whatever else. But it so happened the
21 helicopter landed while they were there and pursued to
22 look for proof of the harvest being a bull. And it was
23 embarrassing for the two elders to -- having to talk
24 between themselves about the moose parts that --
25 especially the elders don't discuss.
26
27
                   So I am working now with Jim
28 Wellington, an Jim Wellington, the wildlife biologist
29 for ADF&G is in the process of working something out so
30 that this could be corrected.
31
32
                   And the concern that I had, many years
33 that we've built positive relationships for Togiak, I
34 didn't want this incident to erode that, so hopefully
35 once the issue and the problem is addressed with
36 Togiak, that things will cool back down again. But I'm
37 sure that this is going to come up when the Togiak
38 regional council meets. And any other time that BBNA
39 staff travel over there, it will probably come up, but
40 hopefully it will resolve with the help of Jim and
41 others.
42
43
                   Thank you.
44
45
                   Any other expounding Pete's report.
46
47
                   (No comments)
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, Allen.
50
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MR. BOSKOFSKY: Yeah, we had a healthy
  salmon season, our fall season seems to be going pretty
  good. The fish we get for subsistence, usually just --
4 people have been doing pretty good.
                  A lot of bear problems. Bears around
7 the village every night. I think one was gotten rid
8 of, because it wouldn't even leave. The guy was
  shooting right by his head, and he wouldn't even budge.
10 He was trying to break into his fish house.
11
12
                  Moose. It would be interesting to hear
13 reports on what this permitting process came up with,
14 because we had one local catch, one local from the Bay
15 got one, and that was by accident the day before the
16 season closed. And I think we had like four sport
17 hunter that got moose. Nobody else has seen any. So
18 it's been pretty quiet.
19
20
                  And that's pretty much it.
21
22
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
23 Allen.
2.4
25
                  Any questions for Allen.
26
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. How about caribou
28 down in your area? Do you have any comments on that?
29
30
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: Over the summer we've
31 seen one running on the beach. More than likely was
32 being chased by wolves, because they don't usually come
33 around summer homes unless there's a wolf chasing them.
34 But we seen a few up in the mountains. You know,
35 there's always little patches here and there that
36 manage to hang around in a certain area And there's
37 always may a dozen or so up in the mountains during the
38 summer. We've seen some on the mountains about the
39 lake there across from the village. There was a few
40 there. Not very many. But I haven't heard much on
41 anything increasing to any great numbers. I hear
42 there's like 8,000 bear in Unit 9E, I guess more bears
43 than people.
44
45
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Nanci.
46
47
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
48 Chair.
49
50
                  Yeah, I would -- my report pretty much
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1 echoes Richard. I've heard very sparse reports about success in moose hunting from my end of the road as well. And the bear hunters, every single person that 4 wanted one, got one that I know of thus far. I've even 5 had a little bit of contact with some of the sport 6 hunters that were flown out, and they were, all except 7 for one group, was fairly successful, and they admitted 8 they didn't know what they were doing and they scared 9 to death and just wanted to come in. So I don't really 10 count them, because then they sat at the lodge and 11 watched one cross the creek right in front of them, and 12 I told them they were welcome to take it, and nobody 13 went to get their gun. 14 15 (Laughter) 16 17 MS. MORRIS LYON: But I will say that I 18 agree with Alvin. There are a ton of bears. I hear a 19 lot of complaints about it in the areas that I go out 20 to. And there was also a lot more wolf sightings that 21 I heard from people this past winter after our spring 22 meeting in March. And I know I saw a heck of a lot 23 more on the river in March and April than I'm used to 24 seeing. they're usually a r are sightings, and it was 25 something that probably happened at least once every 26 three days, we'd see wolves out there. So definitely 27 seems to be an increase in that population, or the 28 packs that are in the areas are migrating to different 29 areas. I'm not sure which it is, but I know the 30 predators are there. 31 32 Fisheries, the one thing that Richard 33 didn't touch on were the king fisheries in the area. 34 The king fisheries were still in my opinion, and 35 according to my records, only moderate in their 36 returns. They were not something that I guess you 37 would say fell on their face by any means, but I 38 wouldn't all them real healthy either. 39 40 And with that, my other thing that I 41 don't know if we should put it on the annual report, I 42 don't know where we'd like to place it, but I think 43 that we need to continue to pursue and monitor what the 44 North Pacific Fisheries are doing with bycatch, and 45 make sure that our voices are constantly heard in front 46 of them about lowering those numbers. 47 48 Thank you, Madame Chair. 49

MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any

50

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questions for Nanci. Dan.
                  MR. DUNAWAY: It's not really a
4 question for Nanci so much as other comments remind me
5 that the early summer is kind of faint in my memory,
6 but, yeah, kings were a real concern here in the
7 Nushagak. In the end I think we got 65,000, which
8 isn't good, but it's better than what we thought it
9 would be. I know the commercial fishermen were really
10 discouraged that they didn't have more. And, yeah, the
11 high sea intercept issue is -- I'd lost track of it.
12 That's a bit concern in this area.
                                        So I agree, if
13 that could be an annual report item, or an item we
14 could keep track of, we'd sure appreciate it.
15
16
                   Thanks.
17
18
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
19 other discussions.
20
21
                   (No comments)
22
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I'll give my
24 report.
25
                  You know, when the resources are sparse
27 in one area, it seems like they kind of domino to the
28 other regions. This year our five lake systems in
29 Aleknagik, Wood River, I guess the Wood River system,
30 we weren't able to -- during the moose season we
31 weren't able to reach -- we barely made -- the
32 harvesters, the hunters, barely made it to third lake,
33 to Agulukpok, because of the low water. And it's been
34 a while, my husband and I do hunt up in the lake system
35 every year. I can't remember when the moose population
36 is so sparse up there. I know that people from
37 Aleknagik, the harvesters, the key harvesters from
38 Aleknagik didn't harvest any moose. When Joe and I
39 were up there for a week after the opener, we came home
40 empty handed. And we just thought that this was going
41 to be the year that we didn't harvest a moose, but Joe
42 decided to go one weekend, and behold, he harvested a
43 moose. And the hunters from Aleknagik have been
44 telling him that he saw and killed the last moose from
45 the Wood River system.
46
47
                   (Laughter)
48
49
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: In tracking
50 for moose, we saw more wolves, wolf tracks than we did
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1 moose. But we also were able to see a few caribou, but on the onset of the season, Joe wasn't interested in caribou. He did see two caribou that he would have 4 been able to harvest, but his aim was to harvest that 5 moose first. And so in going to the prime moose 6 locations, we did see a few caribou kills in those 7 locations. And I'm sure that in desperation for 8 harvesting moose, the people from Aleknagik and a few 9 from Dillingham did harvest a few caribou. 10 11 And like Dan said, the king salmon, 12 subsistence king salmon was sparse. I was happy to 13 harvest -- I was happy for the 15 that we were able to 14 harvest, but that 10 to 20 fish less than we normally 15 harvest. 16 17 Other than that, the -- I know that 18 people from Aleknagik are hurting for meat this fall. 19 And they're probably looking forward to possibly 20 hunting the December opener this winter. 21 22 And the other thing that I'd like to 23 bring out is the last two years the Bristol Bay 24 Partners, all the BBs in this area along with BBNA have 25 had this Bristol Bay Visioning Commission going. And 26 the main point to that was to have the commissioners 27 travel to the majority of the Bristol Bay communities. 28 And I don't have the number, you know, but we, the 29 commissioners, I'm one of them, I wasn't able to travel 30 to each and every one that we were able to get -- the 31 commissioners were able to get into, but I think it was 32 a success. 33 34 And the purpose of this commission was 35 to gather information from the people, from the 36 communities to get their priority vision for the 37 region, because I think in the past we've had I guess 38 pockets of areas that different regions have tried to 39 accomplish, but those visions, or those projects 40 haven't really been put into one -- I guess one vision 41 to encompass all the communities here. And so that has 42 been done. 43 44 And there's a plan in November 3 and 4 45 to get everybody together including the agencies, we're 46 also hoping to get some of our legislators in, to put 47 the wishes of the communities that we visited, to 48 encapsulate it into priorities. And one of the 49 priorities that the communities was, of course, the 50 natural resources. And we have, in our department,

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1 BBNA has put in our two cents as to how we've
  experienced working with the communities to I guess put
  the concerns and the issues so that people will be able
  to work with those.
                   So if you're around and able, November
7 3 and 4, in here in Dillingham, is going to be the
8 roundup for the regional visioning process.
10
                   And that's all I have, if there's any
11 questions. Richard.
12
13
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, is there --
14 coming from the east side of the bay, is there any --
15 is it just a volunteer kind of thing, or is there any
16 monies out there yet that can bring people in from
17 other areas, other parts of the region, or how is that
18 working out?
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I haven't
21 heard of -- the best person to contact right now is
22 Patty Heyano. She is coordinating the Visioning
23 Program. And I can also check with her on that and get
24 back with you.
25
26
                   But with the hopes of getting as many
27 people into one room to discuss the findings and to
28 encapsulate the wishes of, you know, the process that
29 we went through to put it into concrete points for
30 everybody to use. Well, we're hoping for a good
31 participation from the public.
32
33
                   Okay. Any other questions.
34
35
                   (No comments)
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, let's
38 take about a five-minute stretcher, and then we'll get
39 to our next -- Dan, did you have.....
40
41
                   MR. DUNAWAY: No, he asked mine.
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Take a
44 five-minute stretcher, and then we'll get back and then
45 start on our other agenda items.
46
47
                   (Off record)
48
49
                   (On record)
50
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Our
2 next agenda item, we've just finished the Council
3 reports. We'll move on down to number, reports on
4 tribal consultation, ANCSA corporation teleconferences.
  Okay. You're on.
7
                  MR. CHEN: Good morning, Madame Chair
8 and Council members. My name is Glenn Chen. I'm the
  subsistence branch manager for the Bureau of Indian
10 Affairs, and I've been asked to give this presentation
11 today on tribal consultation.
12
13
                  My presentation will actually be
14 composed of two parts. I will start with a summary of
15 what's taken place since the RAC meeting on this issue
16 of tribal consultation, what the Board has done. And
17 then the second part of my presentation will focus on
18 the specific tribal consultation that we held for the
19 Bristol Bay region. That was just done last Friday by
20 teleconference.
21
22
                  I'd like to turn your attention to Page
23 144 in your book. This is the summary of the tribal
24 consultation developments that have taken place since
25 the last winter RAC meeting. I'll give you a moment
26 there to get to Page 144.
27
28
                  As you heard during your winter
29 meeting, the Federal Subsistence Program....
30
31
                  MR. ABRAHAM: 124?
32
33
                  MR. CHEN: 144.
34
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Go ahead.
35
36
37
                  MR. CHEN: As you heard at your last
38 meeting, the Federal Subsistence Program, the direction
39 from our current Obama administration and from our
40 Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, decided to
41 renew their emphasis on tribal consultation. This was
42 an executive order issued quite some time ago, but the
43 follow up on the executive order has not been really
44 taken place until this current administration.
45
46
                   A lot of Councils discussed the role of
47 tribal consultation in the Federal Subsistence Program
48 process during the winter meetings, and probably the
49 overriding comment that we heard during the winter
50 meetings was the hope that the Board would remember to
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1 include and maintain the current role of the Councils as mandated by ANILCA Title VIII. So Council deference in all those issues were a controversial topic when the issue of tribal consultation was discussed during the winter meetings. 7 So back in January the Federal 8 Subsistence Board during its winter regulatory meeting 9 held two sessions to include tribal consultation the 10 first day of the winter meeting in January, gave tribes 11 an opportunity to comment on the 2011 to 2013 fisheries 12 regulatory proposals. We did hear some testimony from 13 tribes about some of the proposals, fisheries 14 proposals. 15 16 And then the last day of the meeting 17 was set aside as a listening session where all tribes 18 in Alaska were invited to Anchorage to give their 19 feedback and viewpoints on how the Federal Subsistence 20 Program should engage in tribal consultation. That 21 took the better part of Friday. And again it was a 22 listening session where we heard comments and 23 viewpoints from many, many tribes. 2.4 25 Following the January meeting, then in 26 May the Board held other meetings and reviewed the 27 comments received from the tribes in January. And then 28 the Board decided to establish and direct a work group 29 comprised of a small number of Federal and tribal 30 representatives be formed to develop a draft protocol 31 on consultation, and then this protocol would then be 32 subjected to the Board's review. 33 The work group then had meetings in 35 June to develop the program -- the protocol. There 36 were in-person meetings held in Anchorage. And 37 following those there were a number of teleconferences 38 among the work group to work out the specifics of this 39 draft protocol. 40 41 Following this, then in July the Board 42 approved two interim protocols. One separately for 43 tribes and then another protocol designed for 44 consultation with ANCSA corporations. And then these 45 were intended to be implemented during this current 46 wildlife cycle. 47 48 The protocols, you will find those on 49 Pages 145 to 46. That's the one for tribal

50 consultation; and then on Page 147 is the interim

protocol for ANCSA corporations. A couple of events and key dates to 4 mention to the Council here. Next week as part of the 5 AFN convention in Anchorage, on October 20th in the 6 afternoon, I believe starting at 1:00 in the Egan 7 Center, there will be an opportunity for ANCSA 8 corporations to consult face-to-face with representatives of the Federal Subsistence Board. 10 this is scheduled next week to coincide with the AFN 11 convention so the corporation folks could be there. 12 And again there will an opportunity for ANCSA 13 corporations to give their feedback input directly to 14 the Federal Subsistence Board next Thursday. 15 16 Following this on December 1st, the BIA 17 is holding its annual service providers conference, and 18 December 1st is Thursday of that week. And the 19 afternoon we've set aside for an opportunity for tribes 20 to consult directly with the Federal Subsistence Board 21 on the protocol and the review points and perspectives 22 on how the fall interim protocol has been working, what 23 may need to be changed or revised or corrected. 24 that's December 1st in the Dena'ina Center during the 25 providers conference. 26 27 And then in January, next January when 28 the Board meets again to discuss some of these wildlife 29 proposals and take action on them, there will be 30 another opportunity for tribes an corporations to 31 provide feedback and comments to the Board on 32 consultation. 33 34 If you look on Page 145, down toward 35 the bottom of the page here, in item 2, there's mention 36 of teleconferences for which tribes from each region 37 can provide consultation, or the Board will provide 38 consultation opportunities for tribes in each region to 39 speak about specific wildlife proposals. 40 41 So there's been series of 42 teleconferences that have been held so far, a couple 43 for ANCSA corporations and a number for each of the 44 regions represented by the program. These are wrapping 45 up at present. 46 47 The one held for the Bristol Bay region 48 took place last Friday. And if I could, I'd like to 49 segue that into a discussion of what took place during 50 last Friday's Bristol Bay region tribal consultation

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session.
                   This was held last Friday. The Bureau
4 of Indian Affairs was the sponsor of this
5 teleconference. Each of the agencies was asked to take
6 on some of the responsibilities for hosting some of
7
  these teleconferences, so the Bureau in addition to the
8 Bristol Bay region, also hosted a teleconference for
  the Western Interior Region.
10
11
                   The teleconference started at 10:00
12 a.m. last Friday. went for about an hour, and we did
13 hear and participation by one tribe in the Bristol Bay
14 region. Mr. Bobby Andrew from the Ekwok Village
15 Council, he called in to provide his tribe's
16 perspective on the wildlife proposals.
17
18
                   I'll give you a rundown of the Federal
19 Board members who attended this consultation session
20 last Friday. There was Mr. Virden, our Bureau's
21 regional director for the BIA. And in addition we had
22 Jerry Berg who represented the Fish and Wildlife
23 Service in lieu of Regional Director Geoff Haskett.
24 Mr. Dan Sharp, he represented Mr. Bud Cribley from the
25 Bureau of Land Management. And Mr. Wayne Owen
26 represented the Forest Service for Regional Forester
27 Beth Pendleton. And then Ms. Deb Cooper represented
28 Regional Director Sue Masica for National Park Service.
29
30
                   In addition to these Federal Board
31 members, we also had a number of Federal Staff. Myself
32 was there, Ms. Pat Petrivelli, she's our subsistence
33 anthropologist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, she
34 was the official note-taker. We also had Crystal
35 Leonetti, she is U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's
36 Native liaison. And we had Mary McBurney; she's
37 National Park Service -- as you know, her role is the
38 Lake Clark/Katmai National Park subsistence
39 coordinator. She was also on this teleconference. Our
40 deputy regional director for Native services, Ms.
41 Kristen K'eit, who also sometimes serves as the
42 Bureau's Federal Subsistence Board member, she served
43 as the facilitator for this teleconference.
44
45
                   I'd like to now summarize some of the
46 comments that Mr. Andrew provided on some of these
47 specific proposals, starting with Proposal WP12-39 and
48 40, dealing with moose, and also some of the deferred
49 proposals relating to Unit 9 moose. In general Mr.
50 Andrew felt that it was a good idea to simplify our
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1 Federal subsistence regulations. And as you know,
  there's been a working group assigned to some of these
  problems, assigned the task of resolving some of these
4 issues. He agreed with the working group's
5 recommendation for the Federal subsistence program to
6 use regulations similar to those of the State of Alaska
7 for the Unit 9 moose hunt in an effort to simplify
8 things for the users.
10
                   He was unable to download from the
11 internet the documents for Proposal 12-39. In fact, he
12 was only ale to get these documents toward the end of
13 our teleconference when they finally appeared on his
14 computer, due to the slow internet services in his
15 village.
16
17
                   So he mentioned that he would be
18 reviewing these at a later time and then he would be
19 faxing written comments to OSM. We provided him with
20 the fax number to OSM for him to send in his comments.
21
22
23
                   We asked if he would be present at
24 today's meeting with the RAC. He wasn't sure if he was
25 going to be able to. And to date we have not received
26 his faxed comments or any other input from Mr. Andrew
27 about these specific proposals.
28
29
                   With regard to the cross-over proposals
30 for Unit 18, and these would be WP12-42 as well as
31 WP12-53, Mr. Andrew had no comments on these proposals.
32
33
                   We then engaged in discussion of some
34 of the statewide proposals with Mr. Andrew, starting
35 with WP12-01, and this is addressing the sale of
36 handicrafts made from brown bear parts harvested under
37 Federal subsistence regulations. Mr. Andrew expressed
38 some concern about placing additional restrictions on
39 the users, and what the proposed regulations might have
40 in terms of impacting the abilities of the artist to
41 make handicrafts and sell them if they were adopted.
42
43
                   As expressed by the Council today, he
44 also concurred with viewpoints mentioned that brown
45 bears are very abundant in the region, and in fact
46 their abundance has resulted in what he called barriers
47 for success by subsistence hunters in obtaining moose
48 and other large game animals.
49
50
                   During discussions on Proposal 12-01,
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1 there was questions raised about the sealing of bears harvested under Federal subsistence regulations. The Federal Staff that were there on teleconference replied 4 that bears taken our regulations do not require 5 sealing. Mr. Andrew then asked the question again 6 about what would the impacts of the proposed 7 regulations have on Federal subsistence users. And our 8 subsistence anthropologist, Ms. Petrivelli replied that 9 the proposed documentation procedures outlined in the 10 proposal would actually assist sellers with their 11 transactions involving brown bear claws, especially for 12 those transactions taking place with purchasers outside 13 the state or outside the country due to the CITES 14 regulations. 15 16 Also, Mr. Berg, he's from the Fish and 17 Wildlife Service, he explained that the proposed 18 handicraft regulations would not restrict harvest 19 limits or brown bear harvest seasons. It would only 20 pertain to the use of brown bear claws which took place 21 after they were harvested as they're used for 22 handicrafts or being sold. 23 2.4 With regard to Proposal WP12-02, and 25 this speaks to the proposed changes to the designated 26 hunting regulations, Mr. Andrew indicated that he 27 agreed with the proposal, and that subsistence harvest 28 taking under these designated hunter provisions should 29 indeed be shared with people. 30 31 He did ask a question about whether or 32 not the proposal would limit the number of elders the 33 Federal subsistence harvest could be shared with. Mr. 34 Petrivelli from our agency replied, no, that would not 35 limit -- that there wouldn't be limits on sharing. 36 There is, however, provision in our Federal regulations 37 that limit the number of bag limits that could be 38 possessed in the field by the designated hunter, so 39 what could be possessed by a designated hunter would be 40 his or bag limit plus one other bag limit from the 41 person he's designated to hunt for. 42 43 On Proposal WP12-03, this is a 44 statewide proposal again, to talk about the need to 45 move traps if the incidently harvest a moose or deer or 46 caribou, Mr. Andrew had some questions about the 47 disposition of the meat of animals taken incidently 48 caught by traps. And he wanted to ensure that the 49 regulatory language included provisions that the food

50 be distributed, the salvaged meat distributed among

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1 community members so people could use this meat source.
  And Mr. Berg from Fish and Wildlife Service indicated
  that, yes, as a general practice, when salvaged meat is
  turned over to an agency following its salvage, it is
5 typically redistributed back to communities members.
7
                   Towards the end of the teleconference,
8 he reiterated that he would be providing comments on
9 Proposals 12-39 and 40 via fax. I guess, Donald, we
10 haven't received those yet as of today or yesterday,
11 right? Okay.
12
13
                   And he apologized for his internet
14 service being slow and not having the chance to review
15 the documents in time for the consultation session.
16
17
                   We then gave Mr. Andrew some of the --
18 the schedule for the upcoming ANCSA and tribal
19 consultation sessions on the 20th of October as well as
20 December 1st. And in case Council members aren't
21 aware, Mr. Andrew was one of the members from the
22 tribes, a tribal representative who also served on this
23 consultation work group along with myself and Ms. Jean
24 Gamache from the Park Service who's behind me.
25
26
                   I do have copies of the notes from the
27 consultation session. Our process talks about having
28 the notes reviewed by the tribes involved in the
29 consultation session. We did send these notes to him a 30 couple time via email. And since the consultation just
31 took place last Friday, Mr. Andrew probably hasn't had
32 time to review them. So I can't give you -- I can give
33 you copies of these notes, but with the caveat that
34 they are considered interim and have not been reviewed
35 by Mr. Andrew yet. So if it would help the Council in
36 its deliberation on these proposals, I can make these
37 copies available as long as you realize that Mr. Andrew
38 has not had a chance to weight in on what -- the
39 accuracy or the correctness of these notes.
40
41
                   I will say a few things else about
42 comments received from ANCSA corporations on the
43 proposals as well from other tribes within the regions.
44 And these speak mostly to the statewide proposals that
45 I led off with, 1, 2 and 3. There's been sort of a
46 mixed review of these proposals by corporations and
47 tribes around the State.
48
49
                   For example, on the handicraft
50 proposal, I believe a number of the tribes are opposed
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to adopting this proposal. Some are in support, some
  are opposed.
4
                   The designated hunter one, we have
5 groups who are again, mixed reviews. Some are opposed
6 and some support the designated hunter one. Some of
7 the comments we received on the designated hunter
8 proposal are -- well, the concerns were mainly about
  restricting designated hunter provision to people who
10 are 60 years of age or older. A number of folks have
11 commented on the fact that there may be situations
12 where there are single mothers under the age of 60 who
13 need to have meat for their families who would like to
14 be able to designate someone to hunt for them; but if
15 this regulation were adopted, they would not be
16 eligible to designate someone, because they're under
17 the age of 60.
18
19
                   For the most part, most of the tribes,
20 and I believe the corporations, are not in favor of the
21 Proposal 3, the need to move the traps if they
22 incidently harvest a moose or large game animal.
23
2.4
                   We haven't had an opportunity to
25 summarize all the comments from all the various
26 regional tribal consultation sessions as well as the
27 ANCSA sessions that were held. There were two held for
28 ANCSA corporations earlier on. So this doesn't
29 represent a formal summary of the comments received,
30 just those that I've been aware of.
31
32
                   And, Madame Chair, that concludes my
33 presentation.
34
35
                   Thank you.
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
38 you.
39
40
                   Any questions from the Board. Nanci.
41
42
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
43 Chair.
44
45
                   Mr. Chen I've just got one. You didn't
46 expound on those that were opposed to the handicraft
47 proposal. What was their main concerns?
48
49
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Ms. Lyon.
50 Some of the tribes that, and this is -- for example, I
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1 attended the Southeast meeting at Wrangell, and the
  Organized Village of Kasaan had expressed a number of
  concerns about the complexity that this would add to
4 the users requiring the documentation of the harvest
5 and the sale require -- the documentation requirements
6 following the sale of the claws. They expressed
7
  concerns about the fact that they didn't -- the
8 regulations had a number of potential loopholes that
9 people could then exploit. For example, people might
10 be able to use what they claimed was tag or permit from
11 a legally harvested bear, reproduce this many times,
12 and use this to sell handicrafts from another bear that
13 was not legally harvested.
14
15
                   So for some of the tribes, it seemed to
16 raise more questions than answered the questions that
17 were intended to be dealt with by the proposal.
18
19
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any additional
22 questions. Comment. Dan. No?
23
2.4
                   (No comments)
2.5
26
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I've
27 got one. The consultation process, I was involved with
28 this in January at the meeting. I guess I'm used to
29 doing researches within communities, and making sure
30 that anything that we propose to the communities are
31 understood 100 percent. And I just felt from the very
32 beginning that this process isn't that. The January I
33 guess consultation that the Federal Subsistence Board
34 made an effort to hold, I guess the tribes were
35 contacted that there was going to be a tribal
36 consultation, but because of being held in Anchorage,
37 and no funds to get to that meeting, we didn't have --
38 there wasn't too many people. Well, there wasn't too
39 many people from the surrounding communities.
40
41
                   And I think another thing that people,
42 the tribes weren't really impressed to attend is
43 because they didn't know what it was. And when people
44 don't have an understanding of the urgency of anything,
45 they don't make an effort to attend.
46
47
                   And so far the teleconferences, the
48 attempts, from my observation, of being kind of a
49 faceless process. Like, for instance, the
50 teleconference that was held here in Bristol Bay, from
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1 your report, it sounds like there was just that one.
  And I don't consider that a true tribal consultation
  when just one tribe is making -- was able to attend.
4 And I don't know, again, people -- the tribes do not
  get overly anxious to be a part of anything when they
6 don't have a clue of the importance to themselves and
7
  the community. And from the results of the
8 teleconferences, from the meetings, that's the case.
10
                   And I hope -- and it looks like the
11 tribal consultations that are going to be taking place
12 for the corporations during AFN is going to be just
13 that. Normally people feel more comfortable in making
14 comments when they're in their in their own
15 surroundings. The tribes that are going to be -- the
16 corporations that are going to be -- that are going to
17 be at AFN are going to be surrounded by a lot of
18 people. And there might be a few vocal people that
19 will make comments, and I'm afraid that that's going to
20 be considered a tribal consultation. Again, I don't
21 think so.
22
23
                   So I hope that -- as well as the one
24 that's going to be delivered to the tribes during BIA
25 providers, again that's kind of a faceless attempt
26 around in the area that people aren't familiar with.
27 Again, only people that are vocal will probably
28 participate.
29
30
                   But I urge anybody to make sure that
31 people understand the pros and cons of tribal
32 consultation. Tribal consultation, I don't have
33 anything against. You know, we've tried government-to-
34 government, and that worked some. But my vision for
35 the tribal consultation I was hoping would be more
36 personal to where people will understand exactly what
37 implications, the importance of it would be to the
38 tribal members so that they can make use of it. And
39 just from my observation to this date, I don't think
40 that the tribes, because I haven't seen any urgencies
41 for their participation hasn't really been understood.
42
43
                   Thank you.
44
45
                   Pete.
46
47
                   MR. ABRAHAM: I agree with Molly,
48 because I had personal experience with U.S. Fish and
49 Wildlife and the State of Alaska and local people.
50 Molly worked hard, so did I work hard to make even
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1 simple thing like U.S. Fish and Wildlife proposal, all
  the things without consulting the tribal people. And
  when it became through, there was confusion all the
4 time. Where did this come from? How did -- I mean,
  anything, look at State of Alaska, look at the
6 government, making these decisions without consulting
7
  who would be affected mostly.
                   Like this tribal consultation over
10 here, this is the first time I ever heard it.
11
12
                   When U.S. Fish and Wildlife propose a
13 lot of things, there's a lot of opposition from the
14 tribal people or local people. In fact, it took 20
15 years to make things work with them, to make them
16 understand. If we start something like this again,
17 it's going to another many years to untangle what was
18 tangled the first time.
19
20
                   So I urge somebody, you, to meet with
21 tribal people, local people, and consult and see if it
22 will work, because every village is different from the
23 other, by their understanding, by their subsistence way
24 of life. It's all very different. We've got 13
25 regions. We have different seasons for everything they
26 do. And if you try to make it one, it's the only way
27 to do it. Make it one. Molly knows, Pippa knows, Ted
28 knows, Lyla (ph) know about these things. You have to
29 make the people understand. Otherwise you have a chaos
30 again.
31
32
                   Thank you.
33
34
                   (In Yup'ik)
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
37 Pete.
38
39
                   You have a responding comment.
40
41
                   MR. CHEN: Thank you, Madame Chair and
42 Mr. Abraham. I concur wholeheartedly with some of your
43 viewpoints and concerns and issues expressed here. And
44 these have been some of the big challenges that have
45 been facing the Federal Subsistence Board as well as
46 this tribal consultation work group. How do we create
47 opportunities for meaningful consultation, right,
48 instead of just inviting people to participate in a
49 faceless way and call that consultation. That's, I
50 would think, all the tribes in Alaska would agree that
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1 does not comprise meaningful consultation. So it's been a big challenge to find some process that can be applied both at the regional and local level as well as at the statewide level which can result in effective, meaningful consultation. 7 Some of the ideas, and, Ms. Chythlook, 8 you mentioned the difficulties for people to come up with the funds to travel to Anchorage. So, for 10 example, if a consultation session was held in 11 Anchorage, many people could possibly not participate 12 just simply because of lack of funds. 13 14 And so there have been a number of 15 alternatives explored. For example, actually having 16 the Federal Subsistence Board travel to rural hubs, or 17 even to some rural villages. Given the Federal budget 18 situation and the complexity of scheduling, you know, 19 Board members' participation, we thought we could try 20 as an interim process, these regional teleconferences. 21 22 And as you pointed out, I think -- both 23 of you pointed out, the word has not gone out very 24 well, has not been well circulated about these 25 conferences. There are many tribes who have come to us 26 afterwards and said, you know, I wish I'd known about 27 that teleconference that was held of the state, we 28 didn't hear about it. And some tribes participate only 29 because maybe local refuge staff called them the day 30 before and said, hey, there's a tribal consultation 31 session tomorrow, make sure you participate. So in 32 spite of the fact that there were letters sent and 33 efforts made to contact each of the tribes in Alaska, 34 you know, people are busy, they have a lot on their 35 plates, a lot of things that they're trying to handle, 36 and there's many, many consultation requests, not only 37 no subsistence, but on all federal matters that the 38 tribes have to weed through on a daily or weekly basis. 39 So I think things get lost in the shuffle. 40 41 And perhaps it's fair to say that this 42 consultation process, the key word there to use is 43 interim, right? And we're trying to discover and 44 evaluate, and assess, what does work, what doesn't 45 work, what needs to be changed to make this meaningful 46 and more effective in the future. I think -- and some 47 of the comments that you two have provided, we'll 48 definitely bring those back to the consultation work 49 group, and convey them. Those have been shared by 50 other people, other tribes in the state as well.

And so again the opportunity to provide 2 these comments in person would be, from the tribes at least, would be at the December 1 BIA providers 4 conference. And the tribes who are there at the 5 conference, and it's generally most, if not all, of the 6 tribes are represented there at the BIA providers 7 conference. That was scheduled around the time frame 8 so the tribes could be in Anchorage. They would have 9 people there representing and meeting there for other 10 purposes under our providers conference, and give them 11 opportunity to speak directly to the Board, so to 12 alleviate some of these issues about coming up with 13 travel funds. 14 15 And there's always ongoing efforts and 16 ongoing opportunities to contact the Board by email, by 17 letter, by phone call, so forth. 18 19 And so I think it's fair to say that 20 this is a work in process. We'll be taking all these 21 comments that we receive throughout the state on the 22 regional teleconferences, from the Councils like yours 23 today, and trying to build a more effective and more 24 manageable consultation effort. 25 26 Thank you very much. 27 2.8 MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard. 29 30 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Pete. 31 Thank you. 32 33 I do kind of reiterate what they've 34 been saying. You know, it's very important that our 35 people really are in tune with what's going on out 36 there. A lot of times when you get left behind or, you 37 know, you don't know about these meetings, and they 38 come out with comments, you know, and a lot of times 39 it's deemed that, you know, all communities are in 40 favor of it when only like say maybe one has commented. 41 So maybe in the report somewhere along the way you 42 could say, well, you know, out of 13, one commented, 43 and this was the community. Just to give you, you 44 know, the reader an outlook on actually who commented 45 on certain issues. So it's not an umbrella effect that 46 happens with everybody, because like everybody's saying 47 here, everybody's individual, all the communities have 48 different needs. So I think it's kind of important 49 that, you know, even if you only scored one of 13 that 50 you dictate it so that it was must the one that, you

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know, you got information from, and it's not the broad
  views of all of Bristol Bay.
4
                   Just a comment. Thanks.
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Nanci.
7
8
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: An observation. Just
9 from listening and hearing what's being said here is I
10 think that it would also be an excellent opportunity to
11 make further use of your Council members, because most
12 Council members are also part of tribes. And if you
13 would notify them along with the tribes, perhaps it
14 would start as well building the knowledge and urgency,
15 because they might know who to call that could
16 participate. Just a thought, but I think that, you
17 know, all your resources could be possibly put to use
18 in order to get this thing moving and rolling.
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yes.
21
22
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Ms. Lyon.
23 You read my mind. I was hoping that the venues like
24 this Council meeting could be an effective forum for
25 communicating what's happening in tribal consultation
26 and encourage more participation from some of the
27 region's tribes.
28
29
                   Thank you.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
32 other comments.
33
34
                   (No comments)
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I'm very bad
37 at names. What was your name again? I'm sorry.
38
39
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. My name is
40 Glenn and the last name is Chen, C-H-E-N. So I was
41 given the curse of a rhyming name by my parents and so
42 it was quite an issue when I was a child, but Glenn
43 Chen is my name.
44
45
                   Thank you.
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Glenn.
48
49
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Yes, I agree with what
50 Molly says. People are afraid to say anything when
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1 they're in front of a bunch of people that they don't
  know. We find it where even reports of subsistence
  usage. People don't want to say anything, because
  they're afraid that they're going to get arrested or
  something because of taking food that they need.
7
                   And it comes down to setting, examples,
8 of having meetings, I'm sitting at home, I don't want
  to sit at a phone and listen to something all day long
10 when I have other things to be doing. I'm going to be
11 sitting there, I don't need this, click. You know, and
12 lose everything, because I'm thinking about what needs
13 to be done for winter. What I need to put away.
14
15
                   So my feeling is that we should try to
16 get these systems into the villages right where the
17 people are, and they are more willing to speak up. I
18 wouldn't want to be sitting in Anchorage in a big
19 meeting room with a bunch of other corporations there,
20 people I don't even know. I'd be afraid to speak up
21 and say anything. But if you can get them in the
22 villages in their own environment, then most of the
23 people will speak up.
2.4
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Glenn.
26
27
                   MR. CHEN: Ms. Chythlook. Mr.
28 Boskofsky. So just to let you know, if tribes have a
29 specific issue pertaining to subsistence, specific to
30 the region, the locality, a specific hunt, specific
31 species or regulation, and they desire to consult with
32 the Federal government on that particular issue, they
33 can request, they can request a government-to-
34 government consultation session in your locality on
35 that specific issue. And so that's a process which can
36 be held in private without attendance by other people.
37 So if the circumstances warrant, that kind of
38 consultation, that can be arranged and that can be
39 accommodated.
40
41
                   Thank you.
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
44 other comments.
45
46
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Doi.
47
48
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: One more. I'm
49 bilingual and I interpret, and, you know, the tribal
50 consultation word is this long. When I interpret that,
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it's way out there, because tribal consultation is not
  in the Yup'ik term. And so I have to explain it.
                   And what I envision, tribal
5 consultation would be a co-management system between
6 the agencies and the tribes. And it wouldn't be do
7 what I tell you to do. So I hope I'm correct, but
8 that's just kind of how I've been trying to interpret
9 tribal consultation to the people that I've had to
10 explain that to.
11
12
                   And so if there's no other questions,
13 comments.
14
15
                   (No comments)
16
17
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
18 And could I invite you, our corporation, Aleknagik
19 Natives, Limited corporation is meeting in Anchorage on
20 the 19th, and we are inviting Crystal in to deal with
21 this, to explain this tribal consultation to us. And
22 I'd be happy if you'd be able to attend, too.
23
2.4
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Ms. Leonetti
25 is leading the effort from the Federal side to develop
26 this tribal consultation protocol, so she's definitely
27 most knowledgeable and the most adept person at
28 addressing this. And I'm glad she's going to be
29 attending your meeting. And I'd be happy to
30 participate along with Crystal.
31
32
                   Thank you for the invitation.
33
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
35 you.
36
37
                   And let's move on if we don't have any
38 other questions for this.
39
40
                   (No comments)
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And number 9,
43 administrative business. Donald.
44
45
                  MR. MIKE: Excuse me.
                                          Thank you,
46 Madame Chair. Just a couple of items.
47
48
                   I just want to remind the public to
49 please sign in. There's a sign-in sheet on the table
50 next to the -- against the wall. And for those that
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1 are interested in providing public testimony or
  comments on the Federal wildlife proposals, we have a
  blue sign-in form also on the table against the wall.
4 If you can sign -- put your name down and which
5 proposals or issue you want to address; or if you have
6 any particular subsistence issues, you can just write
7 that down and provide this blue form to either Federal
8 Staff on the floor or just hand them directly to me,
9 and I'll provide it to the Chair.
10
11
                   And that's it, Madame Chair.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
14 you, Donald.
15
16
                   And I guess our next item would be the
17 public comments. Do we have anybody in line to give
18 public comments.
19
20
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. I didn't get
21 any requests for public testimony, but I think it's an
22 opportunity for you to address the public if they wish
23 to provide public testimony on any subsistence issue.
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Come again? I
26 didn't understand you. Sorry.
27
28
                   MR. MIKE: Yeah, you can open the
29 floor, Madame Chair, for public testimony on any
30 subsistence issue if there's public that wish to
31 testify in front of the Council.
32
33
                   Thank you.
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. At this
36 time I'll open the floor for any testimony from the
37 public. Verner.
38
39
                  MR. WILSON: Good morning, everyone.
40 Good morning. Welcome to my home town. I grew up here
41 and it's really good to see you all again.
42
43
                   I had the pleasure as you remember of
44 being at my first RAC meeting in Naknek seven months
45 ago, so it's been seven months. And as you remember, I
46 provided some draft resolutions and they're about the
47 proposed Pebble Mine and offshore drilling issues in
48 Bristol Bay. I remember hearing from you and you all
49 were saying that you would consider the issues that
50 were proposed last time, and talk with your
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constituents, and so I hope you were able to do that. 3 As a constituent, I am a member of the 4 Curyung tribe here in Dillingham. I'm also a 5 shareholder of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, and 6 also, you know, as somebody -- my grandma, 7 unfortunately she passed away since the last time I saw 8 you all, but she taught me how to, you know, subsist, picks greens and pick berries and fish. And so as 10 somebody -- as a younger person who understands the 11 importance of that, and the importance of our culture. 12 13 14 I think it's very important that we 15 make sure that we protect our subsistence resources. 16 And that's why I'm glad that the Federal Subsistence 17 Board looks to each of the Regional Advisory Councils 18 for advice on anything that could affect our 19 subsistence resources. 20 21 I have a degree in environmental 22 studies where I studied environmental issues, and 23 specifically mining of the proposed Pebble Mine. And I 24 think that we as a people need to really look at the 25 proposed mine and I think we -- a lot of people have. 26 And I'm just -- I think that as a shareholder, as 27 somebody who does go subsistence hunting and fishing 28 and depends on those resources, and my family does, we 29 need to take action. 30 31 And I work for the World Wildlife Fund, 32 and we have a campaign to protect Bristol Bay. I'm 33 really proud to work on that campaign, because I've 34 talked with a bunch of our other offices throughout the 35 world and, you know, they say that, oh, yeah, we don't 36 have salmon fisheries like we used to, like in -- we 37 have an office in England who said that, yeah, we 38 import a lot of fish from Alaska and a lot of canned 39 salmon, and, you know, that's not subsistence, but it 40 shows you that their ancestors over there, they used to 41 have a lot of salmon. It used to be considered a trash 42 fish because it was so much. But because of habitat 43 destruction and over-fishing and all other stresses, 44 they don't have a fishery any more. 45 46 And we're lucky that here in Alaska we 47 do have a fishery. We do have the world's greatest 48 sockeye salmon fishery that provides over half of the 49 world's wild sockeye. 50

And, you know, I have a bunch of information. I know that you'd requested some more information about the 404(c) process as well as some 4 more information from scientists and other people who are familiar with both the mining prospect as well as 6 potential offshore drilling. And so I sent that to Mr. 7 Mike and hopefully you all received it. I know there's 8 some more people who are going to be coming to testify 9 about these issues, but I guess I could go over with 10 what I provided. 11 12 There's a presentation by the Nushagak-13 Mulchatna Land Trust -- or Watershed Council about 14 responsible mining practices. There's a presentation 15 from Kendra Zamzow, who's a geologist and has been --16 has looked at the proposed Pebble prospect and how it 17 could ruin our water quality and the salmon that depend 18 on really clean water quality. 19 20 We have information about the EPA's 21 regulatory authority. It tells you all about what they 22 could do in terms of their Section 404(c) veto 23 authority. And there were six tribes that asked them 24 to take that authority as well as my corporation, the 25 Bristol Bay Native Corporation. 26 27 I know that you were saying that you 28 did want to hear about -- from your constituents, and 29 as a shareholder, they sent out a survey to all of us. 30 You know, there's over 8500 shareholders in the region. 31 They sent out a survey in 2007 I believe, and it showed 32 that nearly 70 percent of Bristol Bay Native 33 Corporation shareholders were personally opposed to the 34 Pebble Mine. And so I think that along with a number 35 of different polls and a number of different surveys, 36 that should show you that -- there's also resolutions 37 from other -- like the City of Dillingham passed a 38 resolution in this same room, you know, and Dillingham 39 is the largest town in Bristol Bay. I was glad that 40 they did that, against the proposed mine. 41 42 We also have information about the 43 404(c) procedure, if you're curious about that. 44 45 Also, BOMRE, the Bureau of Ocean Energy 46 Management Regulatory Enforcement, a really long name, 47 they have this really interest report that they 48 released since the last time that we met. It shows you 49 how salmon, juvenile salmon use the proposed North 50 Aleutian Basin where they're proposing to do offshore

1 drilling. Probably they could be doing it after 2017. And it shows that salmon from all over western Alaska rivers like from Bristol Bay as well as even up in the Yukon and Kuskokwim use that area as important habitat. 5 And I quess there's, you know, eel grass beds and 6 others, and so you have to think about the life stages 7 of the salmon and make sure that, you know, all their 8 habitat is protected, not just their spawning grounds, 9 but also, you know, where they go out in the ocean, and 10 where they, you know, pretty much grow up and get 11 bigger, so that was a very interesting report. It's 33 12 pages long. You know, it's long, but it would be good 13 for you all to read it and to make sure you understand. 14 15 We also have some more stuff about what 16 the Federal government says about offshore drilling. I 17 think there's some interesting points to make in that 18 report. It was from the final environmental impact 19 statement of the five-year OCS leasing program. And 20 that was -- I think that was in 2009 or something, but 21 they basically postulated, you know, at least one large 22 spill of 42,000 gallons. And, you know, after we've 23 seen what happened in the Gulf of Mexico, that's not 24 the only example. There's been three or four other oil 25 spill around the world. You hear industry saying that, 26 you know, we're safe, and we've got this under control, 27 but, you know, time after time, I mean, you hear it in 28 the news today or even yesterday there's an oil spill 29 off the coast of New Zealand, and so, I mean, do we 30 really want to risk our subsistence resources for 31 something that could ruin our wildlife's habitat. 32 33 There's just a lot of information. How 34 contaminated discharges could affect fisheries 35 resources, how seismic surveys could kill fish, and 36 juvenile -- or fish eggs. 37 38 And so I hope that you consider these 39 two issues. I think they are some of the most burning 40 issues in terms of, you know, our fisheries and our 41 subsistence resources, and we really a people have to 42 ask the question, do we really want to risk these 43 resources. And I personally believe that in talking 44 with people and getting -- I got over 1,000 fishermen's 45 petition signatures against offshore drilling. I 46 really do think that this -- a lot of people in the 47 region do not want to risk those resources, and so I 48 hope you'll take action. I hope you've considered the 49 resolutions that I gave there. A lot of organizations 50 as I said did adopt them.

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Thank you very much for your time and
  welcome to Dillingham.
4
                   I'm glad you have beautiful weather
5
 here.
6
7
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
8
 Verner.
9
10
                   Any questions from the Board. Any
11 comments.
            Dan.
12
13
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Verner. I think at
14 the last meeting you handed out, was it a proposed
15 resolution or something?
16
17
                   MR. WILSON: Yeah.
18
19
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Did you bring any? I
20 can't locate that from my last meeting. Did you bring
21 any copies for us this time?
22
                  MR. WILSON: I didn't bring them with
24 me this time, but I print them out for you later today.
25
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. I quess
27 I'd like to see a copy again, because I can't get my
28 fingers on it. I don't know about the rest of the
29 Council.
30
31
                   MR. WILSON: Okay.
32
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
34
35
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
36
37
                   I just want to remind the Council that
38 the World Wildlife Fund's under agency reports, and
39 that's scheduled for tomorrow. And this will give you
40 an opportunity to review the materials overnight and be
41 prepared for any specific questions tomorrow for the
42 presentation.
43
44
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
45
46
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
47 you.
48
49
                   Pete.
50
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1
                   MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
                   Just a brief -- something I've been
4 wanting to say for a long time. Just out of curiosity,
5 maybe about 10, 12 years ago, because I come from
6 Nelson Island originally, we rely on fish out there.
7
  In my time when I was younger a sea mammal was just
8 different from what we used to harvest out there. The
9 majority of what we harvested was fish.
10
11
                   So out of curiosity I start making
12 random calls, random check over, random survey on my
13 own. Found out in this region here all along the coast
14 as far as Nelson Island, the people harvest about 75
15 percent of the fish, of what they eat. Salt water,
16 fresh water. 75 percent. The rest of it was like sea
17 mammal, land mammal, and the vegetables make up the 25
18 percent. And when these people might think I'm
19 neutral, because people come out and ask me when I'm
20 using the uniform. I tell them I have to consult with,
21 talk with my superiors before I say anything. So I
22 just say I'm just neutral.
23
2.4
                   I'm still sort of neutral today,
25 because I don't know anything about mines. But I do
26 know about my life style along with my fellow Yup'ik
27 people. So if somebody tells me something different
28 about Pebble Mine, then possibly I will know. But from
29 the stories and one-on-one talking with people, I ask
30 them, do you eat gold? Or do you eat, drink oil? And
31 they answer no. The Dynasty, the mine people will take
32 whatever they're after and turn around, leave us empty
33 handed with all the promises they make, they leave us
34 behind empty handed. So does the oil exploration out
35 there.
36
37
                   The bottom line is a dollar sign. When
38 Yup'ik people are concentrating how they will survive
39 from the land surrounding us.
40
41
                   I don't make this too lengthy, because
42 we have a long ways to go.
43
44
                   Quyana.
45
46
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
                                            Thank you,
47 Pete.
48
49
                  Any other comments.
50
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1
                   (No comments)
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, I have
4 a short one. Personally I am against, you know, the
5 development, because I live off, you know, the land and
6 water. But from all my years of subsisting, and
7 processing, harvesting, processing -- especially
8 processing and eating, there is a change in our
  subsistence resources that's happening I guess due to
10 climate change. And so there's this process of our
11 resources changing. The preservation's not there. The
12 berries don't taste like berries. So even before the
13 bang, the big bang, there's all these changes
14 happening, and my recommendation to even maybe the
15 Wildlife Fund is to do research. Traditional and
16 ecological knowledge is going to be a primary resource
17 for anybody to understand anything within people's
18 regions, because that's how the people survived is
19 through traditional and ecological knowledge. And
20 traditional and ecological knowledge is -- right now
21 it's I guess the cash cow. So people are going to --
22 or people are treating like a new thing, you know, that
23 they need to go after. But it's not a new thing.
24 That's how the people in our region and anywhere else
25 survived is through the knowledge that they gained from
26 the people that lived before them.
27
28
                   So I guess my closing comment would be
29 to not only rah-rah against the Pebble, but there needs
30 to be research prior to the big bang, so that we will
31 have information to show that this is how the resources
32 were before the big bang started.
33
34
                   Thank you.
35
36
                   Any other comments.
37
38
                   (No comments)
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, thank
41 you, Verner. Or you have a comment.
42
43
                   MR. WILSON: Could I just reply to
44 that. I really think from what you said about that,
45 I've been making calls and I talked with a few people
46 from Nondalton, for example, and, you know, they were
47 complaining that before Pebble started exploring, doing
48 all -- bringing all their helicopters in, and, you
49 know, bringing whatever they have in, they used to have
50 caribou and moose and a lot of other animals. And
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1 after a lot of disturbance was happening, you know,
  they're complaining that they're -- they have to go
  farther and farther, and that they cannot find as much
4 caribou, for example. And I think that is something
5 that we should do, is do more research in terms of, you
6 know, what was there before any sort of exploration,
7 what was -- how is that affecting it.
8
9
                   I know that you all are taking your
10 position seriously, and I think that's important,
11 because you have the ability, and it's just a great
12 opportunity to be speaking in front of you and in front
13 of all of these Federal government agencies, because
14 you all combined do have the power to protect our
15 subsistence resources.
16
17
                   And I think it's a great opportunity
18 to, you know, talk more about this issue, because it's
19 something that does need to be talked about, and it
20 does need to be discussed, because it could have
21 ramifications not for just our generation, but for
22 generations thousands of years from now, because that
23 mine, if built, will be there forever, so I hope you
24 take that into consideration, and to, you know, rally
25 protect our subsistence resources not only for us, but
26 for future generations down the line, too.
27
28
                   So thank you.
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
31 you, Verner.
32
33
                   Before -- let's take a five-minute
34 stretcher. We're in the process of public comment
35 period for subsistence-related issues. So we'll take a
36 five-minute break and then be back.
37
38
                   (Off record
39
40
                   (On record)
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Do we
43 have anybody else from the floor. Public comments.
44
45
                   (No comments)
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, Okay.
48 So there's Tommy that might be coming in.
49
50
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thanks for the fish,
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1 Molly. It's really good. Thank you.
3
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Is
4
 there anybody else from the back there. There was a
 hand raised. While we're waiting for -- oh, Tommy's
6
  coming in.
7
                   Tommy, you've got the floor.
8
9
10
                  MR. TILDEN: For the record, my name is
11 Thomas Tilden, and I'm from here in Dillingham. I sit
12 on a number of boards; however I'm here representing
13 myself. I'm a subsistence users. I also fish
14 commercially.
15
16
                  And I generally just wanted to speak a
17 little bit about subsistence overall. I think I wanted
18 to echo some of the thoughts that were made by the
19 previous speaker.
20
                   I think that as a subsistence user here
21
22 in Dillingham, we have noticed a decline in the
23 production of salmon, particularly king salmon in the
24 springtime. And that was actually pointed out probably
25 about five years ago on the Nushagak River by the VPSO
26 from New Stuyahok. His comment was that where his
27 family had traditionally fished on the Kaktuli River,
28 he had noticed a decline in the amount of spawned-out
29 salmon. And we had asked that the State take a look at
30 this issue, and it has come to our attention that this
31 year that even science is now showing that there's a
32 decline in the Kaktuli River, not only of king salmon,
33 but also of red salmon.
34
35
                  And that is a concern to us, because we
36 as subsistence users live in ground zero. And we are
37 the first to notice any changes in either animal
38 patterns or fish patterns. And it's just the nature of
39 the game, because of who we are and what we do.
40 Someone has to take notice, and someone has to do
41 something. And I don't think that there's any better
42 body than the Federal Subsistence Board, if anything,
43 just to take a look at the situation, and to look at
44 the science that is available both by the Alaska
45 Department of Fish and Game and by science that the
46 Pebble project has produced up in that area, as well as
47 the other agencies that are doing individual and
48 private science in the area. But it has to be looked
49 at. And if we wait until there's a disaster, then it's
50 too late. But I don't think that we should wait until
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then.
                   We have notified who we could and can
4
  possibly do something, but it seems as thought that
  it's not getting anywhere. But a word or a suggestion
  or a comment from the Federal Subsistence Board will go
7
  a long ways. And I think it's very, very important
8
  that this happens.
9
10
                   Just recently in the news there was a
11 lot of attention given to the orcas that swam up the
12 river system here, and unfortunately two of them died.
13 And that in itself I think is telling us that there's
14 something going on here that needs to be looked at.
15
16
                   There are -- even now, I remember last
17 year I was sitting at the airport and an elder lady
18 came up to me and she says, Tom, she says, I have never
19 picked berries in October, but I have this year. And
20 you can see now that even now that the berries are
21 still visible out on the grounds here, and that things
22 are changing dramatically. And we have got to be ahead
23 of the curve or the ball game here. Otherwise we're
24 going to get caught unguarded, that things are going to
25 change too dramatically for us. But something has to
26 be done. Something needs to be done. We that live
27 here and subsist off the land and the water and the air
28 notice these little changes, and we're notifying folks,
29 both State and Federal agencies, that something needs
30 to be done; otherwise things are going to happen too
31 fast.
32
33
                   And I can't emphasize that enough,
34 because when you look at the history of the native
35 folks that live in this area, or you look at any
36 community in Bristol Bay and where that community is
37 situated, that community is in that particular spot
38 because of the resources that was available to the
39 people that chose that spot. That spot was either rich
40 in berries, rich in salmon, rich in migration patterns
41 of animals or birds. But it wasn't just picked by
42 mistake, but it was selected by the elders of the
43 people of the villages because of the resources that
44 were available to that. And the people knew about
45 these resources and the folks that live here and watch
46 these changes are trying to sit up and warn folks that,
47 hey, things are changing rapidly here.
48
49
                   And then to top it all off, we have
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50 mass development coming into our area. We have on our

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1 oceans, we have Shell Oil Company that wants to come in
  and drill. My last trip to D.C. when I was down there
  and talked against the North Aleutian Basin sale, the
4 folks in congressional offices that I visited says in
  2015 we are going to gear up for the sale of the North
6 Aleutian Basin. It will be available in 2017.
7
  they're not hindered by President Obama's withdrawal.
8 They firmly believe that it's going to happen. And I
9 think that we need a permanent solution in regards to
10 taking North Aleutian Basin off sale.
11
12
                   And then we take a look at another
13 foreign company that is developing or wants to develop
14 State land up on the Kaktuli and Talarik Creek areas.
15
16
                   And like I said earlier, the VPSO from
17 New Stuyahok had testified that, hey, things are
18 changing up there. And even scientists backing that up
19 now. That water needs protection.
20
21
                  And I can't think of anyone else that
22 could make a lot more headway than the Federal
23 Subsistence Board here, by making the agencies aware
24 that, hey, you better get the best science out there,
25 and you better be on the grounds taking a look at
26 what's happening, and what you can do to stop the loss.
27 And what kind of recommendations can you come up with
28 in regards to making sure that the fish and game and
29 birds do not decline any further. And that's what we
30 need. And it's simple, and it just takes you as a
31 board to direct these Federal agents that work for
32 these Federal agencies to get on the ball and do
33 something, because if we wait, it's going to be too
34 late.
35
36
                   So that's basically what I wanted to
37 say, ma'am, and thank you very much.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
40 Tommy.
41
42
                   Pete, you have a comment, question for
43 Tommy.
44
45
                   MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
46
47
                   MR. TILDEN:
                               (In Yup'ik)
48
49
                   MR. ABRAHAM: You know, if our
50 ancestors had had the ability to write things down, the
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1 history and everything, which we lost a long time ago,
  we would have better understanding of what's happening
  right now. When I heard about global warming, I
4 laughed a little, because the Yup'ik people have known
5 about global warming for many, many -- I mean, for a
6 long time, but they didn't know what to all it.
7 know the changes in this world. They're very
8 observant, those people, because they depend on the
9 weather, their food source, how they handle it. They
10 even watch the whole world, like the stars. Why is it
11 changing.
12
13
                  Why is -- you'll be amazed if you sit
14 down with an old guy that don't even speak English
15 whatsoever, the knowledge that old guy has or the old
16 woman has.
17
18
                   The world has been changing ever sine
19 it became. And it's still changing right now. And
20 while it's changing, it's affecting what resources it
21 has right now. From fish to animal. Because the fish
22 and animals, they're all connected together along with
23 the insects, plants, weather. I mean, name it, they're
24 all connected. The migration of the birds, the
25 migration of the fish. Everything is connected to each
26 other.
27
28
                   So the change, it has been changing,
29 but we never observe it until it's alarmingly
30 noticeable. I have noticed this for a long time. But
31 what can I do or influence these people to change it.
32 Well, our ancestors, our Yup'ik people, an old saying,
33 protect your fish, protect your animals. Respect your
34 fish, respect your animals. Take only what you need.
35 Don't over-harvest, because you might waste it.
36 they said, this will be for the future.
38
                  When I was in the army, I met this old
39 guy. He was a sergeant, staff sergeant, in fact, the
40 first sergeant. He seen my badge and he asked me where
41 I come from. I mean, which portion of Alaska I come
42 from. I said, from there. And he says, when he was 19
43 years old, he used to fish in Bristol Bay. I didn't
44 even know where Bristol Bay was. At the time the
45 companies were paying two cents per fish. And he
46 didn't talk about thousands, he was talking about
47 millions.
48
49
                  When Japanese war broke, he joined the
50 army, and he's been in the army ever since. But when
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1 he came back to Alaska for a brief time to Bristol Bay, he was alarmed of the change. The fish he used to see, not there any more. 5 I wish I can sit here and tell you all 6 about the knowledge I learned from my elders and my 7 grandfather and everybody else about the change I've 8 been noticing or they noticed. If I sit here and talk 9 about it, I'll be too old to get out of this building 10 over here. 11 12 (Laughter) 13 14 MR. ABRAHAM: So quyana for your 15 things. Yeah. 16 17 MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, 18 Pete. 19 20 Do you have -- Tom. 21 MR. TILDEN: Yeah, you know, when he 22 23 mentioned that, I was thinking that when I was a young 24 man growing up in Portage Creek, the elders had talked 25 to me about caribou. And I need to point out that it's 26 been nine years since I've eaten caribou, and that the 27 migration of the caribou that used to come down into 28 this area has changed. And to some folks, when you 29 talk to them about that, it's a coincidence that about 30 the same time that Northern Dynasty was exploring up in 31 the areas of Kaktuli and Talarik. 32 33 And to me it only makes sense, because 34 if you go to Anaktuvuk Pass and you talk to the people 35 that live there, they will tell you that one thing you 36 never do to leaders of a herd, is you never spook them, 37 or you never kill them, because what happens afterwards 38 is that the caribou that follow the leaders of the herd 39 are going to do whatever their leaders do. And if they 40 get scared and they back off, that's what basically the 41 herd is going to do. 42 43 And so when Northern Dynasty, when you 44 go to their web page and you follow the helicopter that 45 took pictures of going up Talarik Creek, you're going 46 to notice that they are below 700 feet, and that 47 they're flying at a very low altitude. And we know 48 that from their own testimony that they talked about 49 how they fly everything in there. Well, they used to

50 never fly at really high heights, but they actually

flew pretty low, because it's beautiful country up there. And you will see that in their pictures. 4 Well, one day they came in there and 5 they -- there's a couple of things that coincidentally 6 happened, was first of all the caribou all of a sudden 7 changed their route, and all of a sudden people start 8 catching them up in the Kilbuck Mountains areas, 9 because the caribou, instead of coming down, migrating 10 down like they used to, they got diverted and they went 11 up north and went around. And all of a sudden they're 12 catching up there in Bethel, Quinhagak, Eek, and in 13 that particular area. And it's because that caribou 14 got spooked by two things. The noise that was being 15 done in regards to the exploratory work that was going 16 on in that valley, and, two, was the low-flying 17 helicopters that diverted them. 18 19 But it's because people know how 20 caribou migrate, and it's because the people that have 21 watched them for hundreds of years, that know these 22 migration patterns, and it's traditional knowledge that 23 is there. But you can't tell that to a learned 24 scientist, because the learned scientist needs not only 25 to observe and to see that happening, but they also 26 have to have two or three other scientists come back 27 and back them up. 28 29 And so we're finally starting to see 30 the caribou come back into this area, very, very 31 slowing. In fact, this was the first year I heard of 32 anyone along the river here catching caribou. 33 34 But it's that traditional knowledge 35 that is very important that needs to be factored into 36 subsistence decisions. And I can't emphasize enough 37 any word or any suggestions coming from this particular 38 Board will go a long ways in preserving what we have 39 now, not only for us, but for the future generations as 40 well. 41 42 MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank 43 you, Tommy. Thank you. 44 45 I'm going to take a short break here 46 and we've notice the agency people coming in that 47 didn't introduce themselves this morning, because they 48 weren't here. And we also have people that came in 49 that didn't introduce themselves. So we will -- we

50 have more coming in, so we'll start from that corner.

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1 Yes.
3
                  MS. RILEY: Hi. My name is Megan
4 Riley. I'm with Fish and Game out of King Salmon.
6
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And what do
7 you do?
8
9
                  MS. RILEY: I'm a biologist out there.
10
11
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
12
13
                  MR. HAMMOND: Troy Hammond. I'm the
14 natural resource manager for National Park Service,
15 Lands Management, King Salmon, which includes Katmai
16 National Park and Preserve, the Alagnak Wild River and
17 Aniakchak National Monument Preserve.
18
19
                  MR. UNDERWOOD: My name is Tevis
20 Underwood. I'm the deputy manager at Togiak Refuge and
21 here in Dillingham.
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And I'm going
24 to go to....
25
26
                  MR. DUNAWAY: That quy.
27
28
                   (Laughter)
29
30
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: No, I better
31 not. We have more agencies that came in. If you
32 didn't introduce yourself this morning, please
33 introduce yourself now.
34
                  MR. BRANSON: John Branson, historian
35
36 at Lake Clark National Park.
38
                  MR. MANGIPAN: Buck Mangipan, wildlife
39 biologist at Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.
40
                  MS. McBURNEY: I'm Mary McBurney,
41
42 subsistence manager for Lake Clark, Katmai and
43 Aniakchak Park and Preserve.
44
45
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
46 other agencies.
47
48
                  (No comments)
49
50
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. The
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public. I'm going to start with my husband, Joe.
  Public introduction.
4
                   MR. CHYTHLOOK: I'm your husband.
5
6
                   (Laughter)
7
8
                   MR. CHYTHLOOK: Joe Chythlook, retired,
9 and currently serving as chairman of BBNC, and a
10 subsistence fisherman, commercial fisherman, hunter,
11 and I guess I'm just here as a guest.
12
13
                   Thank you.
14
15
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Patty.
16
17
                   MS. HEYANO: I'm Patty Heyano. I'm the
18 program development; Bristol Bay Native Association.
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Tom.
21
                   MR. TILDEN: Tom Tilden. I'm a
22
23 resident here in Dillingham, and Choggiung tribal
24 chief, subsistence user, hunter, fisherman.
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And Gary.
26
27
28
                   MR. KLINE: Gary Kline. I work with
29 Nunumtaluksty (ph) here in Dillingham. And I'm a
30 subsistence user, fisherman as well.
31
32
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And then
33 the....
34
                  MS. HURLEY: Hello. Good morning. I'm
35
36 Alanna Hurley and I'm here as a subsistence lover.
38
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Have we
39 missed anybody.
40
41
                   (No comments)
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, we'll
44 continue with our public comments.
45
46
                   Is there anybody else.
47
48
                   (No comments)
49
50
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
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MS. HURLEY: Good morning. Like I just 2 said, good morning. My Irish name is Alanna Hurley. My Yup'ik name is (In Yup'ik). I'm originally from Saguyak across the bay, Clark's Point, but I now live here in Dillingham. 7 And I'm going to keep mine short and 8 sweet, because I know I'm just going to echo what the two previous people here have talked about. And I'm 10 here to express my concern about the potential 11 destructive development that's being proposed in this 12 area, the Pebble Mine, offshore drilling. 13 14 We all know -- I mean, I'm not going to 15 sit up here and tell the people that know this, that 16 subsistence is the heartbeat of Bristol Bay, and that 17 without it, what would we be, what would our cultures 18 be, what would our ancestors say of us if we were to 19 not face these threats to subsistence. 20 21 I just want to say that it completely 22 makes sense, like Tommy was saying, for this Advisory 23 Council to take action on this. If not now, when is 24 the right time? When is the time to say, this is an 25 issue that we need to face. I just don't understand 26 when the right time would be if not now. We know 27 what's out there. We know that it is a threat that is 28 -- it is an extremely humongous threat to our people 29 and our way of life out here. And so I would like --30 I'm asking you guys to use your power to carry the 31 message from Bristol Bay that's been resounding 32 throughout Bristol Bay for the last few years, that we 33 do not want this. Our number 1 priority is 34 subsistence. We care about our history. We care about 35 our culture. And without subsistence, those two thing, 36 it just -- subsistence will -- our culture will cease 37 to exist. It won't be able to exist. 38 39 And that's the reality of the 40 situation. And I'm asking you to use your position to 41 carry that message. And like Tommy said, there's no --42 I don't even understand how it's an issue. This is 43 about subsistence. This Council. So take the message 44 from us that has been resounding throughout Bristol 45 Bay, to protect it. That's all we're asking. And if 46 not now, when? Are we going to wait until there is a 47 disaster and this room is full of people, because there 48 are no fish and they're coming to testify about that. 49 Is that when we're going to ass a resolution? Is that 50 when we're going to have our voices heard? Or is it

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now?
3
                   And so we've talked -- there's talk
4
  about climate change. And there's some changes that
5 are coming our way that we have nothing we can do
6 about, that we are just going to have to learn how to
7
  deal with. And our generation is ready for that, and
8 we're ready to move forward in Bristol Bay in a good
9 way, in a way that respects our elders, respects our
10 ancestors, and doesn't risk who we are as a people and
11 what we stand for. We're ready for that challenge to
12 move forward sustainably. And so that change we want
13 to move towards.
14
15
                   There's some changes we can't do
16 anything about, but we can do something about this.
17 This is change that doesn't have to happen. Pebble
18 Mine doesn't have to go through. So I'm just asking
19 you to please use your power in this Council to make
20 sure that our voices are being heard at the Federal
21 Subsistence Board.
22
23
                   So thank you.
2.4
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
                                                   Thank
26 you, Alanna.
27
28
                   Any comments, questions for Alanna.
29
30
                   (No comments)
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, thank
33 you.
34
35
                   Do we have anybody else.
36
37
                   (No comments)
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. If not,
39
40 we'll move on with our agenda.
41
42
                   Oh, I'm sorry. Because we had some
43 questions from the Board this morning regarding the
44 little blurb that I gave regarding the Bristol Bay
45 Visioning process -- not process, the work that the
46 commissioners had done within Bristol Bay, I've invited
47 the coordinator for this group to come in and give a
48 little informational update. And because she won't be
49 able to sit here all day until the BBNA section comes
50 on, I've -- if the Board doesn't mind, I'd like to put
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her on right now before lunch break.
3
                   (Council members shake heads yes)
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nod yes.
6
  Patty, you have the floor.
7
                  MS. HEYANO: As Molly said, my name is
8
9 Patty Heyano. I'm the program development director for
10 BBNA and I'm the director for the Bristol Bay Regional
11 Vision.
12
13
                   And this project, it was -- oh, it's
14 been probably almost two years now that it began as a
15 discussion between Ralph Anderson and Bob Waldrup about
16 economic development and other topics. And so, you
17 know, I guess they got the idea that it would be great
18 to have, you know, something that gave the people a
19 chance to give their vision for the future of Bristol
20 Bay.
21
22
                   And so we ended up with funding and a
23 project. And from last September through January we
24 had meetings in every community. Actually I would say
25 26 communities with over 1,000 people participating.
26 And in those meeting is they were each given the same
27 set of questions that they responded to, plus
28 opportunities to discuss, you know, things further.
29
30
                   And as a part of that project -- well,
31 I should back up a little bit and say that the Bristol
32 Bay Partnership, which is the five regional
33 organizations, partnered to sponsor this project. It
34 was funded by the Alaska Conservation Foundation, or
35 primarily. There were several other sources of
36 funding.
37
38
                   And the partnership selected a group of
39 eight commissioners. They were people from around the
40 region that would be like the eyes and ears of the
41 project. And they would convene meetings in every
42 community and, you know, take testimony and so that's
43 what happened.
44
45
                   And in those meetings they used the
46 consensor voting. So it's like electronic voting
47 system, so everybody who's there had an opportunity to
48 vote. You know, it wasn't dependent on, you know the
49 loudest voice in the room or whatever. So we tried to
50 make it accessible for people to participate.
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And so they came up with a vision and I
  don't know if you guys want to hear that or I don't
  know how much detail you want here.
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Patty, the
6 most questions that came on was when I mentioned that
7 there was going to be a gathering of the commissioners
8 plus agencies and others November 3 and 4, and so maybe
  you can expound on that.
10
11
                   MS. HEYANO: Okay. So the -- I'm
12 trying to -- I can't remember where the idea was to
13 have this regional summit. But what the idea is there
14 is to bring together, you know, people from villages
15 and people from State and Federal agencies, the
16 regional organizations, you know, municipal
17 organizations. And the vision and the process of
18 getting it will be presented so everybody, you know,
19 knows what it is and how we got there. And there will
20 be small group discussions where they'll go into
21 specific issue areas, and those are around safe and
22 healthy families, culture of subsistence and resource
23 management, energy and economic development, and
24 housing, transportation and infrastructure. So a lot
25 of topics were covered. And will be, you know,
26 continued to work on.
27
28
                   And so this meeting, which is open to
29 the public is November 3 and 4. We originally were
30 going to do a one-day meeting, but there's just really
31 too much to do, and so we spread into the next morning.
32 And there will be, on the evening of the 3rd, a
33 celebration of our future with Native dancing and
34 Native foods.
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
37 you, Patty.
38
                   I think Richard had a question for me
39
40 that I couldn't really answer.
41
42
                   MR. WILSON: Thanks, Madame Chair.
43
44
                   Patty, yeah, just, you know, the
45 funding for this gathering, and, you know, if somebody
46 from areas wanted to participate, is there any funding
47 available to get them here or -- I'm assuming it was
48 here; is that correct?
49
50
                   MS. HEYANO: Yes, it's in Dillingham at
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the Dillingham Elementary School.
                   And our project is paying for people
4 from the villages, we're going to bring two people in
5 from each village. And BBNA is paying for their board
6 members to come in. But that's all the funding we have
7
  for bringing people in.
8
9
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Patty, you
10 say all the -- two people from -- is that from the
11 village councils in these areas, or what are you
12 specifying?
13
14
                   MS. HEYANO: No, we've asked each
15 community to pick people, whoever they wanted. They
16 don't have to be on the council. They could be part of
17 their city government, or their public. Yeah.
18
19
                   MR. WILSON: Okay. Thanks.
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
22 other questions for Patty.
23
2.4
                   (No comments)
25
26
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, thank
27 you, Patty for coming in last moment, last minute.
28
29
                   I think right now before we get into
30 our wildlife proposals, I'm going to request a lunch
31 break. And I can't see the -- it's 11:30. So let's
32 plan to be back by -- what's your wishes. 11:30 to?
33
34
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: 12:45.
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: 12:45. So be
36
37 back at 12:45 and we'll get into the wildlife
38 proposals.
39
40
                   (Off record)
41
42
                   (On record)
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Call back to
45 order, because I think the item on the agenda under the
46 wildlife proposal is present. So under item 11,
47 wildlife proposals, I think the first one that we have
48 is going to be Pippa, the bear claw.
49
50
                   MS. KENNER: Good afternoon, Ms. Chair
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and Council members.
                   The analysis for Proposal WP12-01 Page
4
  17 of your Council books, and there are copies on the
  table in the back of the room.
6
7
                   Okay. Proposal WP12-01, submitted by
8 the Brown Bear Claw Handicraft Working Group, requests
  that prior to selling a handicraft incorporating a
10 brown bear claw, that the hide or claw not attached to
11 a hide must be sealed by an authorized Alaska
12 Department of Fish and Game representative, and that a
13 copy of the ADF&G sealing certificate would then
14 accompany the handicraft when sold.
15
16
                   The Working Group's proposal, this one,
17 WP12-01, is a response to a proposal, WP08-05, which
18 you can see on Page 32 of your Council book, which was
19 submitted by ADF&G in 2008.
20
21
                   Generally, the State does not allow the
22 sale of any part of a bear, except the fur. In
23 contrast, Federal wildlife regulations have allowed the
24 sale of handicrafts made from brown bear claws since
25 2004 in wildlife management units in the Eastern
26 Interior, Bristol Bay, and Southeast regions of the
27 state.
28
29
                   In response, in 2008, the State
30 requested through Proposal WP05 -- 08-05, excuse me,
31 that the sale of brown handicrafts made of claws and
32 also bones, teeth, sinew or skulls, should occur only
33 between Federally-qualified subsistence users. So that
34 trade would be rural to rural.
35
36
                   The Federal Subsistence Board deferred
37 the State's proposal twice, once in 2008 and again in
38 2010, and a working group was formed. And the Federal
39 Subsistence Board tasked the group to develop and
40 recommend to the Board a method of tracking brown bear
41 claws made into handicrafts for sale.
42
43
                   The purpose of tracking brown bear claw
44 handicrafts was to identify to law enforcement the
45 claws from brown bears harvested under Federal wildlife
46 regulations. Only claws taken from brown bears
47 harvested under Federal regulations can legally be
48 sold.
49
50
                   The working group was made up of
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representatives from all interested Advisory Councils, Molly Chythlook, your Chair, was the representative from this Council, and also State and Federal Staff. 5 The working group is recommending that 6 the Board oppose the State's original proposal, WP08-7 05, and adopt this proposal instead. And again this 8 proposal is to make it so that prior to selling a handicraft incorporating a brown bear claw, the hide or 10 claw not attached to hide must be sealed by an 11 authorized Alaska Department of Fish and Game 12 representative, and that a copy of the Fish and Game 13 sealing certificate accompany the handicraft when sold. 14 15 This proposal fixes two problems that 16 the working group identified. First, in some 17 management units, brown bear harvested for subsistence 18 do not need to be sealed. There's not documentation 19 that the brown bear was harvested legally under Federal 20 subsistence regulations, and no documentation that it 21 is legal for a person to sell a handicraft made from 22 the claws. 23 2.4 These units are listed on Page 19 of 25 your Council books under the section, extent of Federal 26 public lands, and they include Management Units 9A 27 through C and 17, which make up the bulk of the Bristol 28 Bay region. 29 30 So the proposal requires that a brown 31 bear harvested anywhere in the state, even in the units 32 excluded from sealing requirements, if the claws -- oh, 33 it requires that a brown bear harvested anywhere be 34 sealed, there we go, even in the units excluded from 35 sealing requirements, if the claws are to be made into 36 a handicraft for sale. 37 38 The second problem that the working 39 group recognized was that the claws of a sealed brown 40 harvested under Federal subsistence regulations needed 41 to be identified; therefore a copy of the sealing 42 paperwork must stay with the claws as it's sold from 43 person to person. 44 45 In summary, the intent of the proposal 46 is to protect subsistence users who incorporate brown 47 bear claws into handicrafts for sale by providing proof 48 that the claws are from a brown bear that was harvested 49 legally under Federal subsistence regulations by a 50 Federally-qualified subsistence user. Having proof

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1 that the claws are from subsistence-harvested brown
  bears would clearly identify the claws are from a
  legally harvested brown bear. Requiring that a copy of
4 the sealing certificate accompany the handicraft would
5 provide a method of tracking legally-harvested brown
6 bear claws.
                   The Board has consistently rejected
9 attempts to remove brown bear claws as a legal item
10 with which Federally-qualified users can make
11 handicrafts for sale. Retaining the use of claws and
12 handicrafts for sale is consistent with previous Board
13 action, and is not expected to significantly increase
14 harvest as described in previous analyses.
15
16
                   The OSM preliminary conclusion is the
17 same as the working group, and that is to support this
18 proposal.
19
20
                   (In Yup'ik)
21
22
                   I am done with my presentation.
23
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
25 you, Pippa.
26
27
                   Any comments, questions from the Board.
28 Okay. Pete.
29
30
                   MR. ABRAHAM: You know, for years I
31 have been against handcrafting brown bear sections.
32 The reason is especially in this area, they'd be taken
33 advantage of. There will be too many illegal hunting
34 just for the claws, because several years back there
35 was black market for gall bladder, and there was too
36 many illegal killing of the brown bears. So if this
37 comes through here, what we'll be coming to, we might
38 have the same problem, you know, brown bear illegal
39 killing.
40
41
                   But I'm not going to try to confuse
42 everybody or anybody. I'm just going to sit back here
43 and see what happens in the end. From there on, all
44 the scream and holler, you know, that it's wrong.
45
46
                   Thank you.
47
48
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
49 Pete.
50
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1
                   Anybody -- Richard.
2
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.
3
4
5
                   On the incidental stuff, you've got a
6
 bear laying on the side of a creek, a Federal
7
  subsistence user can go and an remove those claws; is
8 that the way it sits now? And if so, then say the
9 hides the hide's already deteriorated, what do you do
10 if this was to go.
11
12
                   MS. KENNER: Ms. Chair. I was present
13 at one of these working group meetings, and I did try
14 to keep up with it. And my understanding, and maybe
15 Ms. Chythlook can help, is that those claws -- I'm
16 thinking of the different areas of the state. Those
17 claws generally would be eligible to be sealed in order
18 to be sold in a handicraft.
19
20
                   MR. WILSON: By what method? I mean,
21 sealing of claws itself?
22
23
                  MS. KENNER: Yes. Currently the
24 working group discussed numerous ways of actually
25 marking the claws. However, the instructions that the
26 working group was given wasn't necessarily to come up
27 with a manual way of marking a claw, because that's
28 kind of a technological issue. So what they came up
29 with is that if nothing else, you have this sealing
30 document, and it would be carried with the claws as
31 they were incorporated into a handicraft.
32
33
                   One of the obvious reasons for that is
34 that if a tourist from Germany showed up at the airport
35 with one of these, if he had -- with a handicraft that
36 incorporated a brown bear claw, if he had the sealing
37 document saying it was a legally harvested, a bear
38 harvested under Federal subsistence regulations or was
39 sealed in such a way that it could be sold, he would be
40 able to pass through the airport unencumbered by law
41 enforcement.
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I think what
43
44 maybe somebody from the State could chime in, but just
45 stay right there. I think what Richard's question was,
46 if he finds a bear that's already dead, laying in the
47 creek, and I guess your question would be, could those
48 claws be removed and then sealed? My understanding is,
49 and I attended as many of the working group meetings
50 that I could, my understanding -- and that's a new one.
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My understanding was that a subsistence-harvested bear will be sealed now if the claws are going to be used for handicraft. 5 And the comments, the concerns that 6 went round and round amongst us -- I don't know if 7 George, were you a part of this -- was the -- like you 8 mentioned, you know, what would be the proper way to identify this handicraft made out of claws. And then 10 this proposal, I'd have to say I was not involved; I 11 wasn't at the meeting. If I was, I was out of state of 12 mind. 13 14 When this proposal was developed, and 15 I've read it, I tried to understand it, the concern I 16 have still -- I had several concerns during the working 17 group. The concern that still is embedded in me is 18 that bears have probably about 10 claws. If my bear 19 gets sealed, I get a form, a bear sealing form, and 20 then within that form, to my understanding, maybe I'm 21 mistaken, they'll take a notation, make a note saying 22 that this will be also used to sell handicraft, bear 23 claw handicraft. So they give me this form, and 24 there's 10 claws on a bear. So I guess I can make 10 25 copies, because I probably won't be selling all 10 26 claws all at once, but will be selling the claws one-27 by-one. But I also has five claws stashed. So there's 28 no tracking. It sounds there's talk about developing a 29 tracking sheet, but at this point there is no tracking 30 sheet or tracking for these permits, or the sealing 31 forms. So I sell all my 10 claws. I still have five 32 stashed here, so, you know, it will be a temptation for 33 me to keep making copies to sell the other claws that I 34 may have. 35 So I don't know if -- that is the area 36 And reading through this, there was no 37 of my concern. 38 mechanism, although there's a talk that there will be a 39 tracking sheet developed. 40 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Ms. Chair. For 41 42 the record, this is Pippa Kenner with OSM again. 43 44 Yeah, there was a lot of discussion at 45 the working group meeting, and one of the things we do 46 have is a sealing database. And I'm fairly confident 47 that what was envisioned is that there would be a 48 database that at least Federal and State law 49 enforcement would have access to, which they almost do 50 now. So that one would keep track of how many of these

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items were being transported out of state and how many
  of these forms were in circulation.
                   But, yeah, the other more important
5 thing to mention is that as you remember, Ms.
6 Chythlook, that the working group works on a consensus.
7 And although all the Councils that were present were
8 part of the consensus to move proposals like this
  forward, there were misgivings. I think it would be
10 safe to say at least a couple of the Councils were not
11 in support of the overall concept. But it was a
12 consensus. There were some regions who were very
13 anxious to participate.
14
15
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
                                           Nanci.
16
17
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
18 Chair.
19
20
                   My question would be was it considered
21 -- I mean, to me, logically speaking, it would make
22 more sense to have the artist procure a license or the
23 ability to procure a license to make sales so that that
24 tracking mechanism could be used, rather than each
25 individual bear hide. It would be less onerous to the
26 artist as well as still allow there to be a method to
27 track back to where the animals came from. And it
28 could be monitored. Was that considered and was it
29 rejected for a reason?
30
31
                   Because this would fit into exactly
32 what Richard's talking about, which I know more than
33 once I've come across that very instance. In fact,
34 there's on laying on the Naknek right now. I waiting
35 for it to gel a little more and -- but my point is,
36 you know, where -- did that discussion happen and where
37 did it go.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, go
40 ahead.
41
42
                   MS. KENNER: This is Pippa Kenner
43 again.
44
45
                   I can't believe it wasn't discussed.
46 The one meeting I was at went on for hours and they
47 discussed everything. But I think one of the focus on
48 this sealing idea is that the seal, the State seal is
49 also a CITES certificate, which is the Convention on
50 International Trade in Endangered Species, which is
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1 recognized internationally. And the idea was that you
  were going to have this CITES certificate go along with
  this claw in the event it was exported out of the
  country, let alone out of Alaska. So things began to
  focus on the CITES issue and the CITES certification of
  the claw.
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, then in all
9 honesty, I mean, I see this as -- my initial impression
10 of this proposal is that it still creates a huge amount
11 of onerous on the subsistence user in order to be able
12 to promote his craft. And I guess I'm -- to me, it's
13 much more logical to have an artist be tracked, and I
14 don't see why CITES couldn't be brought into it along
15 with that, than it would be to do each individual bear
16 for the artist or, you know, subsistence user. Just my
17 initial thought.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
20
21
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm just curious on
22 the nuts and bolts. Like would the person at the time
23 of sealing be issued say like several copies of the
24 sealing certificate, or is it one and you just xerox
25 it?
       I mean -- and then I imagine if you're going to --
26 if they're going to make 15 handicrafts out of a bear
27 hide, it gets -- it does get to be a pile of paperwork.
28
29
                   I'm inclined to want to support it
30 overall. I do worry about it though if it encourages
31 people to just do drive-bys on bears and then, you
32 know, three weeks later pull the claws so they don't
33 have to deal with the hides, that kind of thing. So
34 anyway if I an clarify that, I would appreciate it.
35
36
                   Thank you.
37
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Go ahead,
39 Pippa.
40
41
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Ms. Chair.
42 Pippa Kenner with OSM.
43
44
                   There's a couple approaches that can be
45 taken and that other Councils have taken. For
46 instance, some Council -- there are some management
47 units where the sale of bear claws isn't allowed.
48 People don't think that brown bear claws should be made
49 into handicrafts and distributed at all. That Council
50 has the choice of either supporting this so that
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1 Council in regions that do support the sale of
  handicrafts can participate, or they can say, we don't
  want this for our region and therefore we don't support
4
  it.
                   So your first question is, who are the
7 artisans in your region mak -- one of your questions
8 may be, who are the artisans in your region. Is this
  something they want to do. Is this something that
10 could be a problem for them. And then kind of move on
11 to, is this something we want in our region. And if we
12 don't want it in our region, is this something that we
13 want other regions to be able to participate in anyway.
14
15
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan, any more.
16
17
                   MR. DUNAWAY: No.
18
19
                   MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Pete.
22
23
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Well, the way I heard it,
24 you've got a handful right there. Number 1 is if I
25 shoot a brown bear and I don't carve, you know, well,
26 here, Cousin, you can have the claws. You know,
27 there's got to be documentation for where those claws
28 come from, you know, if he's going to sell it. And
29 then not only that, are you talking about selling to
30 gift shops and everything? Well, man, that makes it
31 worse.
32
33
                   Well, someone's got to iron these
34 things out until it's presentable to the public.
35 Otherwise you're going to have, you know, a lot of
36 confusion out there. How and which, how to do it.
37 There will be many, many questions. It already has.
38 So I guess I'll just keep quiet until things are ironed
39 out.
40
41
                   Quyana.
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
44 Pete.
45
46
                   Pippa.
47
48
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Ms. Chair.
49 Pippa Kenner, OSM.
50
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I'm going to channel the State here and
2 if -- there had been -- they were regular participants.
3 And I think one of the things that she would say, and
4 Larry Van Daele who worked in this region for many
5 years was very, very involved in the process, is that a
6 system would be worked out. People went from talking
7 about electronic tatoos that are now -- you are now
8 capable of putting on claws to literally just making
9 copies of the permit.
10
11
                   The State appears to be -- I don't want
12 to speak for the State, but through this working group,
13 the State is supporting the proposal. And what I can
14 tell you is that a lot of ideas were kicked around
15 about how these claws would be marked, but the working
16 work was advised they didn't have to land on anything.
17 That a method would be devised.
18
19
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Quyana.
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
22 you.
23
2.4
                   I guess my take on this one is I'm
25 leaning towards opposing this, because there's too many
26 holes in it. It's -- one of the main purpose of this
27 from the working group was that the new regulation,
28 this regulation would not be burdensome to the
29 subsistence users. And I can't find it right now, but
30 as I was reading through this, there was an indication
31 that there is going to be a -- it's going to be
32 burdensome to the subsistence users.
33
34
                  And another area is that normally
35 regulations don't come out unless there's a
36 conservation concern, and on Page 24 under
37 justification, there's a statement that reads like,
38 there no known evidence to indicate the current Federal
39 subsistence regulations adversely affect brown bear
40 population. There is no evidence to indicate the
41 Federal subsistence regulations have led to an
42 increased legal and illegal harvest of bears. And then
43 there's also no sufficient evidence that the harvests
44 have affected the take.
45
46
                   So I'm -- you've got the floor, Pete.
47 Or Pappas, George.
48
49
                   MR. PAPPAS: Good afternoon. George
50 Pappas. Department of Fish and Game, subsistence
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liaison team.
                   We have our comments here, but let me
4
  -- a lot of questions came forth here that are I think
  off topic.
6
7
                   A dead bear found on the side of the
8 road. Is that considered a Federal subsistence
  harvest. That's a question that has to be answered by
10 the Federal Solicitor's Office.
11
12
                   Selling handicrafts in a gift store. I
13 don't believe that's legal. I think the barter,
14 customary trade is barter or sales for cash by the
15 Federal subsistence user, not by a second or third
16 party as I understand.
17
18
                   There's a lot of things here that
19 aren't being answered. I was at every one of the
20 meetings and I can stick to the State side, but there's
21 some questions here that are being asked that aren't --
22 that are peripherally involved with finding dead bears,
23 DLPs, a drive-by, come back later, pull the claws.
24 that Federal subsistence? As I understand Federal
25 subsistence regulations require you to consume the
26 bear. That's the entire bear. So there's some issues
27 here that are not quite focused on what this bear claw
28 group did.
29
30
                   And, you know, another issue, if you
31 find a bear next to the road, is that Federal public
32 property? Or Federal public lands or is it non-Federal
33 public lands?
34
                   There's a lot of issues that are away
35
36 from what the group tried to directly address. And
37 I'll try to just speak to what I -- to what the work
38 group actually directly addressed.
39
40
                   And our comments are located on Page
41 25. I'll do my best to summarize.
42
                   And for the record, I'd like to please
43
44 ask the court reporter to incorporate the comments as
45 posted in the book in the transcripts as the Federal
46 Subsistence Chair has allowed us to do prior.
47
48
                   This proposal was a consensus of the
49 Brown Bear Handicraft Work Group. Everybody agreed
50 with it.
```

If adopted, a copy of the bear sealing document will be required to accompany the bear claw handicraft when sold. 5 Questions came up at other RAC 6 meetings, okay, I live really remote, I shot a bear, I 7 consumed it, I saved the claws, I saved the hide, I 8 need it sealed. I'm not going to spend 500 bucks to get a charter to fly into town. What do you do? Well, 10 I spoke with our area manager for King Salmon, and this 11 has happened before. It happens all the time where 12 someone's rally remote and they're not going to have 13 the money to send a bear hide into town, so call it in 14 and work with the Department to send a representative 15 out there, or if a trooper comes through or what have 16 you. They can work with that situation to get that 17 hide sealed. 18 19 Yes, and you would have that original 20 certificate, sealing, run through a copy machine 20 21 times for 20 claws, and one would go with each claw. 22 Well, other RACs have asked, okay, what happens when an 23 enforcement officer runs into the 300th claw from the 24 same bear. 25 26 (Laughter) 27 28 MR. PAPPAS: You know. Well, that is 29 an issue that would be for enforcement folks to 30 investigate to find out, you know, who's selling it. 31 If it's a 300th claw, then whoever's selling it with 32 that certificate, they're likely going to be in 33 violation of regulations and have an issue. 34 35 Continuing on, changing Federal 36 regulations to provide documents would support legal 37 sales of Federal subsistence-harvested brown bear claw 38 handicrafts, should help eliminate commercial markets 39 and the masking of illegal sales in Alaska and 40 elsewhere. That came up. You had some questions. 41 What if you sold your 20 claws, or you kept five and 42 you had five from a different bear from a different 43 time, and, yes, that's an illegal activity of using the 44 wrong seal for the wrong claws. And enforcement folks 45 would have to figure that out, too. 46 47 You're right, it's not -- this isn't as 48 good as having an electronic tag put on each claw that 49 could be scanned going through a German airport or what 50 have you. We just don't have that technology

1 worldwide, so this is the first step in the right direction for tracking a legal harvested bear to a legal Federal subsistence handicraft for a legal artisan, for a Federal subsistence user. Under State regulations, handicrafts 7 made with bear fur may be sold to anyone but sales of 8 handicrafts with claws, skulls, teeth and bones is prohibited. Whole bearskins with claws attached taken 10 in certain predator control areas may be sold under 11 State regulations, but only after sealing and under 12 terms issued for that bearskin. 13 14 We've had other questions from RACs 15 come up. Okay. What about the DLP auction in 16 Anchorage from Fish and Game selling off the bears that 17 people shot in the dump or what have you, or off their 18 porch. You can buy the whole animal, the whole hide, 19 you can cut it to small pieces. You can do whatever 20 you want with it, but you can't sell it under State 21 regulations, especially the claws. 22 23 This proposal, if adopted, will reduce 24 enforcement issues created by existing Federal 25 regulations by creating a tracking system which 26 provides documents to accompany the brown bear claws 27 used for making handicrafts legally taken, utilized and 28 sold under Federal subsistence regulations. Further, 29 adoption of this proposal will significantly reduce the 30 likelihood that Federally-qualified subsistence users 31 will face State prosecution for engaging in sales that 32 are prohibited under State law when they occur on State 33 or private lands. I believe this came up with the 34 customary trade question you asked a couple years ago. 35 This would have documentation, hey, this is legal bear 36 handicraft, independent of where you are in the state 37 in comparison to someone selling a handicraft off of 38 Federal public lands. This would actually be 39 sufficient for the enforcement officers to say okay, 40 that is a legal sales. 41 42 Other comments. The Department 43 appreciates the cooperative work the Brown Bear Claw 44 Work Group completed over the last two years. 45 Providing tracking would be an important first step in 46 addressing some of the Department's concerns regarding 47 conservation and enforcement. If brown bear harvest 48 can be tracked over time, and bear parts or handicrafts 49 can be traced to reported legal harvest, conservation

50 concerns will be less likely to arise and managers will

```
1 be able to better determine if and when legal sales are
  contributing to illegal sales -- or, excuse me, legal
  sales are contributing to illegal sales or otherwise
  creating conservation concerns.
                  Now, the Department does support this
7 proposal. We were involved. This was a long process.
8 It was very difficult to get a lot of the RAC
9 representation together during the times for
10 teleconferences and meetings, but, all in all, a lot of
11 information went into this, and a lot of cooperative
12 efforts went into this.
13
14
                  A question came up about finding a dead
15 bear. I talked to our area manager from the King
16 Salmon office. Under State regulations, you find a
17 dead bear. It's rotted up. You can keep the parts for
18 your personal self under Sate regulations, but you
19 can't sell them. They're yours. It's like a pick up.
20
21
                  Now, I can't state that for National
22 Park lands. The National Park folks here can answer to
23 or provide information about finding something inside
24 of a national park.
25
26
                  I hope I helped a little bit, trying to
27 draw it into specifically what they addressed. You did
28 ask a lot of questions, and you are correct, more
29 information could be provided for this for the public
30 to understand what exactly the question is, what a
31 Federal subsistence-harvested bear is, and what's
32 required when you do harvest a Federal subsistence
33 bear.
34
35
              *********
36
              STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
              37
38
39
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
40
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
41
42
                  Wildlife Proposal WP12-01:
43
44
                  Develop a tracking program for federal
45 subsistence harvested bear claws that are made into in
46 to handicrafts for sale by federally qualified users.
47
48
49
                  Introduction:
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This proposal was a consensus outcome
  of the Brown Bear claw handicraft working group.
3 proposal requests all federal subsistence harvested
4 brown bear claws, which are incorporated into
5 handicrafts for sale, be tracked through use of the
6 current department brown bear sealing program. If
7
  adopted, federal subsistence users who intend on
8 selling brown bear claws incorporated into handicrafts
  will be required to have the bear hide sealed by the
10 department. If adopted, a copy of the bear sealing
11 document will be required to accompany the bear claw
12 handicrafts when sold.
13
14
                   Sales of handicrafts made from brown
15 bear claws, teeth, skulls, and bones present a
16 particular problem, because these are potentially high
17 value items, and allowing sales creates market
18 incentives for illegal harvest in Alaska and other
19 states. Adoption of this proposal will protect federal
20 subsistence craftsmen and their clients by providing
21 proof and a means of documenting their handicrafts were
22 legally taken, legal to sale by federally qualified
23 users only, and are legal to own by any customer.
24 Additionally, if this proposal is adopted, the
25 customers who purchase brown bear claw handicrafts from
26 federally qualified users will have the security of
27 written proof certifying the handicraft came from a
28 legally harvested Alaskan brown bear, legally
29 authorized harvester, and legally authorized artesian.
30
31
                   Changing federal regulation to provide
32 documents which support the legal sales of federal
33 subsistence harvested brown bear claw handicrafts
34 should help eliminate illegal commercial markets and
35 the masking of illegal sales in Alaska and elsewhere.
36
37
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
38
                   The Federal Subsistence Board's current
39
40 allowance of brown bear handicraft sales was not based
41 upon a determination that such sales are customary and
42 traditional but instead upon the Board's unsupported
43 argument that the Board can authorize any use if the
44 take is customary and traditional (see e.g., January 2,
45 2006, letter from Chairman Demientieff to Commissioner
46 Campbell). Therefore, adoption of this proposal will
47 not impact customary and traditional subsistence
48 activities.
49
50
                   Adoption of this proposal will not
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interfere with continuing to allow federally qualified
  subsistence users to obtain such handicrafts for
  ceremonial, religious, and cultural purposes.
5
                   If adopted, federally qualified
6 subsistence users who plan on selling handicrafts made
7 from legally harvested brown bear claws will be
8 required to have the hide sealed by the department,
9 retain copies of the sealing certificate, and provide
10 copies of the certificate to customers.
11
12
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
13
14
                   Under 5 AAC 92.200, handicrafts made
15 with bear fur may be sold to anyone, but sales of
16 handicrafts made with claws, skulls, teeth, and bones
17 are prohibited. Whole bear skins, with claws attached,
18 taken in certain predator control areas may be sold
19 under 5 AAC 92.031, but only after sealing and under
20 terms of a permit issued for that bear skin.
21
22
                   Conservation Issues:
23
2.4
                   The Federal Subsistence Board created a
25 new market for bear claws and other high value bear
26 parts which could readily masks illegal sales, thereby
27 compounding problems with the international trade of
28 Endangered Species and contributing to the illegal
29 harvest, overharvest, and waste of bears in other
30 states and countries, as well as Alaska. Markets for
31 high value bear handicrafts create a conservation
32 concern because brown bears are protected under the
33 Endangered Species Act in other states and Mexico, and
34 the origin of brown bear products cannot be determined
35 by visual inspection. Brown bears are also listed on
36 Appendix II of the Convention International Trade of
37 Endangered Species (CITES).
38
                   In Alaska, economic incentives
39
40 associated with harvesting brown bears to make
41 handicrafts create conservation concerns because brown
42 bears develop slowly and have a low reproductive rate,
43 making small populations extremely susceptible to
44 overharvest. Allowing widespread sale of high value
45 bear parts without any kind of tracking mechanism is an
46 invitation to illegal harvests. Further, the existing
47 regulations are unenforceable and inconsistent with
48 sound wildlife management principles.
49
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Enforcement Issues:

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This proposal will reduce enforcement
2 issues created by the existing federal regulation by
  creating a tracking system which provides documents to
4 accompany brown bear claws used for making handicrafts
5 legally taken, utilized, and sold under federal
6 subsistence regulations. Further, adoption of this
7 proposal will significantly reduce the likelihood that
8 federally-qualified subsistence users will face state
9 prosecution for engaging in sales that are prohibited
10 under state law when they occur on state or private
11 lands.
12
13
                   Jurisdiction Issues:
14
15
                   The Federal Subsistence Board lacks
16 jurisdiction to allow sales of any wildlife handicrafts
17 when and where such sales are not customary and
18 traditional. In the past, the Federal Board has
19 rejected this argument, asserting that if any use is
20 customary and traditional then the Board can authorize
21 any other use. The Board's argument is inconsistent
22 with its litigation stance in the Chistochina Unit 12
23 moose case where it argued that customary and
24 traditional use is related to how resources are used
25 after they are taken, and not to or a prerequisite
26 condition for the taking itself. State v. Fleagle,
27 (Case 3:06-cv-00107-HRH) Doc. 32 at 22.
28
29
                   Other Comments:
30
31
                   The department appreciates the
32 cooperative work the brown bear claw work group
33 completed over the last two years. Providing for
34 tracking would be an important first step to addressing
35 some of the Department's concerns regarding
36 conservation and enforcement. If brown bear harvests
37 can be tracked over time, and bear parts or handicrafts
38 can be traced to reported legal harvests, conservation
39 concerns will be less likely to arise and managers will
40 be better able to determine if or when legal sales are
41 contributing to illegal sales or otherwise creating
42 conservation concerns.
43
44
                   Recommendation: Support.
45
46
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
47
48
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thanks,
49 George.
50
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1
                   Any questions, comments.
2
3
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
4
  Chair.
5
6
                   Number 1 to me, it's a massive
7 improvement to see this working group working, coming
8 to a consensus. Because I know there were some State
  people that were just so dug in, they wouldn't budge on
10 this stuff. And all of a sudden the log jam loosens.
11 So that's a big step in itself to see some real
12 coordination through a bunch of different folks. And I
13 want to thank everybody that was involved with that. I
14 think I even got a call from some biologist at one
15 point asking about some of this.
16
17
                   So do I understand right that there's
18 still a potential that the final -- how it's finally
19 worked out, if we were to approve this, would leave it
20 up to the agencies to sort out some of these details
21 that we've been asking about? Is that correct, or
22 would it, just this language would be it? If anybody
23 can answer.
2.4
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: George.
26
                   MR. PAPPAS: Through the Chair.
28 Council Member Dunaway. As I understand, the intent's
29 fairly clear. If you harvest a Federal subsistence
30 bear, you have to have it sealed, and get that sealing
31 certificate, make your 20 copies. And if you're going
32 to sell -- you know, a Federal subsistence user makes a
33 belt buckle with five claws in it or a ceremonial --
34 like Southeast, a ceremonial head gear, might have, you
35 know, the whole 20 claws, 20 pieces of paper go with
36 it. It would go with the box that it goes with.
38
                   And this isn't as much of an issue in
39 Alaska, but I guess as explained to me, you know, try
40 to get them to Europe, or some of the tourists that
41 come through that want to buy handicrafts, try to take
42 it to another country, and because in the majority of
43 the world the brown bears are endangered, you wouldn't
44 make it across the border. That's part of the issue.
45
46
                   I'm not sure there's much more
47 development on this. I think the only further
48 development would be what the brown bear sealing
49 certificate would look like, if it would have a check
50 box that says, you know, Federal subsistence-harvested
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1 bear, intent on selling brown bear claw handicrafts.
  It may be some verbiage on the sealing permit. But
  that's I believe as far as it's -- as far as I'm aware,
4 this proposal would take it. It would be 20 pieces of
5 paper per bear, and each one -- make your -- we haven't
6 figured that out, make your own copies, have Fish and
7 Game make your own copies. A trooper flies out to seal
8 it to you in a remote -- seal in a remote area, he
9 brings 20 copies. I don't know. That's administrative
10 housekeeping we can figure out on this between agencies
11 I would assume.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
14
15
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, George.
16 you, Madame Chair.
17
18
                   I want to support this. It seems to me
19 that this originally started from trying to accommodate
20 the subsistence user to make better use of the whole
21 bear, allow them to have some opportunity for economic
22 benefit out of it.
23
2.4
                   It's onerous in that they might have to
25 do some paperwork, but it may relieve them of some real
26 hassles about some follow up later. It will allow them
27 to sell it, and they'll be protected that they've done
28 the letter of the law as long as they've followed it.
29 And this also could all get thrown out again if a
30 problem develops. But the numerous complaints I hear
31 about bears all over, I'm going to be voting in favor
32 of this.
33
34
                   Thank you.
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
37 other comments.
38
39
                   (No comments)
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess I just
42 have one question. I know that from the Federal stance
43 that fur equals claws, and under the State that's not
44 so.
45
46
                   MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. Under State
47 regulations, just handicrafts made with the bear fur
48 can be sold, but not claws, bones, or skulls. So your
49 question is kind -- yes. I guess the answer to your
50 question is, yes, we treat the fur and claws
```

differently than the Federal regulations do on the State side. MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And through this proposal, you'll be -- the State will be sealing subsistence harvested, or Federal harvested bears? MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. Only if the 9 Federal subsistence user wants to make handicrafts out 10 of the claws and sell them, or if a -- if you have a --11 as I understand, this includes if you already have a 12 bear that you shot under Federal regulations in the 13 last 20 years in your shed, what have you, and you want 14 to make something out of those claws to sell, you can 15 have that sealed, too. But it's only for the ones --16 the only bears that I understand would be sealed under 17 this regulations would be just for the ones you want to 18 make something out of the claws. 19 20 Thank you, Madame Chair. 21 22 MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: So today if I 23 harvested a bear under Federal regulation, I'll decide 24 not -- or I'll go and seal it, and seal it as keeping 25 the claws attached, but then later on when the fur rots 26 out, if I decide to do something with the claws, then 27 could I bring the claws back and have you -- have the 28 State right a little note on the permit so that I would 29 be able to sell the claws? 30 31 MR. PAPPAS: It's already sealed. The 32 whole idea is to track those claws to the hide. So if 33 you shot a bear today and had it sealed, and you 34 decided 75 years from now you want to make handicrafts 35 out of the claws, because the fur fell out, it slipped 36 or what have you, you can do that. As long as you have 37 that original sealing certificate, you're okay. That 38 tracked -- that connects the claws, the handicrafts of 39 the claws to that hide that connects that it was a 40 legally-taken animal. 41 42 MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If I 43 understood this right, they're going to be using the 44 same sealing forms. The State's going to be using the 45 same sealing forms, but if I indicate that I'm going to 46 want to sell the claws, then they'll make a little 47 notation on that form indicating that I have an 48 intention to sell the claws? 49 50 MR. PAPPAS: Yeah, thank you from Pippa

```
1 over here. Yes. I said it incorrectly earlier.
  form's going to be modified to show that it was a
  Federally-qualified -- Federal -- excuse me, a bear
4 harvested under Federal subsistence regulations. So as
  I understand, they're looking at the sealing form.
6 Right now it doesn't have that check box. It would
7
  just have a check box, this is a Federal subsistence
8 bear. It doesn't say that you intend to sell it or not
9 sell, just that there's a difference between a Federal
10 subsistence harvested bear and a State subsistence
11 harvest -- or, excuse me, a State harvested bear.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess my
14 original question was when I seal it today, I didn't --
15 there was no check under the check box, but then 20
16 years later when my fur rots out, do I come back and
17 have someone put a little check mark on that box so I
18 can sell the claws?
19
20
                   MS. KENNER: I just wanted to -- hi.
21 This is Pippa again from OSM.
22
23
                   The intent is to make sure that these
24 claws are being sold by Federally-qualified users and
25 not by people who are just harvesting brown bear for
26 marketable items, whether it be legal or illegal, to
27 put them into national or international market.
28
29
                   So these kind of questions are
30 difficult for us to answer, because the wildlife
31 biologist from the State who was present said that for
32 him that would be no problem at all. And obviously
33 this has to do with who's sealing it. He indicated
34 that if you had a brown bear claw that was harvested --
35 when this bear was harvested and sealed, so you could
36 show it was harvested on Federal public lands,
37 presumably through an open Federal brown bear season,
38 that you could two years later have that claw sealed in
39 order to incorporate it into a handicraft and sell it.
40 Even though there would be no proof except for that
41 Federally-qualified subsistence user standing before
42 them and telling them that this was true.
43
44
                   MR. PAPPAS: You've hit a good topic.
45 If you harvested a bear right now and it was harvested
46 under Federal subsistence regulations, and you before
47 this -- you shot this today, because the regulations
48 haven't been passed, you could take that animal in in
49 two or three or four or five years and say, I shot this
50 animal in this area at this time, and I shot it under
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1 Federal subsistence regulations, they would issue you
  something, a new form, or write on your form, or,
  excuse me, seal it for you, to make it work for you.
  This question came up in I think North Slope. If
5 someone has a bear hide, you know, nailed to their
6 steam bath that they've had for 30 years, it was -- or
7
  20 years, it happened during Federal subsistence --
8 since the Federal Subsistence Program inception, they
  could bring that hide in, have it sealed, and say, this
10 is a Federal subsistence bear, get the certificate, and
11 you'd be good. So it could be retroactively activated.
12 I think that's your question.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I guess
15 I'm just being a devil's advocate, because if I'm
16 understanding you right, I can bring any claws 20 years
17 later, and say that these claws were harvested legally,
18 and have gotten sealed, and then it will be okay.
19
20
                   MR. PAPPAS: We were discussing amongst
21 ourselves here. As is, that's a what if. The proposal
22 as is is to seal the hides. You'd have to bring the
23 old hide in, not just an assortment of claws. I don't
24 know how to answer that question for you. We can
25 investigate it for you.
26
                   MS. KENNER: Ms. Chair, this Pippa
27
28 Kenner again with OSM.
29
30
                   I think in reality it goes something
31 like this: If you're at the airport and you're
32 traveling, I'm a Native Alaskan, I'm a rural
33 subsistence user. I'm traveling through the airport
34 with a handicraft that incorporates a brown bear claw,
35 and I have to go down to the Anchorage Regional office
36 and say, hey, I don't have this sealed, but I'm selling
37 this as a handicraft, could you seal it for me. You're
38 probably not going to get a very good response if you
39 don't have provenance somehow indicating when, how and
40 by whom that claw was taken.
41
42
                   If I'm in Anaktuvuk Pass surrounded by
43 Federal public lands, and I have these claws in my
44 drawer, and now I want to incorporate them into a
45 handicraft to be sold, and I call up my local -- there
46 was talk about having dedicated sealers within the
47 community, which is past due, it's something we've
48 needed for a while, or having -- assigning the duty to
49 Federal employees, or State, but if it's somebody you
50 know, and you call up, and you have these claws, and
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1 now you want to incorporate them into a handicraft for
  sale, and you want to get them sealed retroactively,
  after the fact, you're more likely to get a positive
4 response. And I think that's the only honest way of
  answering the question.
7
                   But I also want to clarify that most of
8 the gift stores in Anchorage and in other places,
9 because of the issues around ivory and mastodon fossil,
10 that sort of thing, they work on consignment. And
11 that's how it's legal to sell those items through a so-
12 called gift store.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. Well, I
15 guess what I'm trying to is just stick to the written
16 form of this proposal to try to iron out what might
17 happen. And if we're having a hard time understanding
18 this now, once this proposal is passed, then is there
19 going to be education afterwards for all these
20 questions.
21
22
                   MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. I would
23 assume the regulations, the regulatory summary on the
24 State and Federal side would have language that assist
25 people understand it. Just like every new regulation
26 that comes out, it's summarized in the handy-dandy,
27 what they call it. I would assume requests from RACs
28 to ensure that there's information out there would
29 definitely be listened to, and some type of information
30 education would come forth to inform folks that do want
31 to make handicrafts out of bear claws. As I understand
32 it, it's not a large number of people of people right
33 now that do that.
34
35
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
38 George.
39
40
                   That was why my intention was to oppose
41 this, because it creates too many questions that --
42 well, it creates more questions than answers. And it's
43 going to end up as a cumbersome regulation, unless the
44 questions that were -- that has come up are answered
45 prior to, you know, the passing this regulation.
46
47
                   Thank you.
48
49
                   MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. You're
50 building an excellent record here in this process. And
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1 I would believe the transcripts will be available for
  the Federal Subsistence Board process, and I would
  assume Mr. Mike over here potentially could forward
4 these on to the -- we'll do it on our side, do it on
5 the Federal side, and get some answers put together.
6 would assume we can do that, because you're building an
7
  excellent record.
8
9
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
10
11
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
                                                  Thank
12 you, George.
13
14
                   Richard.
15
16
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I think I
17 would be in favor of this proposal even as written,
18 because it's -- I think it's going to be an important
19 first step. I think if we was to wait further on down
20 the road for another proposal to come before us, that
21 perhaps the people that are waiting now to do this sort
22 of craft work would be put aside again for a few years.
23 So I can see more regulations coming down if need be,
24 if this thing falls apart, you know, if we need to have
25 a license as a crafts person to sell the claw. I mean,
26 that's -- you know, there's a possibility there. But
27 it's not included in this proposal here, but I think
28 this could be a good first step, because we've got both
29 the State and the Feds agreeing on this thing.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
32
33
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: I, too, as a member
34 of this Council struggle with weighing the benefits
35 versus the drawbacks to this proposal. I totally
36 acknowledge your reluctance in, you know, ideas behind
37 not having every T crossed and I dotted, and I'm the
38 same way as Richard, but I know we've had this question
39 in front of us for many years. It's -- I can't even
40 remember when we first started talking about it, and
41 it's taken us a long time to get the State people
42 involved in a willing manner. And that's basically
43 where my deliberations will come from, too, is are we
44 doing more harm than good by not allowing those
45 subsistence users that have been waiting very patiently
46 and very long for the opportunity to sell their
47 handiwork, more harm or good by making them wait
48 longer.
49
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50

And I guess we can save the rest of

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that for discussion.
3
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Alvin.
4
5
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: I agree with what
6 Richard said. There's always in the future if there's
7 some kind of problems that we could amend the original
8 proposal to redo the wording to justify fixing it so
  that our subsistence users are able to start now
10 instead of waiting until later. I'm sure there's some
11 out there that want to sell their handicraft.
12
13
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
14 Alvin. Doi.
15
16
                  MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
17
18
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pete.
19
20
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Before -- well, when it
21 becomes part of the regulations, it would take act of
22 Congress to change when it gets in there. So let's be
23 careful how we do, go about this thing over here. And
24 it sounds like you've just -- I mean, too many of those
25 things in there that the people are not going to
26 understand.
27
28
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you
29 Pete. Pippa.
30
31
                  MS. KENNER: Madame Chair.
                                               I think
32 there may be reports from others in the audience who
33 would like to comment on this, but I just wanted to
34 clarify that selling handicrafts incorporating brown
35 bear claws harvested under Federal regulations is now
36 legal. The proposal includes a method of tracking those
37 claws.
38
39
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
40
41
                  MR. MIKE: Yeah. Madame Chair. The
42 public or this Council will have the opportunity to
43 revisit regulations every couple of years, so if this
44 proposal passes and it doesn't work, you know, somebody
45 can always submit a proposal to revisit the regulations
46 and change it.
47
48
                   Thank you.
49
50
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Moving
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on. Okay. It sounds like there might be more reports
  regarding this from the public.
3
4
                           (No comments)
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
7
  anybody rushing up to the front.
8
9
                   Okay. We had the proposal introduced
10 to us by Pippa. And, George, if you don't have any
11 more comments, we had that. Other agencies and State
12 agencies. Other Federal and State agency comments.
13
14
                   (No comments)
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Hearing
17 none, do we have any tribal comments. Tribal
18 representatives. Tom.
19
20
                  (No comments)
21
22
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Oh, I didn't
23 have my -- Nanci.
2.4
25
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Madame Chair.
26 Didn't we have one comment from the Ekwok? Didn't we
27 just get that from Glenn?
28
29
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Ms. Lyon.
30 Glenn Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
31
32
                   Yes, I did discuss the Ekwok Village
33 Council's position on some of these proposals.
34
35
                   But I think I would be departing from
36 the process that's been followed this fall. Federal
37 agency people have not gotten up during the specific
38 proposal discussions to talk about tribal positions on
39 proposals. So what I've done instead is photocopied
40 the draft notes from last week's teleconference. I
41 gave a set Mr. Mike here and I think he distributed
42 them to all of you, so you can have the opportunity to
43 look at those as you deliberate this proposal.
44
45
                   Thank you.
46
47
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
50 you. Glenn.
```

```
Okay. We'll move on down to
  InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
3
4
                   (No comments)
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.
7
  Subsistence Resource Commission comments. Fish and
8 Game advisory -- oh, I'm sorry. Donald.
9
10
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
11 The SRC, you know, Gates of the Arctic took action on
12 this proposal, and there's no specific justification
13 provided. They were in support of WP12-01.
14
15
                   The Lake Clark National Park Service
16 Subsistence Resource Commission took no position on the
17 statewide proposal WP12-01.
18
19
                   That's all the SRC recommendations.
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
22 you, Donald.
23
2.4
                   Fish and Game Advisory Committee.
25
26
                   (No comments)
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
29 anybody from Fish and Game Advisory Council on the
30 floor out there.
31
32
                   Summary of written public comments.
33 Donald.
34
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
35
36
37
                   This morning -- or last night I handed
38 out additional copies for the Council for your
39 consideration.
40
41
                   We received comments from the AHTNA
42 Customary and Traditional Use Subsistence Committee.
43 And the AHTNA Subsistence Use Committee on WP12-01
44 supported the proposal. And they state that the
45 population of brown bears is not a concern in Unit 12.
46 It is still good to have ADF&G monitor the sale of
47 brown bear handicrafts.
48
49
                   Madame Chair. That concludes the
50 written public comments.
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
  you.
3
4
                   Public testimony. Anybody from the
 public regarding the bear claw.
6
7
                   (No comments)
8
9
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
10 anybody. Then Regional Council deliberation I guess,
11 recommendation and justification.
12
13
                   Mike.
14
15
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
16
17
                   Before getting any further, I also had
18 for the Council to look at, other Regional Advisory
19 Councils met over the month and I've got a summary of
20 what their actions were.
21
22
                   The Southeast Council opposed the
23 proposal. Southcentral supported the proposal.
24 Kodiak/Aleutians supported the proposal. The Y-K Delta
25 opposed the proposal. And the Western Interior
26 deferred to the Federal Subsistence Board. Seward
27 Peninsula Council supported the proposal.
28
29
                   That's all the actions taken by the
30 Councils this past month.
31
32
                   Madame Chair, thank you.
33
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
35 you.
36
37
                   Nanci.
38
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Donald, could you
39
40 give us any further information on why the -- who was
41 it, the Interior decided to defer? Was there
42 discussion that you could share with us surrounding
43 that choice?
44
45
                   MR. MIKE: The Western Interior
46 Council, they're mainly Interior Athabascan tribes, and
47 they have some social taboo against discussing brown
48 bear or black bear in public forum or anything like
49 that.
50
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1
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. George.
                   MR. PAPPAS: Yes. Through the Chair.
4 I was at that meeting. They also have C&T for allowing
5 the sales of bear claws and handicrafts in just a small
6 portion of the region, and they didn't think it was
7 necessary for such a small portion, and exactly what
8 you said. It's a subject matter they don't actually
  like to discuss on record.
10
11
                   Thank you, Mr. Chair -- Madame Chair.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
14 you, George.
15
16
                   Is there anything else.
17
18
                   (No comments)
19
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, I
20
21 guess it's the Regional Council deliberation,
22 recommendation and justification.
23
2.4
                   Dan.
25
26
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I quess this is the place
27 where you move to adopt it, and then we can discuss
28 whether we are going to or not. But I'll move to adopt
29 the proposal as written.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
32 been a motion to adopt by Dan.
33
34
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Second.
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by
37 Pete.
38
39
                   Discussion. Dan.
40
41
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Well, since I forgot to
42 turn my mic off. I think I'll continue to support
43 this.
44
45
                   I think Molly brought up some really --
46 and a lot of people brought up some really important
47 questions, but I'm confident if the State and the Feds
48 can get this far together on it, that the
49 administrative concerns can be worked out. And that if
50 it's a problem, we can -- or this Board and others can
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take it up and fix it.
3
                   So thank you.
4
5
                   MR. WILSON: Which proposal are you
6
  talking about?
7
                   MR. DUNAWAY: This is the proposal that
8
9 we just read. We went this far into the discussion, I
10 moved to adopt.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
13 more discussions from the Board. Nanci.
14
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Pete, I would like
15
16 you to explain to me a few more of your fears
17 concerning this proposal, and where you think the
18 trouble could arise. Because I'm still torn on is it
19 best to try to help out those who have handicrafts
20 ready to sell that are legal take, or is it better to
21 wait until we have something that we feel is clearly
22 understood by all. If you don't mind.
23
24
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Before Pete
25 answers, there's already provision from the Federal
26 subsistence to sell bear claws, and I don't think the
27 subsistence users don't have to wait until this
28 proposal is past to sell bear claws.
29
30
                   Nanci.
31
32
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: If that's so, what's
33 the advantage of accepting this proposal.
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: George.
36
37
                   MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. Council
38 Member Lyon.
39
40
                   If you'll -- well, I won't get too far
41 into the weeds here, but deferred Proposal No. 10-02,
42 part of the original reason for this was based on
43 conservation concerns for potential issues developing
44 from proliferation of sales of bear claw handicrafts.
45
46
                   Part of this work group had both --
47 actually all the enforcement agencies in the state get
48 together and go over their notes to figure out now many
49 cases they fund. There were hundreds and hundreds of
50 dead bears found all over the state, claws missing,
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1 parts missing. Were those Federal subsistence users?
  Were they non-residents? Were they local residents?
  In the big picture, that's not the issue.
5
                   The issue is to track the legal harvest
6 of legal animals. And as our comments indicate,
7 management will get better -- the managers will get a
8 better grasp on what's being harvested where, and
  that's part of managing populations to know what's
10 being taken where.
11
12
                   So what's the advantage? Provide
13 information for the managers. Provide insight and
14 information for the managers. And protect the Federal
15 subsistence user by having certification, hey, I have a
16 legal harvested product that I can legally sell. As a
17 matter of fact, it's probably the only ones in America
18 that are legal to sell, and they have proof of it.f
19
20
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
21
22
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
23
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. So then, Mr.
2.4
25 Pappas, then basically what this proposal gets us is
26 the State's blessing to do it more or less, because
27 right now even though we can do it as Federally-
28 qualified subsistence users, it's not something that
29 the State allows or condones?
30
31
                   MR. PAPPAS: I think the word that
32 somebody used is or recognizes right now.
33
34
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Good enough.
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pete.
37
38
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Unless the regulations
39 are written and explained to the public, and whomever
40 has the claws and follows the regulation, that's how to
41 do it. Otherwise, without regulations written and
42 presented, there will be chaos out there. I mean, how
43 do you....
44
45
                  Now, I go through these things in
46 Togiak a lot. They question me. So I have to have
47 answers before I say anything, I mean right answers.
48 So that's how I feel, you know. Got to have written
49 regulations on the table.
50
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
  Pete.
3
4
                  Richard.
5
6
                  MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. No matter
7
  what user you are, one needs to follow the rules. And
8 if there's rules or regulations out there, then you as
  an individual, as a harvester, should be up on those
10 rules. So there really is no excuse to say, well, I
11 didn't know, you know. You know, in today's time. I
12 mean, you know, people -- I run into that all over in
13 our area still. People still using the resource and
14 not -- typically a lot of them using it and not
15 recording it. And this is where a lot of our trouble
16 comes in with trying to regulate and it sits on this
17 table here is, you know, how do you regulate things if
18 you don't know what the volume is out there, or what
19 the take is. And people need to realize there's an
20 importance here. You need to record what you're doing.
21 We're so afraid of it getting it taken away from us in
22 the past that people aren't willing to record. But I
23 think today, I think it's more important to record so
24 that it doesn't get taken away. I think it's just the
25 reversal now.
26
27
                  MR. ABRAHAM: Okay. Pete.
28
29
                  MR. WILSON: Yeah, Mrs. Chairman.
30 Well, you know, throughout my life I went through
31 regulations, everything. Coast Guard regulations,
32 ADF&G regulations. We have to be reminded of what --
33 even if it's written, even if it's 20 years old. We go
34 through this thing over -- I mean the cycles. Well,
35 when the time comes, somebody has to remind us how to
36 do it. Even though we remind them, there's always
37 somebody, you know breaking that law. And then it has
38 to be corrected. Moose regulations, whatever hunting
39 regulations. It's always there all the time. And so
40 that's what I'm after. It's got to be there before
41 make a move.
42
43
                   Thank you.
44
45
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
46
47
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Just one
48 final comment.
49
50
                  You know, regulations are, a lot of
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1 them are just going to be there for the guy that wants
  to be legal. The people that are out there that want
  to do it otherwise, they're going to do what they do
4 anyways, and we cannot ever regulate that part of life,
5 but we can regulate if you want to do something
  legally, here's the path to do it.
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Anybody else.
9
10
                   (No comments)
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I've got a
13 comment here. The regulations I know are important,
14 but to develop regulations from hearsay. George's
15 report on dead bears wherever. I haven't seen any
16 written information on that. Is detrimental.
17
18
                   And my stance is still going to be that
19 when the working group started, it was -- the
20 regulations would -- the new regulations would not be
21 burdensome to the subsistence users. And on Page 22,
22 effects of the proposal, the last sentence says, if
23 adopted, the proposal would require additional
24 paperwork requirements to some subsistence users, which
25 could be a burden to those users.
26
27
                   And then on Page -- I read this
28 earlier, on Page 24 it says, there is no known evidence
29 to indicate the current Federal subsistence regulations
30 adversely effects brown bear population.
31
32
                   Dan.
33
34
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Madame Chair.
35 That sentence you just read I think is trying to
36 emphasize that by adopting this regulation, they don't
37 expect any additional threat to the population.
38 think that's -- and I take it as a positive statement.
39
40
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Is that on
41 Page 24?
42
43
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Page 24. The no known
44 evidence to indicate current -- because with the
45 current Federal regulations allowing people to make and
46 legally harvested brown bear claw handicrafts. So I
47 think they're saying they don't expect this regulation
48 to cause any additional harm is the way I read that.
49
50
                   That page 22 is that the trade off
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1 would be a little more paperwork burden for the relief
  to have clear sailing, better ability to legally sell a
  legally taken and made item. So I still think overall
4 this is to the benefit of those legal people out there.
5 It's a little more paperwork, but then maybe a German
6 would buy it, because, well, now I can take this home
7
  and I won't get harassed. But, no, I'm not going to
8 spend 150 bucks for something that they're going to
  take away from me when I go through customs. So again
10 that's -- there is the little trade off for more
11 paperwork, but for the -- it may make broader
12 opportunity to sell handicrafts.
13
14
                   And I don't think it's likely to cause
15 any impact to the population.
16
17
                   Thank you.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
20
21
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
22 Chair.
23
2.4
                   I think, too, that Richard and Dan
25 bring up very strong points in favor of this proposal.
26 I also think that I am going to vote in favor of this
27 proposal for an additional reason.
28
29
                   And that is that to be able to get all
30 agencies on board with it is a huge step in the right
31 direction. We're trying to get regulations as much in
32 synch with all agencies as possible. And with the lack
33 of paperwork, the resources for Federal subsistence
34 users' sales would truly be expanded exponentially
35 compared to what they are now. And I am in favor of
36 affording more opportunity to subsistence users. And I
37 think that that will be the final tick on the scale
38 that weigh me in favor of this proposal.
39
40
                   Thank you.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I think
43 we've said our pieces.
44
45
                   Mike. Or Donald.
46
47
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
48 Just to clarify on record that Mr. Dunaway, Member
49 Dunaway, moved to adopt Proposal WP12-01.
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MR. DUNAWAY: Was there a second?
1
3
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, we have a
4 second. Pete seconded it.
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, Pete
7 seconded it. We're just in discussion. Long
8 discussion. So we're.....
10
                  MR. DUNAWAY: It's time for the
11 question.
12
13
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Time for a
14 question. I'm sorry. So time for a question. And I'd
15 like to have this as a roll call vote.
16
17
                  Has there been a question called.
18
19
                  MR. DUNAWAY: I did.
20
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan
21
22 called for question, and, Mike, roll call.
23
2.4
                  MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
25 The Council moved to adopt Proposal WP12-01, in support
26 of the proposal. Roll call vote. Mr. Pete Abraham.
27
28
                  MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
29
30
                  MR. MIKE: Yes? No?
31
32
                  UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: He said yes.
33
34
                  MR. MIKE: Okay. Ms. Nanci Morris.
35
36
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes.
37
38
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Alvin Boskofsky.
39
40
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: Yes.
41
42
                  MR. MIKE: Ms. Molly Chythlook.
43
44
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: No.
45
46
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
47
48
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.
49
50
                  MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
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1
                   MR. WILSON: Yes.
2
3
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. You have five
  in favor and one nay. Motion carries.
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
                                            Okav.
  you, Donald. Let's move on to.....
7
8
9
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Did you want to take
10 a break?
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Let's take a
13 five-minute stretcher and get our blood flowing again.
14
15
                   (Off record)
16
17
                   (On record)
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pippa,
20 you're in the hot seat again.
21
22
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mrs. Chair and
23 members of the Council. For the record again my name
24 is Pippa Kenner, and I'm with the Office of Subsistence
25 Management in Anchorage.
26
27
                   The analysis for Proposal WP10-02
28 begins on Page 28 of your Council book. And there are
29 copies on the table in the back of the room.
30
31
                   Proposal WP10-02, which is also the
32 deferred proposal WP08-05, was submitted by the Alaska
33 Department of Fish and Game.
34
35
                   The proposal asks for the removal of
36 all unit-specific regulations related to the statewide
37 sale of brown bear handicrafts made of the skin, hide,
38 pelt or fur, and that sales of brown bear handicrafts
39 made of claws, bones, teeth, sinew, or skulls should
40 occur only between Federally-qualified subsistence
41 users. So that's rural to rural.
42
43
                   And I believe the appendix to this
44 analyses lists the unit-specific regulations that the
45 State requested be removed. I led you astray. I am
46 wrong. It is on the table. If you wish to see that
47 it's on the table on Page 23. There's a table that
48 shows you what all these regulations are that the State
49 requested be removed from Federal subsistence
50 regulations in favor of an additional regulation making
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it only legal to sell brown bear claws by one rural
  resident to another.
4
                   Proposal WP08-05 and subsequently this
5 proposal, WP10-02, it was just renamed, was deferred by
6 the Board pending the recommendations of the brown bear
7
  claw handicraft working group. As we just discussed,
8 the working group compromised on a proposed regulation
9 found in Proposal WP12-01, again that you just
10 addressed, that would address concerns originally
11 raised by the State of Alaska with Federal regulations
12 that allow the sale of handicrafts that include brown
13 bear claws from bears that are taken under Federal
14 subsistence regulations.
15
16
                   The recommendation of the working group
17 is to oppose this proposal and for the Board to
18 consider Proposal 12-01 in its place.
19
20
                   And therefore the OSM preliminary
21 conclusion is to take no action on Proposal WP10-02.
22
23
                   Thank you, Ms. Chair. That's the end
24 of my presentation.
25
26
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
27 comments, questions for Mrs. Kenner.
28
29
                   (No comments)
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Hearing or
32 seeing none, George.
33
34
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
35 George Pappas, Fish and Game.
36
                   The Department -- this was the
37
38 Department's proposal, and as a few of the Council
39 members here pointed out, it's a long ways away from
40 what we resulted in 12-01. The Department recommends
41 deferring to 12-01 or taking no action on this
42 proposal.
43
44
                   And we're going to see if we can't
45 actually withdraw this proposal before the Federal
46 Subsistence Board. Procedurally that might be
47 difficult with it being a deferred proposal, but the
48 Department has changed their interest into supporting
49 12-01 and take no action on this proposal.
50
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1
2
               STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
               ********
3
4
5
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
6
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
7
                  Wildlife Proposal WP10-02 (Deferred
8
9
  WP08-05):
10
11
                   Change the regulations regarding sale
12 of brown bear handicrafts to allow sales of handicrafts
13 made from brown bear fur in all units and to restrict
14 sales of handicrafts made from claws, bones, teeth, or
15 skulls to transactions between federally-qualified
16 subsistence users.
17
18
                  Introduction:
19
20
                  Existing federal regulations allow
21 essentially unconstrained commercial sale of
22 handicrafts made from bear parts taken in some units as
23 a customary and traditional activity, despite a lack of
24 substantial evidence demonstrating that such sales are
25 a customary and traditional practice. The sale of such
26 handicrafts is limited only by virtually unenforceable
27 provision that prohibits sales constituting a
28 significant commercial enterprise. These regulations
29 also allow the purchase of brown bear handicrafts by
30 persons who are not federally-qualified subsistence
31 users, despite such purchases being prohibited under
32 state law and, as was pointed out at the Spring 2006
33 Federal Subsistence Board meeting, that sales can even
34 occur over the Internet.
35
                   Sales of handicrafts made from brown
36
37 bear claws, teeth, skulls, and bones present a
38 particular problem, because these are potentially high
39 value items, and allowing sales creates market
40 incentives for illegal harvest in Alaska and other
41 states.
42
43
                  Black bear handicraft sales, although
44 not customary and traditional, do not create the high
45 level of conservation concern raised by sales of brown
46 bear handicrafts. Similarly, sales of brown bear
47 handicrafts do not raise the same level of concern if
48 limited to the skin or fur as defined in state
49 regulations; and even sales of handicrafts made with
50 claws and teeth do not currently raise extremely high
```

```
levels of concern if limited to sales among
  federally-qualified users.
4
                   Changing the regulation to continue
5 allowing the sale of brown bear fur products to anyone
6 (state regulations allow sale of untanned brown bear
7 hides), while limiting sales of handicrafts made with
8 brown bear claws, teeth, bones, and skulls to sales to
  other federally-qualified subsistence users, should
10 help eliminate commercial markets and the masking of
11 illegal sales in Alaska and elsewhere.
12 Unit specific restrictions on sales are almost
13 impossible to enforce without tracking and
14 documentation requirements and are not needed for lower
15 value fur handicrafts. This proposal will eliminate
16 the unit-specific sale allowances and render the
17 regulations more user-friendly and more enforceable.
18
19
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
20
                   The Federal Subsistence Board's current
21
22 allowance of brown bear handicraft sales was not based
23 upon a determination that such sales are customary and
24 traditional but instead upon the Board's unsupported
25 argument that the Board can authorize any use if the
26 take is customary and traditional (see e.g., January 2,
27 2006, letter from Chairman Demientieff to Commissioner
28 Campbell). Therefore, adoption of this proposal will
29 not impact customary and traditional subsistence
30 activities.
31
32
                   This proposal will continue to allow
33 rural residents to: sell brown bear fur handicrafts to
34 anyone (as allowed under State law); barter brown bear
35 handicrafts with anyone under federal regulations; and
36 sell brown bear handicrafts to other rural residents
37 under federal regulations. Therefore, this proposed
38 regulation change will not impair the ability of rural
39 residents or urban Alaska Natives to obtain such
40 handicrafts for ceremonial, religious, and cultural
41 purposes.
42
43
                   Further, adoption of this proposal will
44 significantly reduce the likelihood that
45 federally-qualified subsistence users will face state
46 prosecution for engaging in sales that are prohibited
47 under state law when they occur on state or private
48 lands.
49
```

Opportunity Provided by State:

Under 5 AAC 92.200, handicrafts made 2 with bear fur may be sold to anyone, but sales of handicrafts made with claws, skulls, teeth, and bones 4 are prohibited. Whole bear skins, with claws attached, 5 taken in certain predator control areas may be sold 6 under 5 AAC 92.031, but only after sealing and under terms of a permit issued for that bear skin. 7 8 9 Conservation Issues: 10 11 The Federal Subsistence Board created a 12 new market for bear claws and other high value bear 13 parts which could readily masks illegal sales, thereby 14 compounding problems with the international trade of 15 Endangered Species and contributing to the illegal 16 harvest, overharvest, and waste of bears in other 17 states and countries, as well as Alaska. Markets for 18 high value bear handicrafts create a conservation 19 concern because brown bears are protected under the 20 Endangered Species Act in other states and Mexico, and 21 the origin of brown bear products cannot be determined 22 by visual inspection. Brown bears are also listed on 23 Appendix II of the Convention International Trade of 24 Endangered Species (CITES). 25 26 In Alaska, economic incentives 27 associated with harvesting brown bears to make 28 handicrafts create conservation concerns because brown 29 bears develop slowly and have a low reproductive rate, 30 making small populations extremely susceptible to 31 overharvest. Allowing widespread sale of high value 32 bear parts without any kind of tracking mechanism is an 33 invitation to illegal harvests. Further, the existing 34 regulations are unenforceable and inconsistent with 35 sound wildlife management principles. 36 37 Enforcement Issues: 38 This proposal will reduce enforcement 39 40 issues created by the existing federal regulation in 41 several ways: (1) by limiting the pool of eligible 42 purchasers for high value bear parts, it will 43 significantly reduce economic incentives for poaching 44 in other states and countries as well as in Alaska; (2) 45 by allowing the sales of brown bear fur handicrafts 46 from any Game Management Unit, as presently allowed 47 under state law, this proposal will eliminate 48 unenforceable Unit-specific sales authorizations in

49 existing regulation; and (3) the proposed regulation 50 will reduce the likelihood that federally-qualified

```
subsistence users will face prosecution for attempting
  to engage in sales on state or private lands that are
  prohibited under state law.
5
                   Jurisdiction Issues:
6
7
                   The Federal Subsistence Board lacks
8 jurisdiction to allow sales of any wildlife handicrafts
  when and where such sales are not customary and
10 traditional. In the past, the Federal Board has
11 rejected this argument, asserting that if any use is
12 customary and traditional then the Board can authorize
13 any other use. The Board's argument is inconsistent
14 with its litigation stance in the Chistochina Unit 12
15 moose case where it argued that customary and
16 traditional use is related to how resources are used
17 after they are taken, and not to or a prerequisite
18 condition for the taking itself. State v. Fleagle,
19 (Case 3:06-cv-00107-HRH) Doc. 32 at 22.
20
21
                   Recommendation:
22
23
                   TAKE NO ACTION / GRANT PERMISSION TO
24 WITHDRAW / DEFER TO PROPOSAL 12-01 AS RECOMMENDED BY
25 WORKING GROUP
26
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
27
28
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. No
30 comments from the Board.
31
32
                   (No comments)
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, other
35 Federal and State agency comments regarding this
36 proposal.
37
38
                   (No comments)
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
41 do we have any comments from the tribal people.
42
43
                   (No comments)
44
45
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
46 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.
47
48
                   (No comments)
49
50
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess I need
```

```
to get back to Number 4. Glenn, did we have something
  from your teleconference.
4
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Glenn Chen
5 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
6
7
                   The comments received from Ekwok
8 Village Council are summarized in that document that
9 Mr. Mike distributed a bit ago. And it shows their
10 position on this particular proposal.
11
12
                   Thank you.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
15 you, Glenn.
16
17
                   I didn't see anybody jump under the
18 InterAgency Staff.
19
20
                   (No comments)
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
22
23 Resource Commission. Donald.
25
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. There were no
26 comments received from the Subsistence Resource
27 Commissions on WP10-02.
28
29
                   The Council recommendations from the
30 past meetings this month on WP10-02, Southeast took no
31 action. Southcentral Regional Council took no action.
32 The Kodiak/Aleutians opposed the proposal. Yukon-
33 Kuskokwim Delta took no action. Western Interior took
34 no action. The Seward Peninsula Council opposed the
35 proposal.
36
37
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Donald,
39
40 could you explain the process for taking no action.
41
42
                   MR. MIKE: Taking no action, I believe
43 the Council defer for the Federal Subsistence Board to
44 make the decision. Correct?
45
46
                   UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They can just make
47 a motion to take no action.
48
49
                  MR. MIKE: Right.
```

```
MR. DUNAWAY: Just don't act.
1
2
3
                   MR. MIKE: Yeah, just don't act.
4
5
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Just go on to the next
6
  one.
7
8
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess what I
9 was trying to get is, when Regional Council takes no
10 action, then it's just -- it just stays stale, it
11 doesn't go anywhere?
12
13
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. It will go to
14 the Federal Subsistence Board. If the Council wished
15 to take action, you can take no action with consensus
16 if that's the route you wish to take.
17
18
                  Madame Chair.
19
20
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
21 you. Any other comments.
22
                   (No comments)
23
2.4
25
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Fish
26 and Game Advisory Committees.
27
28
                   (No comments)
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I haven't seen
31 any Fish and Game Advisory Committee members here.
32
33
                  So I guess summary of written public
34 comments. Mike.
35
36
                  MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We did not
37 receive any written public comments on this proposal.
38
39
                   Thank you.
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
42 Public testimonies.
43
                   MR. MIKE: Did not receive any requests
44
45 for public testimony.
46
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
47
48 going along pretty fast.
49
50
                   Okay. The Regional Council
```

```
deliberation, recommendation, justification.
3
                   Nanci.
4
5
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair. I
6 would actually like to make a motion to put this on the
7
  table for the matter of discussion with my other
8 Council members. And I would be willing to withdraw it
  should we choose to take no action, if anybody -- I
10 would like to make that motion with that knowledge in
11 mind if I can get a second.
12
13
                   Thank you.
14
15
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
16 been a motion by Nanci to take no action on this
17 proposal.
18
19
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: No, Madame Chair. I
20 would like to put it on the table for discussion, and
21 I'd be willing to remove my motion for acceptance of
22 this proposal if -- just knowing that I'm willing to
23 remove it if I do not have support for what my train of
24 thought is.
25
26
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
27
2.8
                   MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by
31 Pete. Nanci.
32
33
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. So this is
34 kind of what I'm thinking. I would like for us -- or I
35 think it might be wise for us to consider opposing this
36 Proposal, because I think that it is clear that as
37 subsistence users of bears and all of their parts out
38 here, we would find this very objectionable in any
39 form. And rather than taking no action, I feel that it
40 might behoove us to make a statement as to how we feel
41 about this proposal, rather than setting it aside.
42
43
                   And those are my comments, Madame
44 Chair.
45
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
46
47 other comments. Mike. Donald.
48
49
                   MR. MIKE: Yeah. Just to clarify for
50 the record, Madame Chair. Member Lyon moved to adopt
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WP10-02.
3
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I am again out
  of state, out of mind. What was your -- sorry.
4
6
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Just I was
7
  just trying to clarify the record for that Proposal
8 WP10-02, Member Lyon moved to adopt WP10-02, just for
9 the record.
10
11
                   Thank you.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yes. Thank
14 you. And it was seconded by Pete Abraham.
15
16
                   And now we're in the discussion mode
17 now. Dan.
18
19
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Well, thank you,
20 Madame Chair.
21
22
                   Yeah, I was looking there and
23 wondering, well, why did they oppose, but that is a lot
24 more emphatic statement. I'm happy to take no action,
25 or it would be onerous, maybe clearly closing this
26 proposal would be an emphatic statement, and I wouldn't
27 mind that route myself.
28
29
                   Thank you.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
32 more comments. Richard.
33
                  MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'd also be
35 in favor of opposing for the same reasons that Ms. Lyon
36 had indicated.
37
38
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There
39 was a second. Comments.
40
41
                   (No comments)
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If there's
44 other comments, we can make a motion to vote.
45
46
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Call the question.
47 Question.
48
49
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Oh, questions
50 been called by Dan. The motion was to oppose this.....
```

```
MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, the motion was
  to adopt it, yeah.
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I mean, I'm
 sorry, the motion was to adopt the proposal. So all in
6
  favor say aye.
7
8
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Aye.
9
10
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: No, all opposed.
11
12
                   (Laughter)
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
15 opposition.
16
17
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. The
20 motion is clearly the opposition for this proposal.
21 Thank you.
22
23
                   Moving on to, it must be Pippa's
24 section again.
25
26
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mrs. Chair.
27 The agenda mentions it's being presented by another
28 Staff member, but it's actually me, because I came to
29 the meeting. For the record, this is Pippa Kenner with
30 the Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
31
32
                   Good afternoon, Ms. Chair and Council
33 members.
34
                   The analysis for Proposal WP12-02
35
36 begins on Page 44 of your Council book. And there are
37 copies on the table in the back of the room.
38
39
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Not 12-02, you mean
40 10-02; is that what.....
41
42
                   MS. KENNER: We just completed 10-02. I
43 know this numbering system is onerous.
44
45
                   This proposal, WP12-02, was submitted
46 by Michael Cronk of Tok, Alaska, and it requests that
47 only people 60 years of age or older or disabled be
48 allowed to designate their harvest limit to another
49 person. This regulation change would apply to the
50 entire state.
```

The Federal Subsistence Board established the statewide designated hunter system in 2003. The statewide designated hunter regulation includes these points. First, the designator must be a 7 Federally-qualified subsistence users. The designator 8 may designate another Federally-qualified subsistence user to take a deer, moose, and caribou on his or her 10 behalf. The designated hunter must obtain a designated 11 hunter permit and must return a completed harvest 12 report. The designator hunter may hunt for any number 13 of recipients, but may have no more than two harvest 14 limits in his or her possession at any one time. 15 16 These provisions apply statewide unless 17 they have been modified in unit-specific regulations. 18 And it's important to note that several Regional 19 Advisory Councils have supported and the Board has 20 adopted regulations that modify the designated hunter 21 system in specific management units. And they are 22 listed on Page 54 of your Council books. 23 2.4 The purpose of designated hunter rules 25 is to recognize the customary and traditional practices 26 of sharing and redistribution of harvest in rural 27 Alaska. For example, the designated hunter system 28 legalizes a traditional practice that is ongoing in 29 much of rural Alaska. Within individual harvest 30 limits, some hunters cannot harvest enough meat to meet 31 the needs of their own household as well as the needs 32 of the people with whom they share. The designated 33 hunter system allows hunters to harvest moose, caribou 34 and deer expressly for sharing. Households may contain 35 members who are unable or do not choose to harvest for 36 themselves, and all hunters do not possess equal 37 skills, abilities, and aptitudes. Each community has a 38 minority of good hunters, trappers and fishers. 39 40 If this proposal were adopted, the 41 extent of impacts on subsistence users cannot be 42 measured exactly, because statistics were only 43 partially gathered to describe the age of those 44 designated hunter and not whether the user was 45 disabled. So we don't collect that information from 46 people who obtain designated hunter permits, so I can't 47 tell you exactly how many people would be affected. 48 49 But based on the limited information we 50 have, which is in table 3, for the years 2009 and 2010

```
1 only, 77 percent, so that's three-quarters, of the
  users, that would be one in four -- or three in four of
  the users designating a hunter were under 60 years old
4 and would be prohibited from designating if this
5 proposal were adopted. So one estimated is about 77
6 percent or about three in four people would no longer
7 be able to designate another hunter to take their
8 harvest limit.
10
                   In conclusion, the proponent raises
11 issues regarding the designated hunter system for the
12 entire state. The harvest by designated hunters
13 generally has been a small portion, less than two
14 percent of the total harvest by all hunters. That
15 includes Federally-qualified, non-Federally-qualified
16 and non-residents of the state combined. So generally
17 less than two percent except for a few exceptions
18 mentioned in the analysis.
19
20
                   Therefore, a statewide provision
21 restricting the use of the designated hunter system is
22 not supported. In circumstances where evidence is
23 available to clearly warrant unit-specific restrictions
24 could be proposed.
25
26
                   And therefore the OSM preliminary
27 conclusion is to oppose Proposal WP12-02.
28
29
                   Thank you, Ms. Chair. That's the end
30 of my presentation.
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
33 Pippa. Any comments, questions from the Board.
34
35
                   (No comments)
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, the
37
38 State is up next.
39
40
                   Or, Dan, did you have a comment.
41
42
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I have a question. I
43 think I figured out most of my answer that I needed
44 when I was looking this stuff over, but with the
45 original -- sometimes I start wishing for the original
46 words from the original proposer. Sometimes, in my
47 experience with Fish and Game, State stuff, you can
48 kind of figure out that what they want isn't quite what
49 they say. In these Federal ones it's always kind of I
50 guess, I assume paraphrased, and sometimes that's
```

```
necessary, because they seek that help. In other
  cases, I don't know what happens. And just real quick,
  do you know what that process is.
5
                   Thank you.
6
7
                   MS. KENNER: Oh, the question is what's
8
  the process of interpreting the proposal?
9
10
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, what's the process
11 that....
12
13
                   MS. KENNER: Or this proposal.
14
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Well, this one in
15
16 particular, but in general how does it get into frame
17 -- because it's clearly not -- it's never the exact
18 wording that might have come to you, unless somebody
19 walks in the door and gives you one verbally. So I'm
20 just real curious. But I don't want to sidetrack us
21 too much here.
22
23
                   Thank you.
2.4
25
                   MS. KENNER: Ms. Chair.
26
                   Yes, generally what we can do, we can
28 actually call the proposer to clarify, but quite often
29 they come in with very specific language, language that
30 sometimes I wish I could make less specific.
31
32
                   This proposal in the discussion, very
33 close to the language that he used. And I think what's
34 going on here is if you look on Page 50, there's a
35 table there, table 2, and if you look at harvest by
36 designated hunter of caribou in Unit 9, you'll notice
37 that that's one of the highest percentages where -- and
38 that's where this proposer -- that's what he's
39 witnessing. And so I am assuming that this is one of
40 the reasons why we are seeing this proposal.
41
42
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
45
46
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair.
47
48
                   Yeah, it took me a little while of
49 digging around, but I finally found that line, and go,
50 oh, now I understand. Okay.
```

```
1
                   Thank you.
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
4
  more questions for Dan.
5
6
                   (No comments)
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I'll wait
9
  until George comes on with my question.
10
11
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Our comments will be on Page 57, and I'll try to
13 summarize here.
14
15
                   The proponent indicates the Federal
16 subsistence designated hunter program has diverged from
17 the original intent of the Federal Subsistence Board by
18 allowing designated hunters to provide for elders and
19 others that were unable to hunt for themselves.
20
21
                   The proponent indicates the designated
22 hunter program is currently an uncontrolled system.
23 The proponent indicates some Federal subsistence users
24 are abusing these regulations and are harvesting as
25 many animals as numbers of permits they can obtain,
26 which may lead to detrimental impacts on game
27 populations and subsistence hunting in general.
28
29
                   If this proposal is adopted, Federal
30 subsistence designated hunters could harvest animals
31 for Federally-qualified users 60 years or older or
32 disabled. If adopted, some Federally-qualified
33 subsistence super-harvesters may spend extra --
34 additional time locating and obtaining game tags for
35 qualified designated beneficiaries. If adopted
36 designated hunters who cannot locate Federally-
37 qualified users 60 or older or disabled, may harvest
38 fewer animals per year.
39
40
                   Under State regulations, we have a
41 proxy system which requires the beneficiary to be a
42 resident of Alaska who is blind, 70 percent physically
43 disabled, or 65 years of age or older. And a proxy
44 hunter may not have more than one -- hunt for more than
45 one beneficiary at a time. And that person cannot have
46 more than one proxy on them in the field at a time.
47
48
                   For conservation issues, it's
49 undetermined at this time. We don't have a
50 determination on that.
```

```
If adopted, this regulation would bring
2 State and Federal regulations closer together, but the
3 Department recommends a modification of this proposal
4 to parallel the State regulations, to require a
  designated hunter to only be able to hunt for a
6 designee, and that would be that is blind, 65 years or
7
  older, or 70 percent disabled or temporarily disabled.
8
9
                  Additionally, the Department would like
10 to modify the proposal to reflect the Unit 6 designated
11 hunter possession limit, which was approved by the
12 Federal Board, which limits the person to have only one
13 bag limit at a time. And this has come up in
14 discussion on other issues, specifically like goat
15 hunting. If somebody has three or four designated
16 permits and three or four animals in a herd, you can
17 take all three or four at the same time. But the
18 Department recommends only one bag limit at a time.
19
20
              ********
21
              STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
              ********
22
23
2.4
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
25
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
26
                  Wildlife Proposal WP12-02:
27
28
29
                  Change federal subsistence designated
30 hunter regulations.
31
32
                  Introduction:
33
34
                  This proposal seeks to change the
35 statewide federal subsistence designated hunter
36 regulation by specifying the qualifications for the
37 recipient of harvest. The proposal requests federal
38 regulations be changed to require that federal
39 subsistence designated hunters only harvest for
40 federally qualified recipients 60 years of age or older
41 or for a person who is disabled.
42
43
                  The proponent indicates the federal
44 subsistence designated hunter program has diverged from
45 the original intent of the Federal Subsistence Board by
46 allowing designated hunting to provide for elders and
47 others that were unable to hunt for themselves. The
48 proponent indicates the designated hunter program is
49 currently an uncontrolled system. The proponent
50 indicates some federal subsistence users are abusing
```

```
this regulation and are harvesting as many animals as
  numbers of permits they can obtain which may lead to
  detrimental impacts to game populations and subsistence
  hunting in general.
5
6
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
7
8
                   If adopted, federally qualified
9
  subsistence designated hunters could harvest animal for
10 federally qualified users 60 years of age or older or
11 are disabled. If adopted, some federally qualified
12 subsistence super harvesters may expend additional time
13 locating and obtaining game tags from qualified
14 designated hunter beneficiaries. If adopted,
15 designated hunters who cannot locate federally
16 qualified users 60 or over or are disabled may harvest
17 fewer animals per year.
18
19
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
20
21
                   Proxy hunting for big game is
22 authorized in state hunting regulation. State proxy
23 hunting is allowed for moose, caribou, and deer.
24 state proxy hunting beneficiary requirements include
25 being a resident of Alaska who is blind, 70% physically
26 disabled, or 65 years of age or older. Proxy hunters
27 may not proxy hunt for more than one beneficiary at a
28 time and may have only one Proxy Authorization with
29 them in the field at a time.
30
31
                   Conservation Issues:
32
33
                   Undetermined at this time. If this
34 proposal is adopted without modifications many more
35 animals may be harvested than anticipated.
36
37
                   Enforcement Issues:
38
39
                   If adopted, this proposal would bring
40 federal and state regulations closer to alignment.
41
42
                   Recommendation:
43
44
                   Support with modification.
45
46
                   Adopt the proposal with modification to
47 establish designated hunter beneficiary qualifications
48 equal to those approved by the Federal Subsistence
49 Board for Unit 6. The State recommends modifying this
50 proposal to require beneficiaries of the federal
```

```
1 subsistence designated hunters be blind, 65 years old
  or older, at least 70% disabled, or temporarily
  disabled. The State also recommends modifying this
4 proposal to reflect the Unit 6 designated hunter
5 possession limit adopted by the Federal Subsistence
6 Board which to limits designated hunters to possession
7 of only one bag limit at a time. Adoption of these
8 recommended proposal modification will bring regulatory
  consistency to Units 1 through 6 and make federal and
10 state regulations more parallel.
11
12
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
13
14
                   That concludes our comments.
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
17 you, George.
18
19
                   Any questions, comments for George.
20
21
                   (No comments)
22
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. I guess
24 my -- I guess just a comment. The proxy system that
25 the State has works well. There's no -- you just
26 indicated that the harvest wasn't calculated or
27 something. I didn't quite understand that. But to
28 your knowledge, the proxy system works well.
29
30
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 My experience with the proxy system is on the fish side
32 in the Kenai Peninsula. Yes. And I signed hundreds
33 and hundreds per year.
34
35
                   It's a little bit of burden on the
36 State side for the permitting process. You know, folks
37 have to come in with a doctor's note to show that
38 they're 70 percent disabled or bring in their father's
39 permanent identification card that says they're 65 or
40 older. They come in, present the information. We sign
41 the piece of paper, they have their proxy.
42
43
                   As far as I'm aware, it works. And
44 also on the wildlife side as I understand it, it does
45 work, and the animals are tracked.
46
47
                  And I'm not sure we've had much of a
48 problem except for people bringing in false documents,
49 falsified documents. Faked prescriptions saying the
50 person's 70 percent ADA handicapped, what have you.
```

```
And that's the only problems I remember running into.
3
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
6
  George.
7
8
                   Pippa.
9
10
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
11 This is Pippa Kenner with OSM.
12
13
                    I agree with George's description of
14 the State proxy system. Additionally, the State
15 requires all proxied animals to have -- the antlers to
16 be destroyed.
17
18
                   And did you say that the hunter needs
19 to be either blind, physically disabled or 65 years or
20 older, and for blind and physically disabled, you must
21 go to a doctor and get that in writing to present. But
22 also more significantly that there's a raft of types of
23 hunts, like Tier II that proxies aren't allowed.
2.4
25
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
26
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
27
28 questions for George.
29
30
                   (No comments)
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. If not,
33 other Federal and State agency comments.
34
35
                   (No comments)
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal
38 comments. Anybody from the tribal regarding this.
39
40
                   (No comments)
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency
43 Staff Committee comments.
44
45
                   (No comments)
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
48 Resource Commission. Donald.
49
50
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
```

```
The Gates of the Arctic Subsistence
  Resource Commission support with modification to
  include windows. The designated hunter option is
  important to traditional subsistence practices, and
  ensuring that animals are harvested correctly.
6
7
                   The Lake Clark National Park
8 Subsistence Resource Commission on WP12-02, support
  with modification. The SRC supports Proposal 2 with
10 modification to more closely mirror State eligibility
11 requirements for proxy hunting. The SRC recommends
12 that qualified hunters be allowed to hunt for
13 individuals who are blind, 70 percent physically
14 disabled as determined by government agency for
15 physical disability or an affidavit signed by a
16 physician, or over 60 years of age. This measure would
17 reduce the possibility of abuse of the designated
18 hunter provision by clearly defining who is eligible to
19 use a designated hunter.
20
21
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
22
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Again I
24 don't see any advisory council members in here.
25
26
                   (No comments)
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: So I'll more
29 on down to summary of written public comments. Donald.
30
31
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
32
33
                   The AHTNA Subsistence C&T Use Committee
34 on Proposal WP12-02 opposed this proposal to change
35 designated hunter regulations so that they can only
36 hunt for a person who is 60 years or older or disabled.
37 Many single parents, women without significant others,
38 do not have anyone in the household to hunt for them.
39 If the designated hunter regulation was changed, they
40 would not have anyone to hunt for them. Additionally
41 an ill, injured person or other family members would
42 not have someone to hunt for him or her, too.
43
44
                   The Sitka Tribe of Alaska from Sitka on
45 Proposal WP12-02. The tribe staff feel that the elders
46 60 years or older or a person whom is disabled is too
47 restrictive and would prevent those who qualify for
48 subsistence from meeting their subsistence needs.
49 There could be numerous other obstacles that prevent
50 qualified subsistence harvesters who are truly in need
```

```
of the resources to survive from participating in the
  harvest.
4
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Public
7
              Tom.
  testimony.
8
                   MR. TILDEN: I've got a comment about
9
10 this particular proposal. I guess I'm having
11 difficulty with it because of how it narrows down to
12 someone who is 60 years of age or older. And my
13 experience in the village was that we had designated
14 hunters, and we used those designated hunters when --
15 for instance, if your house got flooded or burned or
16 something, and you needed to pour time at your house
17 and couldn't afford to hunt, couldn't take the time to
18 go hunting. So you had basically these people that
19 were very good hunters in your community, and they
20 would go out and hunt for you. And a lot of them
21 weren't 60, you know. I mean, the folks that used them
22 were not 60 years or older. And that's what this tends
23 to do.
2.4
25
                   And then when you live in a community,
26 there's other things that interfere with your ability
27 to hunt, like maybe the barge doesn't show up with your
28 winter fuel, and you've got to do it yourself. Or
29 something else happens. You might be a widow and need
30 someone to hunt for you.
31
32
                   So I guess I'm just having real
33 difficulty with how this narrows down to only if you're
34 only 60 years old and are disabled. And so I like the
35 recommendation, don't pass, or oppose.
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
38 comments. Nanci.
39
40
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
41 Chair.
42
                   Yes, Tom, I totally -- that was my
43
44 thought when I read through it as well. What if I
45 broke my leg the day before hunting season opened.
46 That means that I go without, because I'm not 60 or
47 over yet. Soon, but not yet. And so I totally agree
48 with you. I think the restrictions in this are way too
49 many to be in favor of it.
50
```

```
1
                   Thank you.
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
  other comments.
5
6
                   (No comments)
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
9
10
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
11
12
                   The other Regional Advisory Council
13 actions on Proposals WP12-02. Southeast opposed it.
14 Southcentral opposed. Kodiak/Aleutians opposed. Y-K
15 Delta opposed. Western Interior opposed. And the
16 Seward Peninsula Council opposed the proposal.
17
18
                   Thank you.
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. When I
21 was -- I have the same problem with it that Tom has.
22 And it's because I think as Native people, sharing has
23 always been in place. And now it's being written into
24 this proposal, and it just quite doesn't fit, you know,
25 how we originally and traditionally take care of our
26 people and share. So like Tom, I was having a time
27 trying to get my box squared out. So I'm probably
28 likely going to oppose this.
29
30
                   Any other comments.
31
32
                   (No comments)
33
34
                  MR. DUNAWAY: I think this is the place
35 to move to adopt this. And then that means if we don't
36 like this proposal, we vote against it. If we do like
37 it, we can support it. But I'll make the motion to
38 adopt, get it on the table.
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
41 been a motion to adopt. Was there any questions.
42
43
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Donald Mike reminded me,
44 Proposal WP12-02 is the one I moved to adopt.
45
                   And, Madame Chair, if I may briefly
46
47 discuss it. I was beginning to be interested in it
48 until I saw the numbers in that table. And there's
49 just not a statewide problem to justify that. It looks
50 like he may have a concern in one place, but to make a
```

```
1 sweeping statewide proposal is too extreme.
                   And the longer I live here, the more I
3
  appreciate like what Tom Tilden said, it just isn't how
4
  things work out here. And I've seen it work a little
6
7
8
                   So I'm going to be opposed to this.
9 Thank you.
10
11
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
12
13
                   MR. WILSON: I think he made a motion,
14 so I'll second that motion.
15
16
                   (Laughter)
17
18
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yes. I'm sorry.
19
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
20
21 been a motion by Dan and then seconded by Richard. And
22 I guess we started kind of discussing already.
23
2.4
                   MR. WILSON: Call the question.
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
26
27 question called. All in favor of this proposal.
28
29
                   (No affirmative votes)
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: How am I
32 supposed to word it.
33
34
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Say opposed.
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: All in favor
36
37 of opposing, there I go, to this proposal say aye.
38
39
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
42 opposition. Oh, I'm sorry. In support. I need a
43 break. In support.
44
                   (No affirmative votes)
45
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
48 it's carried to oppose.
49
50
                   Okay. Should we take a little break
```

```
before we go on. Five minutes, before we go on.
  Thanks.
3
4
                   (Off record)
5
6
                   (On record)
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Where's our
9 Mrs. McGee. One more statewide. One last statewide.
10
11
                   Okay. You've got the floor, Pippa.
12 The last statewide proposal.
13
14
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mrs. Chair.
15 Good afternoon, Ms. Chair and members of the Council.
16 Again for the record my name is Pippa Kenner with the
17 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
18
19
                   The analysis for Proposal WP12-03
20 begins on Page 59 of your Council book, and there are
21 copies on the table in the back of the room.
22
23
                   Proposal WP12-03, submitted by the
24 Orutsararmiut Native Council would require trappers to
25 move a trap that incidently harvest a moose, caribou or
26 deer at least 300 feet for the remainder of the
27 regulatory year.
28
29
                   The proponent is the IRA Council
30 representing Bethel.
31
32
                   The proposed regulation would apply to
33 the entire state, so it's a statewide proposal.
34
                   State of Alaska wildlife regulations
35
36 include this provision: A trapper is prohibited from
37 placing a trap or snare within 300 feet of the site at
38 which a moose, caribou or deer was taken using a
39 trapper's snare. The prohibition applies for the
40 duration of the regulatory year in which the moose,
41 caribou or deer was taken using the trap or snare.
42
43
                   Additionally, the animal must be
44 salvaged and its parts cannot be used for bait.
45
46
                   Moving the trap from the site of the
47 incidental harvest denies trappers the benefit of
48 continuing to set a trap at a kill site, which may
49 attract furbearers. Therefore it would reward them for
50 incidentally harvesting an ungulate at the site.
```

The proponent wants a similar provision 2 in Federal wildlife regulations, specifically to better inform State and Federal enforcement officers that the 4 prohibition applies during the same regulatory year, 5 but not the same calendar year, because it has been 6 reported that an enforcement officer was confused. 7 he thought you could not place the trap there again 8 after December 31st, when the regulation actually states you can set the trap there again after June 10 30th. There we go. 11 12 Currently Federal regulations require 13 that wildlife caught in incidental to trapping 14 furbearers be salvaged. So in Federal regulations you 15 also must salvage the ungulate. The hide, skin, 16 viscera, head or bones may be used for bait. So in 17 Federal regulations, you can use parts of the animals 18 for bait. State regulations, you can't. 19 20 The use of traps to harvest caribou, 21 moose and deer is prohibited in State and Federal 22 wildlife regulations primarily because traps set for 23 moose, caribou and deer do not discriminate between 24 animals such as cows, bulls, and fawns. 25 26 A good estimate of how often moose, 27 caribou or deer are caught in traps set for furbearers 28 statewide or by region is not known at this time. 29 State and Federal Staff generally assume that low 30 levels of incidental harvest occur and are ongoing. 31 Snare height above ground, trap location, bait type, 32 location of trail snares, et cetera are effective 33 techniques to select for targeted furbearers and 34 against non-targeted animals. But occasionally non-35 targeted animals are caught, but trappers use 36 techniques to avoid them, and that is one reason there 37 are low levels of incidental harvest. 38 39 If this proposal is adopted, the 40 Federal subsistence users would be required to move a 41 trap for the remainder of the regulatory year when it 42 has taken a moose, caribou or deer incidental to 43 trapping furbearers. This would be required if the 44 incidental harvest occurred on Federal public lands 45 using Federal trapping regulations. 46 47 The clear intent of the proponent is to 48 support State wildlife -- is to import State wildlife 49 regulations into Federal wildlife regulations, and to 50 clarify their intent to law enforcement officers so

```
1 that other trappers who comply with State regulations
  are not cited. However, requiring a trapper to move a
  trap would be a hardship that would not conserve
  caribou, moose or deer.
                   The State's concern is ungulates being
7 used as bait and it is not in the interest of Federal
8 subsistence users to oppose [sic] this regulation on
10
11
                   The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
12 oppose this Proposal WP12-02 [SIC].
14
                   Thank you, Ms. Chair. That's the end
15 of my presentation.
16
17
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
18 you, Pippa.
19
20
                   The State. George knows his line here.
21
                   MR. PAPPAS: Well, and it looks like
22
23 Pippa knows a lot of my lines, too.
2.4
25
                   (Laughter)
26
                   MR. PAPPAS: So I'll skip down towards
28 the end here. Page 66, our written comments, I'll be
29 summarizing.
30
31
                   No conservation issues have been
32 identified if this proposal's adopted. And nothing
33 will -- we can't find -- the Department concludes we
34 can't find that conservation issues will be solved by
35 adoption of this proposal.
36
37
                   This proposal's purported to have been
38 submitted in response to previous confusion by
39 enforcement personnel. The State understands the local
40 enforcement personnel have received updated training as
41 a result of the reported events surrounding this issue.
42 Failure to adopt this proposal is not expected to
43 contribute to continued enforcement issues.
44
45
                   This proposal is likely unnecessary
46 given that if the proposal is not adopted, Federally-
47 qualified subsistence users would continue to be
48 required to comply with the State regulations requiring
49 that when a caribou, moose or deer are harvested
50 incidently with a trap, the trap must be moved 300 feet
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for the remainder of the regulatory year or risk
  receiving a State citation.
4
                  The Department opposes this proposal.
5
               ********
6
7
               STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
               8
9
10
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
11
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
12
13
14
                  Wildlife Proposal WP12-03:
15
16
                  Incidental harvest requires moving
17 traps for regulatory year. This proposal was submitted
18 by the Orutsararmiut Native Council.
19
20
                  Introduction:
21
22
                  The proposer seeks to require trappers
23 to move a trap that incidentally harvests a moose,
24 caribou, or deer at least 300 feet for the remainder of
25 the regulatory year. Trappers would also be required to
26 salvage the edible meat and turn it over to the Federal
27 inseason wildlife manager.
28
29
                  Impact on Subsistence Users:
30
31
                  Federal subsistence users would be
32 required to move a trap when it has taken a moose,
33 caribou, or deer incidental to trapping furbearers for
34 the remainder of the regulatory year, and surrender
35 their meat specifically to the Federal inseason
36 wildlife manager.
37
38
                  Opportunity Provided by State:
39
                  5 AAC 92.085. Unlawful methods of
41 taking big game; exceptions The following methods and
42 means of taking big game are prohibited in addition to
43 the prohibitions in 5 AAC 92.080: (6) with the use of a
44 trap or snare . . . . 5 AAC 92.095. Unlawful methods of
45 taking furbearers; exceptions a) The following methods
46 and means of taking furbearers under a trapping license
47 are prohibited, in addition to the prohibitions in 5
48 AAC 92.080: (12) by placing or leaving an active trap
49 or snare set on land that is within 300 feet of the
50 site at which a moose, caribou, or deer was taken using
```

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a trap or snare; this prohibition applies for the
  duration of the regulatory year in which the moose,
  caribou, or deer was taken using the trap or snare.
5
                   Conservation Issues:
6
7
                   None identified nor solved by adoption
8
 of this proposal.
9
10
                   Enforcement Issues:
11
12
                   This proposal is purported to have been
13 submitted in response to previous confusion by
14 enforcement personnel. The state understands local
15 enforcement personnel have received updated training as
16 a result of reported events surrounding this issue.
17 Failure to adopt this proposal is not expected to
18 contribute to continued enforcement issues.
19
20
                   Other Comments:
21
22
                   This proposal is likely unnecessary
23 given that if this proposal is not adopted, Federally
24 qualified subsistence users would continue to be
25 required to comply with the State regulations requiring
26 that when a caribou, moose, or deer are harvested
27 incidentally, the trap must be moved at least 300 feet
28 for the remainder of the regulatory year, or risk
29 receiving a State citation.
30
31
                   Recommendation: Oppose
32
33
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
36 comments, questions. Richard.
37
38
                   MR. WILSON: It could be a nightmare.
39
40
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Anybody else.
41
42
                   (No comments)
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I quess I was
45 quandaring with why move it just 300 feet from its
46 original. If I'm understanding this correcting,
47 removing, or moving the trap 300 feet from its original
48 location, what's the purpose?
49
50
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
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1 Discussions have included if you -- maybe someone's
  setting right on a game trail where caribou migrate
  through the same little corridor next to a rock that a
4 moose might swing around, so you move it 300 feet away
5 from that particular spot. The likelihood of catching
6 another animal possibly could be eliminated. That's
7
  one option.
8
9
                   I don't know how that applies in open
10 tundra, but maybe a place with more features.
11
12
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
15
16
                   MR. WILSON: Under this regulation, I
17 can go 300 feet down a trail and set my trap again.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
20
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Molly. I think
21
22 like you're saying, if you put traps and you accidently
23 catch a moose, say, and it dies, then it's real typical
24 to put snares right around that moose for wolves or
25 foxes, and usually real close. 300-foot is quite a
26 ways away, and so it's to discourage people from
27 intentionally catching an animal for bait. I think
28 Pippa had said that earlier.
29
30
                   But apparently this whole thing goes on
31 about it was some sort of enforcement confusion. That
32 rule still would apply whether we adopt this or not
33 according to the State analysis.
34
                   So I see some heads shaking. Maybe
35
36 I've made some mistakes. I'll stop.
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: No. What irks
39 me is it seems like any time there's a regulation made,
40 something like this, the trapper is trusted -- or doing
41 illegal something so that -- for the purpose of
42 enhancing the trappers trapping, they're asking them to
43 move the trap 300 feet away from a potential harvesting
44 location of other animals.
45
46
                   Any other comments. Richard.
47
48
                   MR. WILSON: That's an interesting
49 conclusion, Madame.
50
```

```
You know, I don't -- you know, this
2 would be impossible to enforce. It would just be a big
3 nightmare I believe to enforce. I know the person that
4 had this, you know, had good intentions, but, you know,
5 for a statewide req, this would -- I don't think this
6 would go very well.
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
9 other comments.
10
11
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Molly, can I ask a
12 trapper here, a local trapper.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, but
15 maybe Andy might be a trapper.
16
17
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah.
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
20 anybody else that I know that is a trapper.
21
22
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Richard.
23
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Oh, Richard.
25 Okay. You can.
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Andy, can you tell us
27
28 about this -- I mean this stupid thing that we're
29 trying to resolve here.
30
31
                   (Laughter)
32
33
                   MR. ADERMAN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
34
35
                   Yeah, Pete, if I understood your
36 question, this is Andy Aderman with the Togiak National
37 Wildlife Refuge.
38
39
                    I am a trapper when I'm not a wildlife
40 biologist, so I'll try to keep aware of what hat I'm
41 wearing right now.
42
43
                   But I think the regulation that's
44 currently in place is fairly clear, that if you catch a
45 moose or a caribou, you're required to salvage it and
46 turn it into the State. And you have to move your trap
47 from that place 300 feet.
48
49
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Madame Chairman. I have
50 not heard anybody trapping a moose or caribou in a trap
```

```
before. That's why I'm wondering. But I see a lot of
  trappers out there.
3
4
                   (Cell phone)
5
6
                   (Laughter)
7
8
                   MR. ABRAHAM: I'm very busy right now.
9
10
                   (Laughter)
11
12
                   MR. ABRAHAM: Can I call you back?
13 I'll call you back when I'm not busy. All right.
14
                   See, I run two offices, so I get
15
16 interruptions now and then.
17
18
                   You know, I used to trap a lot, but
19 like I said, you know, I never trapped a moose or
20 caribou.
21
22
                   When we're going moose hunting, we have
23 a kill, and we have discarded remains, guts and
24 everything. That's where we put traps on to get the
25 furbearers. I mean, what's the difference between this
26 and that? That's what I'm trying to understand.
27
                   MR. ADERMAN: Madame Chair.
28
29
30
                   Mr. Abraham, yeah, you're exactly
31 right. And that's the way it should be done. You
32 know, if you harvest a moose or a caribou, you're
33 allowed to use certain parts of that for bait.
34
35
                   What the regulation in place right now
36 says is if you accidently or maybe intentionally catch
37 a moose or caribou, you're not to be rewarded by
38 leaving your trap there or setting more traps there and
39 trying to catch furbearers, whether it's.....
40
41
                   MR. ABRAHAM: That's why I called it
42 ridiculous. I mean, there's going to be a lot --
43 there's a lot of trappers out there trying to make a
44 little bit of extra money out there. And they're
45 fishermen. They usually have steady jobs. By
46 trapping, they subsidize many things from trapping.
47 For instance, like buying parts for the snowmachines,
48 outboards and things like that. And this is going to
49 make it so hard for the trappers out there to do this
50 over here.
```

```
I mean, where do these things come from
2 anyway? I don't think those people realize the willing
  trappers, not sitting around in the corner or somewhere
4 not doing anything. These guys are trying, I mean
5 really trying to make to make something worthwhile out
6 there. These guys are interrupting their thing --
7 these things here. To me it's not right. I mean, if I
8 was there, I mean, I'd wipe that regulation off and use
9 it in my steam bath to fire up my steam bath.
10
11
                   Thank you.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
14 other comments.
15
16
                   (No comments)
17
18
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Moving
19 down to other Federal and State agency comments.
21
                   (No comments)
22
23
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal
24 comments.
25
26
                   (No comments)
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency
29 Staff.
30
31
                   (No comments)
32
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
34 Resource Commission. Donald.
35
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
36
37
38
                   Lake Clark Subsistence Resource
39 Commission took no position on WP12-03.
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Like I
42 said before, there's no Fish and Game Advisory Council
43 that I see out there.
44
45
                   (No comments)
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: So I'll move
48 down to summary of written public comments. Donald.
49
50
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
```

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There's one written public comment from
  the AHTNA Subsistence Committee on WP12-03, opposing
  the proposal. If the proponent wants to have this
4 regulatory change in their region, the proposal should
5 only apply for that region. It should not be a
6 statewide regulatory change. Citations for non-
7 targeted species caught in a trap are not yet a problem
8 within our region.
10
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
13 you.
14
15
                   Public comments. Public testimony I
16 meant.
17
18
                   (No comments)
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If none, we're
21 down to the Regional Council deliberation.
22
23
                   MR. WILSON: Call the question.
2.4
25
                   (Laughter)
26
27
                   MR. WILSON: I move to adopt.
28
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
30 motion to adopt.
31
32
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And seconded
34
35 by Nanci. Discussion.
36
37
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Call the question.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
40 question called. All in favor to oppose this
41 regulation say aye.
42
43
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
44
45
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any support.
46
47
                   (No affirmative votes)
48
49
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
50 we've got the statewide proposals wrapped up.
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MR. MIKE: Yeah. Just for to clarify
  the record, Mr. Wilson moved to adopt Proposal WP12-03.
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thanks for the
5 correction. Okay. We're to B, Bristol Bay regional
 proposals. And it looks like.....
7
8
                   MR. McKEE: That's me.
9
10
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Mr. McGee
11 [sic]. Could you introduce yourself.
12
13
                   MR. McKEE: Yes. Hello. Good
14 afternoon. I'm Chris McKee. I'm with the Office of
15 Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
16
17
                   Madame Chair, members of the Regional
18 Advisory Council. The draft analysis for WP12-39
19 begins on Page 67 of your Council booklet.
                   WP12-39 was submitted by the Togiak
22 National Wildlife Refuge and requests combining the
23 current Units 17B and 17C regulations, which would
24 provide an additional 31 days of harvest opportunity
25 for moose during December in portions of western Unit
26 17C and eastern 17B, and require the use of a State
27 registration permit during the December 1st through
28 December 31st season. The proponent states that these
29 changes would simplify moose hunting regulations on
30 Federal public lands in Units 17B and C.
31
32
                   Federal subsistence regulations
33 currently require a State registration permit during
34 the winter hunt only in the remainder portions of Unit
35 17B and C. This proposal would require a State
36 registration permit for all of Unit 17B and C which
37 would align with existing State regulations.
38
39
                   Moose populations have increased
40 substantially over the last three decades in Unit 17
41 due to moderate snow falls and decreased harvest of cow
42 moose as a result of a positive response by local users
43 to educational efforts.
44
45
                   The harvest of moose in Unit 17 is
46 nearly tripled since 1983/1984.
47
48
                   The State's general moose hunts in 17B
49 and C is of shorter duration with a more restrictive
50 harvest limit than the State registration hunt. More
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non-local Alaska residents and non-residents have
  participated in the general hunt than local Unit 17
  residents. Longer seasons and more liberal harvest
  limits have encouraged many local residents to
5 participate in participate in State registration hunts.
7
                   If adopted, the proposal would simplify
8 hunting regulations on Federal public lands in Units
  17B and C, and provide increased harvest opportunities
10 for Federally-qualified users by providing an
11 additional 31 days of hunting opportunity. Increased
12 harvest will reduce numbers in some areas of Unit 17
13 that have experienced little to no harvest in the past
14 20 years and may therefore help to improve habitat
15 conditions in those areas.
16
17
                   Longer seasons and more liberal harvest
18 limits will help to encourage local residents to
19 participate in registration hunts. And the use of a
20 state registration permit will allow the ADF&G area
21 biologist to keep selected areas closed and use
22 emergency order authority to close selected areas if
23 the harvest objective is met before the end of the open
24 season.
25
26
                   The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
27 support this proposal.
28
29
                   I welcome your comments and edits.
30
31
                   Thank you.
32
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
34 Chris. And I think before we go on, I forgot to put
35 the biological reports section that was supposed to be
36 before the Bristol Bay regional proposals, so who's got
37 that. Biological reports for moose. A lot of question
38 mark faces out there.
39
40
                   (Laughter)
41
42
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. I think
43 maybe some of the folks weren't here when we kind of
44 modified our agenda, and weren't aware that we had --
45 we were going to insert -- and I didn't make a note of
46 exactly what we were going to put ahead of the moose.
47 But I believe, yeah, it was information about the
48 moose.
49
50
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: That's correct.
```

```
1
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.
2
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Did anybody come
4 prepared with moose
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: It looks like
7
  just from looking at the audience here that nobody's
8 prepared to give a vital report regarding this moose.
9 So I guess if not, then we can continue with this
10 proposal.
11
12
                   Any questions for Chris from the Board.
13 Richard.
14
15
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I think
16 what we're looking for in the agenda change was, you
17 know, that working group that we had with Unit 9,
18 information on -- some biological information or
19 something from the Fed side or State side. We're
20 looking to see what we have today so that when we talk
21 about this proposal, we can make a good decision.
22
23
                   Thank you.
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: My
26 understanding was that that working group was for Unit
27 9.
28
29
                   MR. WILSON: Yes. Yes.
30
31
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Unit 9, which
32 we'll probably hit later on, but not the 17B or 17
33 Unit.
34
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: But Richard wanted to
35
36 hear that information we do go into that.
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And I don't
39 know if we have anybody -- do we have anybody from that
40 group.
41
42
                   (No comments)
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Nanci.
45
46
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
47 Chair.
48
49
                   Because this specific proposal is
50 dealing with animals in Unit 17,I would propose that we
```

```
would move to make sure that we hear that report prior
  to reviewing the reports on the Unit 9 proposals, if
  that would be okay with the Council.
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: That's great
6
  with me. And I see people, the Council members
7
  nodding.
8
9
                   Okay. We'll continue with 17 moose.
10
11
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Madame Chair.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Alvin.
14
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Just like you
15
16 suggested, I think it would be nice to see -- we're
17 working on a proposal to extend seasons, but we don't
18 have -- we haven't heard from anybody on what the
19 numbers are of moose in 17B and 17C. It would be nice
20 to have some report on that before we get into deciding
21 if we want to extend this season or not.
22
23
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Chris,
26 do you have something on that.
27
28
                   MR. McKEE: Yes, Madame Chair.
29 apologize. In my interest in brevity, I probably
30 eliminated more information than I should have.
31
32
                   In the -- on Page 71 of the report,
33 under the biological background, there is some
34 information on moose populations in 17B and C. Let me
35 see if I can summarize this quickly.
36
                   The most recent surveys of the western
37
38 portion of 17B was in 2010, and yielded an estimate of
39 1,137 moose, while a survey of the eastern portion of
40 17B in 2009 yielded an estimate of 1,466 moose. For
41 17C there was a survey conducted in 2008 which yielded
42 an estimate of 3,235 moose.
43
44
                   Bull/cow ratios in all of Unit 17 have
45 been historically high, but no composition data were
46 collected during the last reporting period, that is
47 2005 to 2007. Aerial surveys to estimate moose in the
48 Lake Clark National Park and Preserve boundary in 17B
49 in 1994/99 yielded an estimated bull/ cow ratio of 37
50 bulls to 100 cows, and 34 bulls to 100 cows
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respectively in each of those years.
3
                  A calf/cow ratio of 16 calves per 100
4
 cows was estimated from surveys in 1999. More recent
5 surveys in 2010 and 2009 yielded a minimum calf
6 percentage of 8 percent for both the western and
7
  eastern portions of 17B, while a 2008 survey of 17C
8 yielded a minimum calf percentage of 12 percent.
10
                  Those are the numbers that I have in
11 the biological background section. There's more
12 information there if you'd like to read it. If there's
13 any other information that you would like, I can try to
14 answer it for you here, but hopefully that helps. I'm
15 sorry that I didn't include that information in the
16 report.
17
18
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess
19 we'll -- if there's no more questions.
21
                  (No comments)
22
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: We'll move on
24 to the Fish and Game. ADF&G. George.
25
26 **
          MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27
28
                  You'll notice in the book we don't have
29 prepared comments on this particular proposal. The
30 State has migrated to an electronic internet-based
31 commenting system, and we've had a lot of glitches.
32
33
                  But, fortunately, I think Mr. McKee
34 here went through my bag earlier and took all my
35 talking points. I have nothing to add, except we do
36 support this proposal.
37
38
                  And the basis for support is aligning
39 the State and Federal regulations. And I believe the
40 Board of Game adopted the changes to this area at the
41 2009 -- for the 2009 registration hunt, and the Federal
42 Subsistence Board had not followed suit, and that's
43 what this proposal, as I understand, is to help align
44 and provide the same amount of opportunity for Federal
45 subsistence users as is currently provided in State
46 regulations.
47
              *********
48
49
              STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
              ********
50
```

l	Alaska	Department of Fish and Game
2	Comments	to the Regional Advisory Council
3		
4		
5		Wildlife Proposal WP12-39:
6		
7		Combines Game Management Units 17B and
8	17C regulations	compilies dame management office 175 and
9	17C TCGGTGCTOILS	
ء 10		Introduction:
11		Incroduction.
		D
12	m ' 1 27 1 ' 1	Proposal WP12-39, submitted by the
		Wildlife Refuge, seeks to combine Game
		s 17B and 17C regulations. Adopting
		ould provide an additional 31 days of
		nity for moose in portions of western
		stern 17B, and require the use of a
		on permit during the December 1
19	December 31 seas	son.
20		
21		Impact on Subsistence Users:
22		
23		Subsistence users in the areas affected
24	would gain 31 da	lys of harvest opportunity and more
	simplified regul	
26		
27		Opportunity Provided by State:
28		opportunite, frovided by beace
29		Unit 17B Nonresident Closed Area Moose
30		Unit 17B Nonitesident Closed Area Moose
31		Unit 17B Remainder Moose
32		Unit 176 Remainder Moose
		IInit 170 Magaza
33		Unit 17C Moose
34		
35		Conservation Issues:
36		
37		As moose populations have increased in
		rea so has harvest. Areas currently
		ver moose harvest are expected to
40	increase harvest	levels.
41		
42		Enforcement Issues:
43		
44		Complications to enforcing several
45	differing regula	ations in a small land area would be
46	alleviated by th	
47		<u> </u>
48		Other Comments:
49		O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O
50		Area staff view this proposal simply as
J U		TICK POST ATEM CHIP PROPOSAT STUBLY AS

```
a housekeeping issue.
3
                   Recommendation: Approve
4
5
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
6
7
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
8
  you, George.
9
10
                   Any questions for George.
11
12
                   (No comments)
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, we'll
15 move on down to other Federal and State agencies.
16
17
                   (No comments)
18
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal
20 comments.
21
22
                   (No comments)
23
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency
25 Staff.
26
27
                   (No comments)
28
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
30 Resource. Donald.
31
32
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33
34
                   The Lake Clark Subsistence Resource
35 Commission on Proposal WP12-39, they are in support of
36 the proposal. Combining the current regulations for
37 hunting moose in Unit 19B and C and requiring a State
38 registration permit for the December 1 to 31 season.
39 The proposal would benefit residents of Nondalton who
40 had positive C&T for moose in 17B by creating an
41 additional winter hunting opportunity that does not
42 currently exist.
43
44
                   The SRC further recommends that the
45 State registration permits required to participate in
46 the 17B moose hunts be made available in Nondalton for
47 the convenience of local residents.
48
49
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
50
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
  you. Fish and Game Advisory.
4
                   (No comments)
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: It would have
7
  been good to maybe hear from Togiak advisory, but we
8 don't have them here today.
10
                   Moving on down to summary of written
11 comments.
12
13
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. There are no
14 written summary comments on this proposal.
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Public
17 comments. Anybody from the public.
18
19
                   (No comments)
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, we're
22 down to the Regional Council deliberation. Nanci.
23
2.4
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: I just want to
25 doublecheck that we haven't heard from Mr. Bobby
26 Andrews on this proposal yet, because I would be
27 interested to hear his comments from the tribe as well.
28 Did you have a chance to check again, Mr. Chen.
29
30
                   MR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Ms. Lyon.
31 Glenn Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
32
33
                   Mr. Andrew had not had an opportunity
34 to review those proposals when we had our consultation
35 session, so he wanted a chance to take a look at them
36 and provide comments by fax to OSM. And it appears
37 that he hasn't been able to do so in advance of the
38 Council meeting.
39
40
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: I just wanted to
41 doublecheck.
42
43
                   MR. CHEN: Thank you.
44
45
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
46 you, Glenn.
47
48
                   Okay. I guess we're down to the
49 Regional Council deliberation. Did you -- Dan.
50
```

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MR. DUNAWAY: Well, let's get it on the
  table. I'll move to adopt WP12-39.
4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
5
 motion to adopt.
6
7
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
8
9
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci seconds.
10 If there's no discussion.
11
12
                   (No comments)
13
14
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess we can
15 have a question.
16
17
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Call for the question.
18
19
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Well, it's really
20 helpful that we got the comments here from Mr. Pappas
21 and Mr. McKee. Knowing that this basically aligns
22 Federal regulations and opportunity with exiting State
23 regulations and opportunity, I'm going to be supporting
24 this, because it's kind of a management success story.
25
26
                   Thank you.
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. I'm
29 going to put the success story to the Togiak Advisory
30 Council and the residents of Togiak, because they made
31 an effort with the help of their councils, with the
32 help of the elders to have this moose population up to
33 par as it is today. Without their I guess work, this
34 probably wouldn't happen. Now there's enough moose in
35 that area that both Togiak and Goodnews/Platinum can
36 harvest. And it is expanding to other regions. So we
37 need to applaud Togiak for their help.
38
39
                   Is there a question called.
40
41
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I just was going to call
42 the question if there's no more discussion.
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If there's no
44
45 more discussion.
46
47
                   (No comments)
48
49
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: Question.
50
```

```
MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
  question called. All in support of this WP12-39 is it?
3
4
                   MR. DUNAWAY: 39.
5
6
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Say aye.
7
8
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
11 opposition.
12
13
                   (No opposing votes)
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
15
16 Moving down to the next proposal. Pippa.
17
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Ms. Chair.
18
19 This is Pippa Kenner with OSM.
                   Lem Butler is the regional management
22 biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
23 for Unit 9. He's in King Salmon. And with us today we
24 have his assistant, Megan Riley. She did participate
25 in those working group meetings, and is available to
26 bring us up to date and answer questions. And I
27 suggest that she come up when -- just before those
28 proposals start. Does that meet your.....
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: That was the
31 plan. That was the plan.
32
33
                   So I guess, Chris, you're going to deal
34 with 40?
35
                   MR. McKEE: Yes. Madame Chair.
36
37 Members of the Regional Advisory Council. The draft
38 analysis for WP12-40 begins on Page 75 of the meeting
39 materials booklet.
40
41
                   WP12-40 was submitted by the Togiak
42 National Wildlife Refuge and requests a revision of the
43 hunt area descriptor for the Unit 17A winter moose hunt
44 to include all of 17A.
45
46
                   Closures to moose hunting in portions
47 of Unit 17A were initiated to encourage expansion of
48 moose populations into southern Unit 18 and were
49 supported by both subsistence users and management
50 agencies. State and Federal managers did not allow
```

```
2002 to 2006, which allowed moose numbers to increase
  and expand into the neighboring Goodnews River drainage
  of southern Unit 18.
                   Under State regulations, all of Unit
7
  17A has been open to winter moose hunting since the
8 2006/2007 season. But Federal regulations have been
9 more restrictive, allowing for a winter harvest in
10 smaller portions of 17A.
11
12
                   Moose numbers have increased
13 substantially in Unit 17A since the 1990s. The latest
14 population counts show a moose population of 1,166
15 animals in 2011 for 17A, which meets the ADF&G target
16 population for the area. Calf production is high,
17 averaging approximately 130 per 100 cows between 1998
18 and 2010. Moose numbers in the neighboring Goodnews
19 River drainage have increased from 2 in 2002 to 196 in
20 2011.
21
22
                   Opening up all of Unit 17A to winter
23 moose hunting should reduce hunter confusion between
24 Federal and State regulations since all of Unit 17A has
25 been open during the last five winter hunts under State
26 regulations. Past closures in parts 17A were initiated
27 to encourage expansion of the population into areas of
28 southern Unit 18. And these efforts have been
29 successful and a healthy and viable moose population
30 with a harvestable surplus now exists in 17A.
31
32
                   The OSM preliminary is to support this
33 proposal.
34
35
                   I welcome your comments and edits.
36
37
                   Thank you.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK:
                                            Okay.
40 comments, questions for Chris. Nanci.
41
42
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: My only comment is I
43 think this is a great idea, because one of the primary
44 problems we seem to have in these units is delineating
45 exactly where hunters are, so I'm definitely going to
46 be in strong support of this unless there's a good,
47 viable biological reason not to be.
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. If no
50 any more comments from the Council, we'll move down to
```

moose hunting west of the Kemuk and Togiak Rivers from

```
ADF&G. George.
3
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
4 Page 80 has our brief comments. I'll be summarizing
5 from there.
6
7
                   The Department does not identify any
8 conservation issues. This population of moose as
  increased to target management levels through high calf
10 production. And that number 136 calves per cows is a
11 pretty high number you're not going to see too many
12 parts of the state at this time.
13
14
                   Enforcement issues. This proposal
15 would align both State and Federal regulations,
16 therefore reducing confusion for both enforcement
17 officers and users.
18
19
                   And the Department does support this
20 proposal.
21
                   **No official written comments
22
23
                   inserted/provided by State at this
2.4
                   time**
25
26
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
29 you, George.
30
31
                   Any comments, questions.
32
33
                   (No comments)
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: The only
35
36 comment I have is I want to a proposal to put a fence
37 by Sunshine Valley so that the moose don't move over
38 there any more.
39
40
                   (Laughter)
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: That's just --
43 any other comments.
44
45
                   (No comments)
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, let's
48 move down to other Federal agency.
49
50
                   (No comments)
```

```
MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal
 comments.
3
4
                  (No comments)
5
6
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency.
7
                  (No comments)
8
9
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
10
11 Resource. Donald.
12
13
                  MR. MIKE: No comments from the SRC.
14
15
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Boy, we're
16 doing good. No Fish and Game Advisory.
17
18
                  (No comments)
19
20
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Summary
21 of written comments
23
                  MR. MIKE: No public written comments.
24 Madame Chair.
25
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Public
26
27 testimony from anybody out there.
28
29
                  (No comments)
30
31
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I keep looking
32 at Tom. Joe.
33
34
                  (No comments)
35
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Down to
37 the Regional Council deliberation. Nanci.
38
39
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair. I will
40 move to adopt Proposal WP12-40.
41
42
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
43 motion.
44
45
                  MR. WILSON: Second.
46
47
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And seconded
48 by Richard.
49
                  Any discussion. Dan.
50
```

```
MR. DUNAWAY: I think this, too, like
2 we were speaking on the earlier one, shows management
3 success in a coordinated effort with the communities in
4 the area, and the various agencies. It's a lot more
5 fun to do this when the agencies all agree, and I think
6 this is a great opportunity for the communities out
7 there, so I'm going to be in favor.
8
9
                   Thank you.
10
11
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
12 more comments.
                  Pete.
13
14
                   MR. ABRAHAM: (In Yup'ik)
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pete
17 said -- Pete likes this proposal.
18
19
                   Is the question called.
20
21
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
22
23
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: The question
24 has been called. All in favor of supporting this
25 proposal, WP12-40, say aye.
26
27
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
28
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
30 opposition.
31
32
                   (No opposing votes)
33
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Hearing none,
35 it's passed.
36
                   Okay. At this time we'll move to the
37
38 biological report. Introduce yourself, please.
39
40
                   MS. RILEY: Hi, everyone. My name is
41 Megan Riley. I'm with the Alaska Department of Fish
42 and Game, based out of King Salmon.
43
44
                   And I don't know if I have a report,
45 per se, but I can give you all a synopsis of why the
46 moose working group met and the whole history behind
47 it.
48
49
                   So there were a number of proposals
50 before the Federal Subsistence Board to limit hunting
```

1 in various subunits in Unit 9. And the Subsistence Board asked that those proposals be deferred in favor of a working group of the various interested 4 stakeholders getting together and trying to work out 5 some of the issues with moose hunting in Unit 9 among theirselves, to come up with solutions. And so in April of 2010 we had 9 representatives from various agencies and local 10 hunters, non-local hunters and the guiding industry get 11 together in King Salmon. We talked at length for a 12 couple of days about issues with moose hunting in Unit 13 9 and came up with a number of consensus items, things 14 that we thought we could do to improve moose hunting 15 for everyone. 16 17 And one of those included initiating a 18 registration permit hunt for moose in Unit 9 rather 19 than the harvest ticket system that was in place 20 before. And the idea was that having a registration 21 permit system, biologists and managers would have more 22 data to go on to track the moose population, have more 23 data on how many people were out in the field hunting, 24 how many people were unsuccessful at getting a moose, 25 and how many days it took people to harvest a moose. 26 We were also hoping that this would 27 28 allow more exchange of information between the 29 communities and the biologists. For instance, in Unit 30 9B, the permits were only going to be available in 31 villages. And so that was one consensus item. We also 32 talked about doing more educational outreach with 33 villages to try to talk about moose biology, and some 34 of the reasons it's important not to harvest cows. 35 36 And we also talked about doing some 37 trapping clinics to try to increase participation by 38 trappers targeting wolves, in case that would be 39 beneficial to moose populations. 40 41 So those are the consensus items the 42 working came up with. 43 44 At the last Board of Game cycle in 45 March 2011 we presented this working group proposal to 46 make all moose hunting in Unit 9 by registration 47 permit, and that proposal was passed. And so this past 48 September we had our first registration permit hunt for 49 moose in Unit 9, and it seems to have gone well. 50 have already lots of data about who got moose where and

```
1 who's hunting in the different areas.
                   I was able to travel out to Levelock,
4 Nondalton and Kakhonak to issue permits myself and get
5 to talk face-to-face with hunters. I was able to talk
6 with most of the village councils in 9B. They all
7
  volunteered to help issue permits for us, and they were
8 able to talk to hunters who maybe came in from outside
  of their community about what areas were open to
10 hunting around those villages. And all seemed to go
11 well.
12
13
                   As far as educational outreach, we
14 distributed newsletters about moose to villages in Unit
15 9 where there's moose hunting, and we included
16 information about the importance of not harvesting
17 cows.
18
19
                   And we also put on trapping clinics
20 last winter, wolf trapping clinics in Nondalton, Naknek
21 and Port Heiden. And those were pretty well attended,
22 and I think people got a lot out of them.
23
2.4
                   As far as new data on moose, I think
25 our last moose surveys in 2010 we looked at moose down
26 in Unit 9E from about Ugashik south to Black Lake. And
27 the main thing that we saw was that there's really high
28 bull to cow ratios, which indicates there's a good
29 harvestable surplus of bulls in that part of Unit 9.
30
31
                   So I think that's in a nutshell I think
32 the important information for you all, but I could
33 answer any other questions if you have any.
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any question,
36 comment for Megan. Alvin.
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Do you have a number of
38
39 how many permits were given out in 9E or.....
40
41
                   MS. RILEY: 9E specifically.
42
43
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: ....to locals or
44 guides. The difference.
45
46
                   MS. RILEY: I don't know specifically.
47 I don't have those numbers in front of me, but if you
48 want, I could get those numbers to you. It would be
49 easy to look up. I'm guessing that there were more
50 permits that went out to guides than locals; although I
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1 have heard that at least in parts of 9E it was a
  successful moose hunt. I think over by Ugashik and
  Pilot Point, the locals did fairly well and got a lot
  of moose.
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
7
 Richard.
8
9
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.
10
11
                   Megan, thank you for your information
12 you've given us here.
14
                   I was -- I'm about to make a proposal,
15 an amendment to a proposal here we're going to have
16 here shortly, and I was looking for some biological
17 reasons perhaps not to make this proposal, which would
18 extend Unit 9B five days to align with everything else
19 that's going on. And I was hoping that you had some
20 new information that could help me to make my decision,
21 but it doesn't sound like you guys have gotten out to
22 9C or 9B yet for a population count.
23
2.4
                   MS. RILEY: Well, no, we haven't done
25 population counts, and the last surveys that we did
26 last year were mostly down in 9E, although we did look
27 at 9C as well. So the reason that we didn't sort of
28 extend the fall season for moose in 9B was just because
29 (A) we didn't have the data, and (B) we've been hearing
30 from people that there aren't many moose around up
31 there, and we didn't want to open up the season too
32 wide if there is a decline up there. And, I don't
33 know, maybe Buck Mangipane from the Park Service, he
34 might be able to tell you more about moose survey data
35 up in 9B. I know he goes out and flies areas up there
36 with the Park Service.
37
38
                   MR. WILSON: Thank you.
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
41 other questions. Nanci.
42
43
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, anybody from
44 Fish and Wildlife or Park Service, do you have that
45 information for us, or could you give us an idea.
46
47
                   MR. MANGIPANE: Sure. I have some
48 information I can provide. Actually you have a
49 printout here kind of showing some of the work we've
50 done at Lake Clark. Obviously
```

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REPORTER: Please don't talk until you
  get the microphone.
3
4
                   MR. MANGIPANE: Okay.
5
6
                   (Laughter)
7
8
                   MR. MANGIPANE: All right. Hi. I'm
9 Buck Mangipane, wildlife biologist at Lake Clark
10 National Park and Preserve.
11
12
                   And I have some documents here to pass
13 to pass out to you. It kind of describes the survey
14 work that we've done in the past. Actually it begins
15 in 2003 utilizing the same technique for regions of 9B,
16 and kind of summarizes the population data for that
17 region.
18
19
                   Throughout 9B in the park and
20 preserve, populations from earlier surveys to the last
21 few years have declined by about 20 to 30 percent,
22 depending on the region. The lake is kind of the
23 dividing line that we see there.
2.4
25
                   As Megan mentioned, bull/cow ratios are
26 strong, 40 to nearly 60 bulls per 100 cows, so we tend
27 to see good bull numbers. And the composition of those
28 bulls are generally skewed to older age classes. We
29 see fewer younger age class bulls in that population.
30
31
                   Our calf/cow ratios are generally
32 somewhere in the high teens, maybe low 20s, but we did
33 see a decrease in that in a partial survey we conducted
34 in the southern area of 9B last year.
35
36
                   So overall the population is declining,
37 and it seems like it's pretty uniform throughout,
38 because those ratios are staying fairly stable, so it
39 seems that all age classes are being affected, and sex
40 classes.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
43 you, Buck.
44
45
                   Any other comments.
46
47
                   (No comments)
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: The only
50 comment I have, I attended one of the working groups,
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and one of the suggestions that we had, or that came
  up, was to develop a management plan similar to what
  Togiak had. I don't know if that ever came about, but
  it looks like things are moving already towards -- with
  the harvest.
6
7
                   MS. RILEY: Yeah. I think the main
8 consensus points that the working group moved forward
  on were just that, making the registration permit hunt,
10 the education and outreach, and trapping education.
11 I think those were the only actions that the working
12 group ended up taking at this point.
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. Okay.
15 Well, thank you.
16
17
                   Now we'll get into the -- let's take a
18 little break, just a few, maybe two, three minutes,
19 just long enough for you to stand up and stretch.
20
                   (Off record)
21
22
23
                   (On record)
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Chris,
26 you have the floor.
27
28
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair. Members of
29 the Regional Advisory Council. The draft analysis for
30 WP10-45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 52 begins on Page 81 of
31 the meeting materials booklet.
32
33
                   These proposals were submitted by the
34 Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.
35 WP10-45 requested a change to the moose season dates in
36 a portion of Unit 9, while Proposals 46, 49 and 50
37 requested that portions of Unit 9 be closed for the
38 taking of moose by non-Federally-qualified subsistence
39 users. And Proposals 47, 48 and 52 requested that non-
40 Federally-qualified users hunting moose in portions of
41 Unit 9 be restricted from harvesting moose within a
42 two-mile wide buffer on either side of waterways within
43 Federal public lands.
44
45
                   All of these proposals were deferred by
46 the Federal Subsistence Board during its May 2010
47 meeting pending the outcome of the Unit 9 Moose Working
48 Group process. The working group subsequently met and
49 developed recommendations requesting that a State
50 registration permit be required for moose hunting in
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Unit 9, and the seasons in Units 9C and 9E be extended
  five days.
4
                   The proposed regulations are based on
5 the outcome of the Unit 9 Moose Working Group, the
6 outcome of the Alaska Board of Game meeting addressing
7 a similar proposal and the recommendation of the
8 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.
9
10
                   Council members and area residents have
11 repeatedly expressed concerns about the moose
12 population in Units 9B and 9C, and the adverse effects
13 of competition with non-residents and non-Federally-
14 qualified residents. Based on recommendation from the
15 State of Alaska, the Federal Subsistence Board decided
16 to form a working group to look for alternative
17 management strategies to address the issues raised by
18 the Council.
19
20
                   The current moose populations in Unit 9
21 are considered stable, all be it at low densities.
22 the past decade local residents have regularly
23 expressed difficulty in harvesting sufficient moose, a
24 situation they attribute to a decreasing moose
25 population.
26
27
                   According to the area biologist, the
28 erratic calf/cow ratios within Unit 9 may lead to the
29 perception that the population is declining.
30
31
                   The total reported moose harvest has
32 ranged from 108 to 180 animals per year. Non-residents
33 typically had a higher success rate than residents, as
34 most flew out to hunt and many employed guides.
                   If adopted, this proposal would
36
37 increase information available to wildlife managers
38 about moose hunting in Unit 9 through hunt report
39 cards. The issuance of registration permits would
40 increase exchange of information between biologists and
41 moose hunters during the permit distribution process.
42 A registration permit system would allow the wildlife
43 managers to collect more reliable harvest data, educate
44 hunters on the importance of reporting, and inform the
45 public about the importance of harvesting only bulls in
46 areas that have low moose densities.
47
48
                   Registration hunts could also be
49 managed by specific areas and harvest quotas could be
```

50 set in heavily hunted areas, allowing wildlife managers

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to redistribute hunting pressure to eliminate user
  conflicts.
4
                   Five days would be added to the moose
 hunting seasons in Units 9C and 9E, resulting in
6 additional opportunities, and this would also align
7 Federal and State regulations, and may allow a few
8 additional moose to be harvested; however, the impact
  to the moose population should be minimal.
10
11
                   The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
12 oppose Proposals 46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 52, and support
13 Proposal WP10-45 with modification to require a State
14 registration permit to harvest moose in Unit 9, and to
15 add an additional five days to the fall seasons in
16 Units 9C and 9E. This is consistent with the
17 recommendation of the Unit 9 Moose Working Group, the
18 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council, and would align
19 with recent changes made by the Alaska Board of Game to
20 the State Unit 9 moose hunting regulations.
21
22
                   Registration permits will allow better
23 data collection, allow managers to shift hunter
24 pressure to alleviate user conflicts.
25
26
                   The fall Federal moose hunting seasons
27 in Unit 9B, 9E and that portion of 9C draining into the
28 Naknek River from the south already start on August
29 20th, 12 days prior to the State moose hunting in those
30 areas, allowing Federally-qualified subsistence users
31 the opportunity to hunt moose without competition from
32 individuals hunting under State regulations. And
33 extending the fall moose season in Units 9C and 9E
34 would provide additional opportunity for subsistence
35 users to harvest moose in an area where the moose
36 population can withstand additional harvest pressure.
37
38
                   I welcome your comments and edits.
39
40
                   Thank you.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
43 comments, questions for Chris. Richard.
44
45
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.
46
47
                   Yeah, you know, as part of that working
48 group, and you guys can help me if I'm wrong here, but
49 in talking about Unit 9, you've excluded the extension
50 of the five days, like it wasn't part of the
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1 conversation in our working group. And i don't
  remember that the case. Is that something that the
3 Department has taken on itself, or is that something
4 that the working group actually recommended not -- that
  9B not be included in a five-day extension.
7
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair.
8
9
                   Unfortunately I -- from my perspective,
10 I did not write this analysis. I don't know. Maybe
11 the State can answer that question, thank goodness.
12
13
                   Thank you.
14
15
                   MS. RILEY: Hi. This is Megan Riley.
16 Fish and Game.
17
18
                   We actually didn't talk about season
19 extensions at the working group. That was a proposal
20 that Lem Butler submitted separate from the moose
21 working group proposal. So, I mean, obviously everyone
22 at the working group was talking about making it easier
23 to get a moose in the freezer; but I don't think we
24 actually talked about a season extension at that
25 meeting.
26
27
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
2.8
29
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair.
30
31
                   Yeah. I, you know, was at that fall
32 meeting there, and when the proposal came out, I was
33 under the impression, as most of us, when we walked
34 away from there last all, that it was all of Unit 9B
35 that was going to get the five-day extension, along
36 with the registration permit hunt.
38
                   And the registration hunt I think is
39 actually going pretty well. I mean, we're -- from some
40 of the comments you made earlier, and some of the
41 things I'm seeing out there, I think it's going to be a
42 very positive thing in our future here, keeping track
43 of our populations.
44
45
                   That's the comment I had right now.
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
48 Richard.
49
50
                   Any other comment.
```

```
1
                   (No comments)
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I just had a
4
  question. Is there a record of -- it sounds like there
  might be a problem of people returning their
  registration permits so that there's a push to have an
7
  education or informational thin regarding this.
8
9
                   MS. RILEY: This is Megan Riley, ADF&G.
10
11
                   I think when the working group met, we
12 talked about having sort of educational outreach,
13 getting information out about not harvesting cows.
14
                   And then with the registration permits,
15
16 the idea was that we would get a little bit more
17 interaction with local hunters. And I think that's
18 come to pass. We get a lot more people through the
19 office, and I was able to go out to villages.
20
21
                   As far as the issue with people maybe
22 not returning their reports, the difference between the
23 old system with the harvest tickets, with the harvest
24 tickets, people are supposed to return that report, but
25 if they don't, there's no consequences, and we don't
26 track them down. With these registration permits, if
27 they don't return their report, then they wouldn't be
28 eligible for a permit the next year.
29
30
                   So what we're doing in the King Salmon
31 office is we have a computer data base that shows us
32 who hasn't reported yet, and we can look up their
33 telephone number and all them and get the report from
34 them if they forget to turn it in. So we're making an
35 effort to make sure that nobody goes away without
36 reporting who registered that moose permit.
37
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
                                                   Thank
39 you, Megan.
40
41
                   Like I said, I attended one or two of
42 the working groups, and because there was so much
43 discussion about how the moose harvest could be
44 improved, I think that was the reason why there was a
45 suggestion to develop a management plan so that all
46 these recommendations, regulations would be understood
47 through that management plan, and not be lost through
48 all these segmented directions.
49
50
                   Any other comments.
```

```
1
                   (No comments)
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
4
  you.
5
6
                   I think the next one is George.
7
8
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
9
  George Pappas.
10
11
                   These comments that I have are not
12 included in your documentation there. And
13 unfortunately this one will be longer than the others,
14 so I'll have to read through them for you.
15
16
                   Adoption of the Unit 9 Moose Work Group
17 based Proposal Number 14 by the Alaska Board of Game
18 and implementation of consensus point items that did
19 not require regulatory changes should improve hunting
20 opportunity for Federal Subsistence users in 9B, C and
      The solutions developed by the working group
22 include, but are not limited to, increased cooperation
23 between the State and Federal governments, improved
24 data collection, development of a State registration
25 permit for moose hunting, increased communication and
26 information sharing between local residents, hunt
27 managers, and non-Federally-qualified hunters, and
28 development of predator control plans for Unit 9. A
29 summary of all consensus point items developed by the
30 working group can be obtained from participating Staff
31 agencies, which is Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife,
32 BLM or National Park Service.
33
34
                   While many of the consensus point items
35 do not require regulatory change, for example, greater
36 cooperation between agencies and increased survey
37 efforts, converting the Unit 9 moose hunts to a
38 registration permit system did. Adoption of the
39 registration permit hunt structure by the Board of Game
40 created a tool for managers to address many of the
41 concerns expressed by members of the work group, and to
42 implement solutions that were developed.
43
44
                   The registration permit hunt structure
45 offers many advantages over the formal harvest ticket
46 system. Registration hunts offer the ability to
47 increase communication between hunters. Permits are
48 available at the village council offices, and hunt
49 managers, with distribution of information to hunters
50 applying for the permits, when compared to the harvest
```

```
ticket system that allows hunters for moose in Unit 9,
  after acquiring the harvest ticket from any licensed
  vendor in the State, which is relatively anonymous.
5
                  Registration permits also offer
6 increased ability to identify moose hunters in Unit 9,
7 which in turn creates the opportunity for hunt managers
8 to obtain more accurate harvest information as Megan
  just stated.
10
11
                  These hunts can also be tailored to
12 address local needs and issues that develop.
13
14
                  In short, the flexibility of the
15 registration permit hunt structure offers many
16 opportunities to reduce user tension in Unit 9 and
17 greatly improve harvest data gathering to better manage
18 the resources.
19
20
                  For conservation issues, there are no
21 conservation issues for moose in Unit 9B, C, or E.
22 Moose populations continue to persist at low densities
23 throughout much of the unit and are not limited by the
24 reported human harvest, although hunting activities
25 conducted outside of the authorized seasons and cow
26 harvests are suspected to be a problem in some areas.
27 In spite of this, the bull/cow rations remain above
28 management objectives, and hunter success rates are
29 higher than most other areas of the state.
30
31
                  Adoption of the recently approved Board
32 of Game approved State moose hunting regulations in 9B,
33 C, and E will eliminate user conflict as both Federal
34 subsistence and State hunting regulations will be
35 parallel.
36
37
                  The Department recommends support the
38 Unit 9 Moose Work Group decision that influenced the
39 Board of Game to convert moose hunting in Unit 9 to a
40 registration permit hunt system by not adopting
41 proposals that were deferred that would restrict access
42 to non-Federally-qualified users and by authorizing
43 Federal moose hunts in Unit 9 to be conducted by
44 Federally-qualified hunters who have acquired a Sate
45 registration permit.
46
               *********
47
48
              STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
               ********
49
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50

1 Alaska Department of Fish and Game Comments to the Regional Advisory Council 3 4 Wildlife Proposal WP12-45: 5 6 This proposal requests eliminating the 7 antlered bull moose harvest requirement Lower Yukon Area portion of Unit 18 The proposal also requests 8 reducing the Lower Yukon Area portion of Unit 18 10 federal subsistence moose hunting season by delaying 11 the season opening date. 12 13 Wildlife Proposal WP12-49: 14 15 The proposal requests liberalizing the 16 Lower Yukon Area portion of Unit 18 federal subsistence 17 moose hunting season. The proposal also requests 18 changing the federal subsistence antlered bull moose 19 harvest requirement dates. 20 21 Introduction: 22 23 The proponent of WP12-45 requests 24 authorizing the harvest cow moose without calves in the 25 fall season for that portion of Unit 18 north and west 26 of the Kashunuk River including the north bank from the 27 mouth of the river upstream to the old village of 28 Chakaktolik, west of a line from Chakaktolik to 29 Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon River 30 drainages upriver from Mountain Village (Lower Yukon 31 Area). The proponent also requests reducing the 32 federal subsistence moose hunting season in the 33 identified area from August 10 through September 30 to 34 September 1 through September 30. 35 The proponent of WP12-49 requests 37 liberalizing the federal subsistence moose hunting 38 season for that portion of Unit 18 north and west of 39 the Kashunuk River including the north bank from the 40 mouth of the river upstream to the old village of 41 Chakaktolik, west of a line from Chakaktolik to 42 Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon River 43 drainages upriver from Mountain Village (Lower Yukon 44 Area). The proposal requests the current fall and 45 winter federal subsistence moose hunting seasons be 46 replaced with a single continuous season from August 1 47 through February 29. The proposal also requests 48 changing the antlered bull moose harvest requirement 49 dates from August 10 through September 30 and from 50 December 20 through February 28 to the single time

```
period of September 1 through September 30.
3
                   The proponent of WP12-49 indicates
4
  adoption of this proposal will result in lowering the
5 moose densities in the Lower Yukon Area of Unit 18 by
  establishing one continuous season partially directed
7
  at cow moose.
8
9
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
10
11
                   If WP12-45 is adopted, federal
12 subsistence users participating in the Lower Yukon Area
13 portion of Unit 18 federal subsistence fall moose hunt
14 will have greater opportunities to harvest a moose,
15 with or without antlers during the open season.
16 Additionally, if this proposal is adopted, federal
17 subsistence moose hunters would have a 21 day (41%)
18 reduction of the season length.
19
                   If WP12-49 is adopted, federal
20
21 subsistence users participating in the Lower Yukon Area
22 portion of Unit 18 federal subsistence fall moose hunt
23 will have greater opportunities to harvest antlerless
24 moose. The current fall season (antlered bulls only)
25 is 51 days long and the winter season (any moose) is 70
26 days long (total 121 days). The proposed season length
27 is 202 days (60% increase) of which antlered moose
28 could be only harvested between September 1 and 30. If
29 adopted, federal subsistence users would be restricted
30 from harvesting antlered bulls between August 10 and
31 31. If adopted, federal subsistence user opportunity
32 to harvest cow and antlerless moose would significantly
33 increase.
34
35
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
36
                   In the Lower Yukon Area portion of Unit
37
38 18, the state moose hunting season is from August 10
39 through September 30 for residents of Alaska with a bag
40 limit of one antlered bull. The nonresident state
41 moose hunting season is September 1 through September
42 30 with a bag limit of one antlered bull. The state
43 winter hunting season for the Lower Yukon Area portion
44 of Unit 18 is from December 20 through February 28 with
45 a bag limit of one antlered bull. Meat-on-the-bone
46 salvage is required thus meat taken prior to October 1
47 must remain on the bones of the front and hindquarters
48 until removed from the field or processed for human
```

49 consumption. Residents may not harvest more than one 50 moose per year between the fall and winter seasons.

_	Conservation issues.
2	
3	The Lower Yukon River moose population
4	is growing rapidly and currently is not a conservation
5	concern. If the moose population continues at a high
6	rate of growth, over-browsing may result in future
7	management and conservation considerations. Moose are
8	abundant in areas of Unit 18 currently open for
9	hunting, thanks to the success of the moratoria.
10	Information presented to the Federal Subsistence Board
11	in 2007 indicated that the moose population in areas
12	targeted in this proposal is highly productive and is
13	continuing to grow.
14	3 3
15	Enforcement Issues:
16	
17	Differences in federal and state
18	regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal
19	create enforcement problems in areas with mixed land
20	ownership. The boundaries between federal and state
21	lands are not marked and often difficult to locate on
22	the ground.
23	the ground.
24	Other Comments:
	Other Comments:
25	The demonstrate will submit similar if
26	The department will submit similar if
27	± ±
28	requesting liberalization of harvest regulations for
29	portions of Unit 18.
30	De name and de billion t
31	Recommendation:
32	Comment on modifical mbs demonstrates
33	Support as modified. The department
34	recommends modification of the proposal to align with
35	the following proposals the department will submit to
36	the Alaska Board of Game.
37	
38	**********
39	STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
40	**************
41	
42	Alaska Department of Fish and Game
43	Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
44	
45	Wildlife Proposal WP12-47:
46	
47	This proposal requests eliminating air
48	transport as a method of access used by non-federally
49	qualified moose hunters in Western Unit 18 Controlled
50	Use Area.

```
1
                   Introduction:
2
3
                   The proponent requests the federal
4 subsistence board eliminate aircraft use for
5 transporting hunters or moose parts in a portion of
6 Unit 18. The proposal seeks to provide additional
7
  opportunity for federally-qualified subsistence users
8 in Unit 18 by eliminating competition from other
9 hunters through eliminating the most effective form of
10 transportation.
11
12
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
13
14
                   The proposed access method closure
15 would eliminate the opportunity for
16 non-federally-qualified subsistence users to hunt moose
17 on federal public lands in Unit 18 that are presently
18 open to hunting and currently accessed by aircraft.
19 This closure would apply to friends and relatives of
20 federally-qualified subsistence users eligible to
21 participate in this hunt under state regulations and
22 would concentrate hunting by non-local residents onto
23 limited state and private lands. If adopted,
24 non-federally qualified moose hunter would be
25 restricted to ORV and boat access which may concentrate
26 hunters near the waterways where locals traditionally
27 hunt. If adopted, federal subsistence moose hunters in
28 Unit 18 may opportunistically harvest additional moose.
29 Users will be burdened with differentiating unclear
30 boundaries in the field.
31
32
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
33
34
                   In the affected portion of Unit 18, the
35 state moose hunting is allowed for residents of Alaska
36 by registration permit RM 615 and is open September 1-
37 September 10 with a bag limit of one antlered bull.
38 Meat-on-the-bone salvage is required, therefore, meat
39 taken prior to October 1 must remain on the bones of
40 the front and hindquarters until removed from the field
41 or processed for human consumption.
42
43
                   Conservation Issues:
44
45
                   None to justify proposal. The Lower
46 Yukon River moose population is growing rapidly and
47 currently is not a conservation concern. If the moose
48 population continues at a high rate of growth,
49 over-browsing may result in future management and
50 conservation considerations. There are no conservation
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1 issues that justify restricting non-federally qualified moose hunter access to federal public lands in the affected area in Unit 18. Moose are abundant in areas 4 of Unit 18 currently open for hunting, thanks to the 5 success of the moratoria. Information presented to the 6 Federal Subsistence Board in 2007 indicated that the 7 moose population in areas targeted in this proposal is 8 highly productive and is continuing to grow. The moose 9 population is so abundant in this portion of Unit 18 in 10 2010 the Federal Subsistence Board granted the most 11 liberal bag limit known of two moose per federally 12 qualified hunter per year. 13 14 Enforcement Issues: 15 16 Differences in federal and state 17 regulations resulting from adoption of this proposal 18 create enforcement problems in areas with mixed land 19 ownership. The boundaries between federal and state 20 lands are not clearly marked and often difficult to 21 locate on the ground. 22 23 Other Comments: 2.4 The Federal Subsistence Board does not 26 have the authority to manage or control methods of 27 access for hunts on federal public lands in Alaska. 28 29 Recommendation: 30 31 Oppose. 32 33 Under its closure policy adopted in 34 2007, the Federal Subsistence Board will not restrict 35 the taking of fish and wildlife by users on federal 36 public lands (other than national parks and park 37 monuments) unless necessary for conservation of healthy 38 populations of fish and wildlife resources or to 39 continue subsistence uses of those populations, or for 40 public safety or administrative reasons, or pursuant to 41 other applicable law. None of these conditions apply 42 to moose hunting on federal public lands open to moose 43 hunting in Unit 18, and a closure to access by aircraft 44 would be an unnecessary restriction on non-federally 45 qualified subsistence users in violation of section 815 46 of ANILCA. 47 48 49 Thank you, Madame Chair.

157

50

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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
  comments. I'm relying on Richard, because that's his
3
  area.
4
5
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, it doesn't
6 sound like there's any biological reason for me not to
7
  ask that Proposal, what was it, 45, 10-45, that we also
8 include 9B with the five-day extension to align with
  the rest of Unit 9.
10
11
                   Thank you.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan -- or
14 Richard, continue.
15
16
                   MR. WILSON: Sorry, Madame Chair. I
17 just want to affirm, was that kind of basically what
18 you said, that there was no -- you know, the numbers to
19 this day, the information that you have, would lead me
20 to believe that there is no problem yet in Unit 9.
21
22
                   MR. PAPPAS: Yeah. My notes are there
23 are no conservation issues for moose in Unit 9B, C or
24 E. And low densities.
2.5
26
                   MR. DUNAWAY:
                                Thank you.
27
2.8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
29
30
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
31 Chair.
32
33
                   George, we heard earlier from Buck that
34 moose were declining. Is that in a small part in 9B,
35 or does the State agree that moose are declining? I
36 think in the past -- well, actually I know in the past,
37 that was kind of -- there wasn't always agreement
38 between the State and the Federal folks on that issue.
39
40
                   MR. PAPPAS: Well, I think we have both
41 State and Federal biologists that can help answer that
42 question. I'll stand down.
43
44
                   MR. MANGIPANE: Hi. Buck Mangipane,
45 Lake Clark National Park and preserve.
46
47
                   In regards to that question, you know,
48 the data we collect is obviously limited to the park
49 and preserve area, so it is a relatively small portion
50 of that game management unit, and can't assume to be
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the consensus for population status in other areas.
  But within that region, that data is, you know, the
  best information available at this point in time.
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
6
7
                   Megan.
8
9
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Could I ask a
10 question first.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Or, Nanci has
13 a question.
14
                   MR. DUNAWAY: No, it looks like --
15
16 well, excuse me, Chair, I believe the State was going
17 to respond to my question as well.
18
19
                   MS. RILEY: Megan Riley, Fish and Game.
20 I was just going to say that as far as the State data
21 goes, we do have survey data in 9B going back into the
22 80s, but for the last I'd say 5 to 10 years or so,
23 we've had sort of spotty data collection in 9B. So I
24 think from what I've seen, it seems to have declined
25 slightly, but we don't have as many trend areas that we
26 looked at in 9B for the past few years.
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
29
30
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.
31
32
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: I understood what
33 both of you have said, but it still doesn't answer the
34 question as to whether or not you feel the moose
35 population is healthy enough to support an additional
36 five days and/or even if you're questioning it, if you
37 think the density itself will control the success rate
38 enough that a person doesn't have to worry about it.
39 That's the answer I'm looking for out of somebody.
40
41
                   MR. MANGIPANE: Buck Mangipane, Lake
42 Clark National Park.
43
44
                   My answer to that question would be
45 that at this point our region of 9B could support those
46 additional five days. Obviously if you look at the
47 data closely, the one segment of the population that
48 it's going to be focused on is probably one of the
49 stronger portions of the population, and that is the
50 bull segment at this time. And so the additional five
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days and current density of moose, which is relatively
  low overall, and at time fairly inaccessible, probably
  precludes that from having a huge impact. So personal,
4 based on the biological data of our region, I would say
  the additional five days would not have an additional
  impact on the population.
7
8
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
9
10
                   MS. RILEY: Megan Riley, Alaska
11 Department of Fish and Game.
12
13
                   I think I might expect it to have more
14 of an impact in really accessible areas, maybe close to
15 villages or along river corridors. I think there's a
16 lot of areas in 9B that are more difficult to get to
17 that might have less of a conservation concern, just
18 because it gets a lot less hunting pressure.
19
20
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
21 main reason why to my understanding that the moose
22 working group started was because the local hunters
23 were not meeting their harvests, although the State
24 kept telling them that there's no problem with the
25 moose population. The sport hunters, because they
26 could fly to the moose locations, didn't have any
27 problem harvesting. It was the local people that
28 weren't able to fly to moose locations that were having
29 a hard time harvesting, and I'm still hearing that
30 there's no moose population decline to this day. So
31 I'm wondering what was the purpose of the moose
32 management plan group.
33
34
                   MS. RILEY: Well, I'm not sure I
35 understand the question. Why did the moose management
36 group meet or....
37
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Well, to my
39 understanding, the main reason why the moose management
40 plan was created was because the local people in Unit 9
41 weren't meeting their harvest needs, although sports
42 hunters were -- you know, didn't have any problem,
43 because they were able to fly to moose locations. But
44 the moose hunters, the local moose hunters kept hearing
45 that, no, there's no problem with the moose population.
46 But the local hunters kept saying, well, there is,
47 because we can't harvest -- or we can't meet our
48 harvest needs. And so that was the purpose of why the
49 moose management plan group was created.
50
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I guess that's more of a comment than
  question.
4
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: Like I asked earlier,
 would this moose management plan they put in, it would
6 have been really nice to have some numbers of who got
7
  what on the permits. Seeing that down in Chignik I
8 know four guided hunts were done, and I don't know, I
  think all four got their moose, and only one person
10 from locally got one, because the guides, they have the
11 equipment to get out. We don't know what this moose
12 plan is doing if we don't see numbers down for results
13 of who got what and where.
14
15
                   It's pretty hard to make decisions if
16 you want to continue having a moose working group or
17 registration hunt, if we're going to find out about it
18 next year. By then it's too late.
19
20
                   A lot of our area isn't surveyed. They
21 tend to survey from Port Heiden say down to probably
22 Black Lake, Port Moller. There's never been a survey
23 done in Aniakchak area. I don't know their reasons for
24 not going out there, if they're scared to fly there or
25 -- I don't know what it is. We give them good snow
26 conditions, but they don't come around.
27
28
                   It's pretty hard to make decisions when
29 you don't got the numbers showing who got what. And
30 I'm pretty a lot of the guides got the registration
31 permits.
32
33
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
34 you, Alvin.
35
36
                   Nanci.
37
38
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
39 Chair.
40
41
                   I don't know either what future plans
42 hold for the moose working group, but I would like to
43 make a suggestion for the Council to consider, that the
44 working group would possibly be an on-going group for a
45 little while longer, because I know that Alvin is
46 voicing concerns that we heard all up and down the
47 Chain for those of you that were in our Council
48 meeting, what, a year ago or so. We had many, many
49 people calling in from Pilot Point all the way up and
50 down.
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And I think that it's going to be
2 important not to drop the ball and say that we're done
3 with this, because what Alvin says is exactly what
4 we've heard for many years now. It's not just a one
5 year thing. I think that I would suggest that the
6 working group might be helpful in solving those
7 problems by beginning exactly where Alvin said, getting
8 our numbers put together so we can sit down and look at
9 them, see where our problems lie, decide if they're
10 lying in the take from non-residents or guided hunters
11 versus resident hunters; what can possibly be done from
12 there.
13
14
                   But I think to disperse this group at
15 this point might be a mistake, because I think that the
16 work you've done is very valid and very good, and I
17 think it's a very solid base for a start, but it's
18 exactly that, a start. So my -- I'm making more of a
19 suggestion than a comment from what I've seeing and
20 hearing. You know, without the numbers for both
21 surveys and what's happened in the field, we will not
22 be able to move forward knowledgeably either.
23
2.4
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
25 you. If we don't have any more comments, questions for
26 State.
27
2.8
                   (No comments)
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Then we'll
31 move down to the other Federal and State agency.
32
33
                   George.
34
35
                   MR. PAPPAS: Let me interrupt. There's
36 a possibility here that if we table this for I quess
37 the night, maybe we can get some information for you
38 for tomorrow morning. Is it possible.
39
40
                   MS. RILEY: If people were interested
41 in numbers of moose harvested and number -- or at least
42 numbers of permits given out, I can definitely get
43 information on the numbers of permits given out. As
44 far as moose harvested, the local hunters, Alaska
45 residents, are still able to hunt, because there's that
46 December season. so we don't know for sure how many
47 moose will have been harvested by local hunters since
48 they have that December hunt as well. But I can
49 definitely get information on numbers of permits that
50 were handed out.
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1
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
2
3
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
4
  Chair.
6
                   I would definitely like to see that
7 information; however, it's not going to influence my
8 decision on this proposal. But I would, if you could
9 bring that to us tomorrow, I think it would be
10 extremely helpful, because it might give us the ability
11 to interpret some of it and perhaps give some direction
12 to the working group, if we could get them to continue
13 on, and to take a look at where their future might lead
14 due to what that information says. But I don't feel
15 it's going to influence my decision on this proposal,
16 so I would certainly listen and bow to the rest of my
17 Council members as well.
18
19
                   Thank you.
20
21
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
22 more....
23
2.4
                  MR. BOSKOFSKY: According to our -- on
25 Page 90, showing the average of 2000 was, it says, 15
26 bulls, 52 calves to cow. 2010 it shows 62 bulls to cow
27 and only 23 calves to cow. That's a big decline. That
28 makes you get pretty scared of what's happening to our
29 moose, you know. That's over half what it was, you
30 know, in the past.
31
32
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
33 more comments.
34
35
                   (No comments)
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, we can
38 move on. There was no response from the Federal
39 agency. How about tribal. Any tribal comments.
40
41
                   (No comments)
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not,
44 InterAgency Staff.
45
46
                   (No comments)
47
48
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
49 Resource Commission.
50
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1
                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2
                   The Lake Clark Subsistence Resource
4 Commission on Proposal WP10-45, they support it with
5 modification. The SRC has commented previously on
6 Proposals 45, 46, 47, and 48, and was informed that the
7 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council will be
8 considering modification to 10-45 that reflects actions
9 taken by the Alaska Board of Game at their March 2011
10 meeting. The Lake Clark SRC supports the proposed
11 modification to WP10-45, which would align Federal and
12 State permit requirements by requiring a State
13 registration permit to harvest moose in Unit 9, and
14 extend the end date of the Unit 9C fall moose hunting
15 by five days from September 15th through September 20.
16
17
                   No action was taken on Proposals WP10-
18 45, 47 and 48.
19
20
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
21
22
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
23 you, Donald.
2.4
25
                   Public comment -- or public testimony.
26
27
                   (No comments)
28
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: No. Seeing
30 now we're to the Regional Council deliberation. Nanci.
31
32
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I'll move to
33 approve WP10-45. Do I need to say anything about the
34 others, Donald, or is that good enough.
35 (Indiscernible, mic not on)
36
37
                   MR. MIKE: That's good enough.
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
40 Nanci. Richard.
41
42
                   MR. WILSON: I'll second that motion,
43 in hopes to amend it to include 9B with the five-day
44 extension.
45
46
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
47 support with modification to include five-day extension
48 for 9B?
49
50
                   MR. WILSON: Yes.
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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
  more discussion. Dan.
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Well, maybe this would be
 an opportunity for Richard to say a little bit about
6
 the extension just for the record.
7
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
8
9
10
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Yeah.
11
12
                   9B is all of Lake Iliamna. There's a
13 lot of communities out there. We're talking about
14 subsistence take here. 9C, Naknek River drainage area,
15 in this proposal has the five-day extension. There's a
16 lot of subsistence users in Unit 9B that would also
17 like the same opportunity for that five-day extension
18 for harvest.
19
20
                   And that's the majority of my reason
21 for wanting this five-day extension on it, just to
22 align the rest of the units around us so people are
23 less confused and have the same opportunities as the
24 neighbors.
25
26 (Mr. Dan O'Hara arrives)
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. That
29 sounds fair enough.
30
31
                   Nanci.
32
33
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, and I accept his
34 amendment for the very reasons that he stated. I think
35 that's complete support.
36
37
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Did we
38 have a motion. We're in the discussion part. If
39 there's no more discussion, I'd like to vote. Make a
40 motion -- not that, I'm losing it.
41
42
                   Donald.
43
44
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Mr. Wilson
45 during the discussion brought up the possible amendment
46 to WP-45 to include five days at the end for Unit 9B.
47 So if Mr. Wilson can make a motion to that effect, that
48 he'd like to make an amendment to Proposal 45 and get a
49 second, then you can go back and vote on the main
50 motion.
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1
                   Thank you.
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Are we
4
 ready to make -- Richard.
5
6
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'm make a
7 motion to amend Proposal 45 to include a five-day
  extension, which would bring it from September 15th to
8
  September 20, to align it to the rest of the Unit 9.
10
11
                   Thank you.
12
13
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
14 motion to adopt 45 with modification said by Richard.
15
16
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.
17
18
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And seconded
19 by Nanci.
20
                   And since we've gone through the
21
22 discussion -- Richard.
23
2.4
                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, if I might
25 recognize Mr. Daniel O'Hara just arrived, and he is
26 also a part of our system over there, and just to kind
27 of -- if somebody wishes to fill him in maybe exactly
28 where we're at here at the moment.
29
30
                   MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Maybe Donald could
31 just real quick fill me in on that proposal, if he
32 would.
33
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald, I'll
35 give you the floor to update Dan O'Hara.
36
37
                   MR. MIKE: Okay. Madame Chair.
38 it's okay with the Council, I'd rather have Chris McKee
39 address the Council and summarize for the Council.
40 That way he'll technical questions that may be answered
41 by him.
42
43
                   Mr. McKee.
44
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair.
45
46
                   I'm sorry, I was talking at the time
48 when you were speaking. Could you repeat what you just
49 said?
50
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MR. MIKE: I just wanted to go through
  briefly summarizing the proposal that we just discussed
  and then, if need be, I can fill in the rest as far as
  the amendment that was brought forward by Mr. Wilson.
                   MR. McKEE: So would you like me to go
7
  over all of my talking points again or.....
8
9
                   MR. MIKE: No, just summarize real
10 briefly.
11
12
                   MR. McKEE: Now I'm really wishing I
13 had been the one to write this, because I'm still not
14 clear on what you're asking me to summarize here.
15
16
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, I'll just go
17 ahead and go forward with it.
18
19
                   For the benefit of Member O'Hara, the
20 Council right now is addressing Proposal WP10-45, 46,
21 47, 48, 49, 50 and 52 which were deferred by the
22 Federal Subsistence Board pending actions by the Unit 9
23 moose working group. And Mr. McKee provided some
24 background information as far as analyses.
25
26
                   The OSM preliminary conclusion was to
27 opposed Proposal WP10-46, 47, 48, 49, 50 and 52, but
28 support Proposal WP10-45 with modification to require a
29 State registration permit to harvest moose in Unit 9,
30 to add additional five days to the fall season in Units
31 9C and Unit 9E.
32
33
                   And the Council discussed the
34 information and -- okay.
35
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I made the
36
37 motion.
38
                   MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris made the
39
40 motion to adopt WP-45, and seconded by Mr. Wilson. And
41 during the discussion Mr. Wilson provided an amendment
42 to the proposal. And the amendment is to include 9B,
43 to add five days at the end of the season. That would
44 align with the rest of Unit 9. And it was seconded by
45 Nanci.
46
47
                   So that's where we're at right now.
48
49
                  MR. O'HARA: And this.....
50
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REPORTER: Dan, you need to turn your
2 microphone on.
                  MR. O'HARA: Okay. Madame Chair. Was
5 that 9 what? E? B and E or....
7
                  MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The amendment
8 is for 9B, to add five days at the tail end of the
10
11
                  MR. O'HARA: But what unit does this
12 deal with, the Number 45 that there's already been a
13 motion on the floor for? 9 what.
14
15
                  MR. MIKE: All of Unit 9.
16
17
                  MR. O'HARA: All of Unit 9. Okay.
18 Simply kind of a housekeeping item. Yeah. Okay.
19 Thank you very much.
20
21
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll
22 move to support.....
23
2.4
                  MR. DUNAWAY: No, we'll vote.
25
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Vote. We'll
26
27 move to vote on the amendment that Richard suggested.
28
29
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Call the question on the
30 amendment.
31
32
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: A question on
33 the amendment. And all in favor say aye.
34
35
                  IN UNISON: Aye.
36
37
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
38 opposition.
39
40
                  (No opposing votes)
41
42
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We've
43 got that.
44
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Now you're back on the
45
46 main motion.
47
48
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And then we'll
49 vote on the main motion. All in favor of the main
50 motion say aye.
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1
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
4
  opposition.
5
6
                   (No opposing votes)
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
9
  thank you.
10
11
                   Welcome, Dan.
12
13
                   MR. O'HARA: Thank you. Yeah. On the
14 way over I saw a moose standing in the water, so I'm
15 right up to date on subsistence. Okay. That's about
16 as close as I've gotten to a moose in three years.
17
18
                   (Laughter)
19
20
                   MR. O'HARA: I'm called a vegetarian
21 subsistence user.
22
23
                   (Laughter.
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
                                                   We'll
26 move on, unless anybody needs a break, but I think we
27 can move on C, cross regional proposals. And this one
28 is WP12-42.
29
30
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair. Members of
31 the Regional Advisory Council. The draft analysis for
32 WP12-42 begins on Page 104 of the meeting materials
33 booklet.
34
35
                   WP12-42 was submitted by the Yukon
36 Delta National Wildlife Refuge, and requests a
37 reduction in the harvest limit and season for caribou
38 in Unit 18 from two caribou to one, and a shortening of
39 the season by approximately three months.
40
41
                   The proponent states that these
42 restrictions are in response to the declining
43 population of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd over the last
44 several years.
45
46
                   The Mulchatna Caribou Herd increased at
47 an annual rate of 17 percent between 1981 and '96.
48 Overall herd size peaked in 1996 at approximately
49 200,000 animals with a peak bull/cow ratio of 42 to
50 100, and a calf/cow ratio of 34 to 100. However, since
```

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1996 the population, bull/cow ratio, and calf cow
  ratios have all declined significantly, which you can
  see on table 1 on Page 107 of your booklet. The last
4 population estimate was 30,000 animals in 2008/2009,
  with a bull/cow ratio of 16 to 100 and a calf/cow ratio
  of 19 per 100 in 2010/2011.
7
8
                   The harvest of the Mulchatna Caribou
9 Herd continues to decline. The total reported harvest
10 was 2,171 in 2005, but this had declined to 516 by
11 2008. Harvest by both Federally and non-Federally-
12 qualified hunters has declined since 2003 when the
13 reported harvest was at its highest.
14
15
                   Carrying capacity of traditional
16 wintering ranges of the herd were exceeded in the late
17 1980s with the herd using non-traditional wintering
18 ranges at an ever increasing rate over the last 25
19 years.
20
21
                   Further decline in the herd may
22 necessitate further reduction in harvest.
23
2.4
                   This proposal, however, would make the
25 Federal harvest limit and season more restricted than
26 State regulations. And, if adopted, this proposal --
27 if this proposal was adopted, hunters will still be
28 able to take two caribou under state regulations on
29 Fish and Wildlife and BLM lands in Unit 18.
30
31
                   There's currently no companion State
32 proposal before the Alaska Board of Game to align State
33 and Federal regulations should this proposal pass. And
34 without alignment with State regulations, the
35 effectiveness of this proposal would be limited.
36
                   Therefore, the OSM preliminary
37
38 conclusion is to propose -- is to oppose this proposal.
39
40
                   I welcome your comments and edits.
41
42
                   Thank you.
43
44
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan,
45 did you have your hand up.
46
47
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Not for this.
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan,
50 you have your mic.
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Any comments, questions regarding that
  proposal.
3
4
                  (No comments)
5
6
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, ADF&G.
7
  George.
8
9
          MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair. Our
10 comments are on Page 111. I'll briefly summarize here.
12
                  Basically conservation issues. Reduced
13 harvest on the Mulchatna herd is necessary to promote
14 herd growth. The proposed reduced season dates
15 eliminate harvest between September 2nd and December
16 19th, preventing harvest of specific segments of the
17 herd during the fall migration period. The uniform
18 Federal and State bag limits would decrease a potential
19 for enforcement problems across the mixed land
20 ownership patterns in the area. In Unit 18, the
21 proposed Federal subsistence bag limit would be
22 different than the State bag limit, creating confusion
23 amongst hunters.
2.4
25
                  The Department recommends supporting
26 this proposal with modification. The Department
27 supports the proposed hunting season dates, which is
28 more conservative than what's going on right now, and
29 would like to modify the proposal to retain the current
30 Federal subsistence bag limit of two caribou per year.
31
               ********
32
33
              STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
               ********
34
35
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
36
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
37
38
39
40
                  Wildlife Proposal WP12-42:
41
42
                  This proposal changes the federal
43 subsistence season and bag limit for the federal
44 subsistence caribou hunt in Unit 18.
45
46
                  Introduction:
47
48
                  This proposal seeks to reduce the
49 federal subsistence caribou hunting season from August
50 1 through March 15 to August 1 through September 1 and
```

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1 December 20 through February 29. Additionally, the
  proposal requests reducing the annual bag limit of the
  federal subsistence caribou hunt from two to one.
5
                   Impacts on Subsistence Users:
6
7
                   If adopted, the federal subsistence
8 caribou hunting season in Unit 18 would be reduced by
  approximately 90 days and the federal subsistence
10 caribou harvest limit would be reduces by 50% to one
11 caribou per year.
12
13
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
14
15
                   State regulations for caribou in Unit
16 18 follows:
17
18
                   The season is August 1 through March 15
19 with a limit of two caribou, of which no more than 1
20 bull may be taken, and only one caribou may be taken
21 from August 1 through January 31. This hunt is closed
22 to non-residents.
23
2.4
                   Conservation Issues:
25
                   Reduced harvest in the Mulchatna
27 Caribou Herd is needed to promote herd growth.
28 Limiting take of both bulls and cows is needed for herd
29 growth. Limiting take to 1 caribou per year is needed
30 for conservation. The proposed reduced season dates
31 eliminate harvest between September 2 through December
32 19 preventing harvest of specific segments of the herd
33 during fall migration period.
34
                   Enforcement Issues:
35
36
                   Uniform federal subsistence and state
37
38 bag limits would decrease the potential for enforcement
39 problems across the mixed land ownership patterns in
40 the area. In Unit 18, the proposed federal subsistence
41 bag limit would be different than the state bag limit,
42 creating confusion among hunters.
43
44
                   Recommendation:
45
46
                   Support with modification.
47
48
                   The department supports the proposed
49 hunting season dates but recommends modifying the
50 proposal to retain the current federal subsistence bag
```

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limit of two caribou per year.
3
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
6
 questions for George.
7
8
                   (No comments)
9
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: George, if I
10
11 understood you correctly, you wanted to -- or the State
12 wanted to support with modification. And the
13 modifications would be the dates?
14
15
                   MR. PAPPAS: The modification would
16 be....
17
18
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: The month?
19
20
                   MR. PAPPAS: I'm sorry. The two
21 caribou. So adopt the proposed reduction in season
22 date length, but maintain the current bag limit.
23 That's the Department's position.
24
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
25
26 you. Any other comments.
27
28
                   (No comments)
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, other
31 Federal and State agency comments.
32
33
                   (No comments)
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal.
36
37
                   (No comments)
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency.
40
41
                   (No comments)
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
43
44 Resource.
45
46
                   MR. MIKE: No comments from the SRC.
47
48
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Fish
49 and Game Advisory.
50
```

```
1
                   (No comments)
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Summary of
4
  written comments.
5
6
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We did not
7
  receive any written public comments on this proposal.
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Do we have any
9
10 public testimony regarding this.
11
12
                   (No comments)
13
14
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
15 down to the Regional Council deliberation. Dan.
16
17
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I'll move to adopt WP12-
18 42 for consideration.
19
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There is a
20
21 motion to adopt WP12-42.
22
23
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: I'll second.
2.4
25
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by
26 Alvin.
27
2.8
                   Comments. Dan.
29
30
                   MR. DUNAWAY: One thing I noticed, this
31 would make a more complicated caribou season. I'm kind
32 of surprised there aren't more comments. How does this
33 proposed new season dates match up with adjoining game
34 management units that also -- where the Mulchatna herd
35 also is hunted.
36
37
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair.
38
                   You're asking for the other -- how did
39
40 the proposed regulation square up with other?
41 Unfortunately I don't -- I can't answer that question.
42 Sorry. I should have that information with me, but I
43 don't.
44
                   Our main concern was that it wasn't
45
46 really going to -- as proposed, it wasn't really going
47 to stop Federal users from hunting under State
48 regulations, so the effectiveness would be limited.
49
50
                   And we certainly may need further
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1 reduction, but we're also under the disadvantage of
  working with old data as well, because the last count
  on this herd was more than three years ago. And we're
4 right at the minimum management objectives for the
5 population right now as it is.
7
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
8 other comments, questions. Dan.
9
10
                  MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Donald, is he a
11 biologist, the gentleman at the table?
12
13
                  MR. MIKE: I'm sorry. Madame Chair,
14 Mr. O'Hara. This is Chris McKee. He's our wildlife
15 biologist for the Bristol Bay region. He's new to our
16 program, and he's been here for six months or so.
17
18
                  MR. O'HARA: Is that on the Federal
19 side or State side?
20
                  MR. McKEE: Through the Chair. Mr.
21
22 O'hara. That's on the Federal side.
23
2.4
                  And I also -- I'm sorry, I should have
25 the handy-dandy with me, but the regulations in Unit 17
26 where this herd is also hunted are the same.
27
28
                  MR. DUNAWAY: As proposed?
29
30
                  MR. McKEE: Yes.
31
32
                  MR. O'HARA: The proposal remains the
33 same? That's kind of what I was.....
34
35
                  MR. McKEE: No. No, sorry. Sorry.
36 It's the same as the existing regs.
38
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: In 17.
39
40
                  MR. McKEE: In 17, yes.
41
42
                  MR. O'HARA: Uh-huh. The reason I was
43 making the comment, Madame Chair, was on the Alaska
44 Peninsula Herd, we had 18,000 at one time and now I
45 think it's -- I don't know if it's come back much this
46 year or not, but it was as low as 1600, so I'm glad to
47 see that we're being a little more conservative on this
48 herd.
49
50
                   Thank you.
```

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MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
  you, Dan.
3
4
                   Any other comments.
5
                   (No comments)
6
7
8
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I'm having a
9 hard time understanding, but, George, the state is
10 wanting to retain -- or hoping to retain or have the
11 Federal retain the two, the same as the State's harvest
12 numbers. And why?
13
14
                   MR. BOSKOFSKY: And why.
15
16
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: The bag limit
17 of two.
18
19
                   MR. PAPPAS: Yes. Two. Yeah, on the
20 State side the bag is two caribou, one of which -- no
21 more than one bull could be taken, and only one caribou
22 between August 1st and January 31st.
23
2.4
                   Yes, the State is asking for some type
25 of conservation measure here, and the two options put
26 forth by the proponent is to cut the bag limit in half
27 and reduce the season. And the Department believes --
28 recommends reducing the season at this time.
29
30
                   And I would assume that the in-season
31 Federal designated individual has the ability to make
32 an in-season call if something does happen or
33 information does show that further restrictions are
34 necessary.
35
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
36
37
38
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
39 you, George.
40
41
                   Any other comments.
42
43
                   (No comments)
44
45
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not,
46 there's -- we need -- there's been a motion?
47
48
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Uh-huh.
49
50
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
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motion and second. And we were in the discussion. Are
  we ready to vote in support of this proposal, WP12-42.
3
  All in favor say aye.
4
5
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
6
7
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
8
 opposition. Dan.
9
10
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I'm opposing it.
11
12
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Okay.
13 So there's one, two, three, four, five, six in support
14 and one opposition.
15
16
                   Okay. We're ready to move on WP12-53.
17
18
                   MR. McKEE: Madame Chair. Could I ask
19 for clarification on what you just supported here,
20 because from what I understand, what you just supported
21 is making it more restrictive than the State; is that
22 correct.
23
2.4
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: That's correct.
25
26
                   MR. McKEE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
27
28
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Pippa, you've
29 got the table. The floor.
30
31
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
32 Members of the Council. For the record, my name is
33 Pippa Kenner, and I'm with OSM in Anchorage.
34
                   The analysis for Proposal WP12-53
35
36 begins on Page 117, 1-1-7, of your Council book. And
37 there are copies on the table in the back of the room.
38
39
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Mine is on 112.
40
41
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: 112.
42
43
                   MS. KENNER: Well, I'll be. Thank you.
44 Excuse me. Thank you for correcting.
45
                   Proposal WP12-53, submitted by the
46
47 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, their main office
48 is in Bethel, would prohibit a hunter in Unit 18 from
49 pursuing with a motorized vehicle a caribou, moose or
50 muskox that is fleeing.
```

The proponent states that law enforcement has found it necessary to cite more than 100 during the 2010/2011 for chasing caribou that were 4 moving at full gallop, which means having all four 5 hooves off the ground in one stride. The proponent 6 states that adoption of this proposal would protect the 7 declining Mulchatna Caribou Herd by reducing wounding of animals that are chased. 10 Chasing is biologically hard on a 11 caribou herd, especially when animals are already weak 12 near the end of the hunting season. And the proponents 13 concern is not the hunter who repeatedly moves forward 14 and stops while caribou trot off. The concern is 15 motorized vehicles chasing caribou at a high constant 16 speed. 17 18 According to both Federal and State 19 wildlife regulations, it's illegal to chase wildlife 20 from a snow machine. In addition, the State booklet 21 distributed to the public, often called the handy-22 dandy, clarifies State wildlife regulations for the 23 public by stating, you may not take game by pursuing 24 with a vehicle an animal that is fleeing. And that's 25 the language the Refuge has requested go into Federal 26 regulation. It's not State regulation; it's only in 27 their handy-dandy. 28 29 Again, while both State and Federal 30 regulations prohibit the chasing of wildlife that is 31 fleeing, this particular wording is only in the State 32 handy-dandy, you may not take game by pursuing with a 33 vehicle an animal that is fleeing. That specific 34 language. And that is what the Refuge is proposing go 35 into Federal regulations. 36 37 The analysis for the proposed 38 regulation is focused on caribou even though the 39 proposal concerns caribou, moose and muskox, also known 40 as ungulates, all in Unit 18. But muskox are left out 41 of the analysis, because Federally-qualified hunters 42 are not allowed to hunt muskox in Unit 18. It's only 43 considered a -- you can only hunt it in -- there's no 44 C&T. There's no customary and traditional use 45 determination for muskox in Unit 18. 46 47 And also the proponent states that 48 caribou are more susceptible than moose to the 49 detrimental effects of chasing. While caribou often

50 flee rapidly when chased, moose generally walk away

```
when approached by a motorized vehicle. So in the
  analysis I focused on this issue about caribou.
                   If this proposal is adopted, there
5 would be no effect on Federal subsistence users in Unit
6 18.
       The prohibition against chasing ungulates or moose
7 and caribou that are fleeing, is encompassed in Federal
8 subsistence general provisions and other wildlife
  regulations; thus there would be no effect from the
10 proposed regulation. Similarly, if this proposal is
11 not adopted, there would be no effect on Federal
12 subsistence users in Unit 18. Either way, because the
13 regulation already exists and is enforced.
14
15
                   The intent of the proponent is to make
16 explicit that using a motorized vehicle to pursue an
17 ungulate or a moose or a caribou that is fleeing at or
18 near full gallop is prohibited. To this end, the OSM
19 Staff and the InterAgency Staff Committee recommended
20 that the language included in the State booklet, or
21 handy-dandy, distributed to the public, which was
22 mentioned earlier, be added to the Federal handy-dandy
23 that's distributed to the public. And it would say,
24 you may not take ungulates by pursuing with a motorized
25 vehicle an animal that is fleeing at or near full
26 gallop.
27
28
                   And therefore the OSM preliminary
29 conclusion is to oppose this proposal.
30
31
                   Thank you, Madame Chairman. That's the
32 end of my presentation.
33
34
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
35 comments, questions for Pippa.
36
37
                   (No comments)
38
39
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: If not, we can
40 move right into ADF&G.
41
42
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
43 Our comments begin on Page 120. I'll summarize from
44 there.
45
46
                   Adoption of this proposal would have an
47 unknown impact as the Department is unaware if Federal
48 subsistence caribou hunters are illegally using
49 snowmachines to pursue ungulates in Unit 18.
50
```

```
State methods and means prohibit the
2 use of snowmachines to position caribou in Unit 18.
  And also harassment of game or herding of game with a
4 motorized vehicle, including a snowmachine is already
5
  illegal.
7
                  For enforcement issues, full gallop may
8 prove difficult to determine, leaving enforcement of
  this measure to subjective inconsistent determinations.
10 Differences in Federal and State regulations resulting
11 from adoption of this proposal create enforcement
12 difficulties in areas of mixed land ownership as the
13 boundaries are difficult to determine in the field.
14
15
                   The Department opposes this proposal.
16
17
                  And some other information, I was
18 assigned some homework from some of the RACs. What
19 happens to wounded animals. What if you shoot an
20 animal, you wound it. You hop on your snowmachine to
21 go after it. Will you be cited because the animals
22 galloping or fleeing from you at full speed. Talking
23 to the enforcement folks on the State side, if you
24 shoot an animal, that's taking an animal. If you're
25 wounding an animal, it's taking an animal. But
26 salvaging an animal, which you're required to do by
27 law, you an go after the animal. But it's a case-by-
28 basis. If you hop on your machine, zip up next to it.
29 Hop off your machine and finish the animal
30 respectfully, that would be different than if you
31 hopped on your snowmachine, put in a 50-round clip with
32 your M-14, and went after them, shooting while you're
33 running. There are exceptions for methods and means
34 for salvaging an animal that are different than taking
35 an animal. It's a case-by-case basis.
36
37
                  So the Department does oppose this
38 proposal.
39
               ********
40
41
               STATE OFFICIAL WRITTEN COMMENTS
42
43
44
            Alaska Department of Fish and Game
45
         Comments to the Regional Advisory Council
46
47
                  Wildlife Proposal WP12-53:
48
49
                  This proposal requests the federal
50 subsistence hunting regulations be changed to clearly
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define how a snowmachine may be used to pursue
  ungulates in the Unit 18 federal subsistence hunts.
4
                   Introduction:
5
6
                   The proponent requests the Federal
7 Subsistence Board further define the use of motorized
8 snowmachines in the Unit 18 federal subsistence hunts
  targeting ungulates to better position them for
10 harvesting in Unit 18. The proponent indicates
11 adoption of this proposal will strengthen the existing
12 regulations protection of ungulates. The proponent
13 also indicates this proposal was submitted in response
14 to federal subsistence hunters illegally pursuing game
15 on snowmachines.
16
17
                   Impact on Subsistence Users:
18
19
                   Adoption of these proposals would have
20 an unknown impact as the department is unaware if
21 federal subsistence caribou hunters are illegally using
22 snowmachines to pursue ungulates in Unit 18. If this
23 proposal is adopted, federal subsistence users would be
24 prohibited from pursuing ungulates with snowmachines .
25 Need input here on BENEFITS or Detracts from fed sub
26 users.
27
2.8
                   Opportunity Provided by State:
29
30
                   State methods and means prohibit use of
31 snowmachine to position caribou hunters in Unit 18.
32
33
                   General state methods and means
34 regulations addressing off road vehicles:
                   5AAC 92.004. Policy for off-road
36
37 vehicle use for hunting and transporting game.
38 (a) Off-road vehicles are a legitimate method of
39 transporting hunters and game in the state, subject to
40 requirements of federal, state, and local landowners.
41 If the Board of Game, through its public process, finds
42 that off-road vehicle use attributed to hunting
43 activities in a specific area has resulted or is likely
44 to result in one or more of the following conditions,
45 it will, in its discretion, take action to avoid or
46 minimize the conditions:
47
48
                   (1) soil erosion or compaction, or
49 vegetative changes, significantly affecting important
50 wildlife habitat, including wildlife food sources such
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as fish and fish streams, or wildlife distribution or
  abundance;
  (2) harvest of a population, sex, or age class
4 significantly affecting condition, abundance, or trophy
5 size relative to area management goals; (3) wildlife
6 disturbance significantly affecting reproductive
7 success, abundance, or condition; movement patterns,
8 distribution, or behavior; or avoidance of important
9 habitats such as mineral licks, birthing sites,
10 wintering habitat, or fish spawning, incubation, and
11 rearing sites, and other wildlife feeding sites and
12 food sources; (4) chronic conflicts with other user
13 groups leading to a decline in the quality of the
14 outdoor experience. (b) The provisions of (a) of this
15 section do not prevent the board from taking other
16 action that it considers necessary or advisable to
17 adopt or modify off-road vehicle regulations that might
18 affect hunting or the transportation of hunters,
19 hunting gear, or game. (c) In this section, "off-road
20 vehicle" includes four-wheel drive trucks and
21 automobiles, motorcycles, three- to eight-wheeled
22 all-terrain recreation and utility vehicles, vehicles
23 with two tracks, air-cushioned vehicles, and airboats
24 operated outside of a navigable waterway.
25 5AAC 92.080 Unlawful methods of taking game;
26 exceptions. The following methods of taking game are
27 prohibited: (4) unless otherwise provided in this
28 chapter, from a motor-driven boat or a motorized land
29 vehicle, unless the motor has been completely shut off
30 and progress from the motor's power has ceased, except
31 that a,,,(4)(B)(i.): in Units 22 and 23, a snowmachine
32 may be used to position a hunter to select an
33 individual caribou for harvest, and caribou may be shot
34 from a stationary snowmachine.
35
36
                   Other Comments:
37
38
                  Harassment of game, or herding of game
39 with a motorized vehicle including a snow machine is
40 already illegal.
41
42
                   Enforcement Issues:
43
                   Full Gallop may prove difficult to
45 determine leaving enforcement of this measure to
46 subjective and inconsistent determinations.
47 Differences in federal and state regulations resulting
48 from adoption of this proposal create enforcement
49 difficulties in areas with mixed land ownership. The
50 boundaries between federal and state lands are not
```

```
marked and often difficult to locate on the ground.
3
                   Recommendation: Oppose
4
5
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
6
7
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
8
 comments for George. Dan, did you have one.
9
10
                   (No comments)
11
12
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess my
13 question to Pippa would be, is there an existing
14 regulation already in place similar to this, or is this
15 a new regulation?
16
17
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
18 The proposer appears to want this to clarify what's
19 already in regulation. Do you want a little bit of a
20 back story?
21
22
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Yeah.
23
2.4
                   MS. KENNER: Okay. What's happening is
25 that -- in a nutshell, what's happening is that it has
26 occurred that Federal and State enforcement staff are
27 working together oftentimes in a plane. And if the
28 State enforcement officer does the enforcement against
29 this chasing, molesting of a caribou, a herd or one
30 caribou in full gallop, snowmachine going after them,
31 that individual has to go to Bethel to receive the
32 fine. If there's Federal enforcement the individual is
33 given the citation immediately with the fine and does
34 not have to show up in Bethel. However, if he chooses
35 to fight the charge, he ends up having to go to
36 Anchorage, whereas with the State, if you decide to
37 fight the charge, you can go to Bethel.
38
39
                   And so because of this, the Federal
40 enforcement in some instances appears to have felt like
41 he needed to take it upon himself to do the
42 enforcement, and this has occurred with people who are
43 villagers.
44
45
                   It appears that there's two issues
46 related to this specific proposal. One is that we have
47 newcomers to Bethel from out of state who are able to
48 afford nice, fast snowmachines, and in the proper
49 environment can really rip across the tundra in the
50 wintertime. And there have been instances of people
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1 coming from outside the area, becoming hunters and
  chasing wildlife down. They had an instance of that
3 happening this winter. When they stopped the
4 individual to ask, what are you doing, why are you
5 doing this, he said he'd run out of ammunition. And
  it's people who aren't used to the environment, don't
7 know the mores, don't know the traditions, don't really
8 know how to hunt.
10
                   The second problem is people who are
11 unfortunate, who live in communities who when the
12 caribou come by, need to get out there right away.
13 What happens is, is when the caribou come by, people
14 will start hunting them, and people -- the caribou will
15 get chased off. And there are people who can follow
16 those caribou for miles up into the mountains. They
17 have the money for the gas, and they have the parts for
18 their snowmachines. But for those individuals who
19 can't, they may resort to hunting if they feel like
20 they have to harvest -- they may resort to chasing if
21 they feel like they have to harvest right now.
22
23
                   Both of those are illegal. And that
24 appears to be the impetus for this proposal is to
25 clarify that if you are chasing caribou that are at or
26 -- near or at full gallop, meaning all four feet are
27 off the ground, and you are witnessed, you will be
28 cited.
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: So to my
31 understanding, it sounds like there is already a
32 regulation in place for chasing.
33
34
                   MS. KENNER:
                                That's correct.
35
36
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And then this
37 one is just describing how a caribou would look if they
38 were, I guess, being chased.
39
40
                   MS. KENNER: And it also puts it in
41 plain language in the handy-dandy. So the little --
42 the book that you usually look through to find the
43 hunting regulations, it's in there in plain language.
44 Yeah.
45
46
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
47
48
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame
49 Chair.
50
```

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It would seem to me like this could be
  taken care of with a housekeeping move to put it in the
  handy-dandy. Is that not correct? And it shouldn't
  take extra burdensome regulation?
5
6
                   MS. KENNER:
                                Thank you, Ms. Chair.
7
  Yes.
8
9
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan or Dan.
10
11
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thanks, Madame
12 Chair.
13
14
                   I was thinking the same thing, and that
15 maybe this more a public education issue that maybe,
16 yeah, a full page in the handy-dandy. Just like I've
17 seen the ads that were posted around here, you know,
18 don't drive your truck in a salmon stream, don't chase
19 animals with a snow-go, and help emphasize that this
20 isn't acceptable.
21
22
                   Now, I know it's probably a little more
23 common than a lot of people want to believe, but, yeah,
24 it's kind of making a second regulation when we already
25 have one; it seems unnecessarily redundant.
26
                   Thank you.
27
2.8
29
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: And I can
30 understand if like how George explained it, if a
31 caribou is wounded, and they're still alive and going,
32 and instead of just letting it go while it was wounded,
33 then a person with a snowmachine would need to and have
34 to go after that caribou and kill it. So I think with
35 modification or not even dealing with this would
36 probably work.
37
38
                   Any other comments.
39
40
                   MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
43
44
                   MR. O'HARA: So the difference between
45 the Federal cite -- or the State cite, whenever you get
46 a State citation, you go to a court and they'll -- it's
47 going to be in Naknek or Bethel or Anchorage, wherever
48 it's going to be at, and then they will decide at that
49 time if you get a fine. And the Federal side is when
50 the guy or when the person is given the citation in the
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field, that's judge and jury; is that right?
3
                   MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mrs. Chair.
4
  This is Pippa Kenner with OSM.
5
6
                   I can't really address the issue about
7 the judge and the jury, but the idea is that some of
8 these people who are cited live quite a ways from
9 Bethel. Bethel isn't their hub. It's not a place that
10 they go to regularly.
11
12
                   But, yes, my understanding from
13 interviewing law enforcement people on the Federal side
14 is that when you get a fine, they have a list of the
15 citation type and the fine right next to it. And if
16 you get cited for this, this is what you pay. Whereas
17 in the State system, you're right, you go to court and
18 then you are fined, but you have to show up to court.
19
20
                   MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. If you do
21 decide you want to oppose it, then you go to Anchorage
22 and go to court; is that right, Pippa?
23
                  MS. KENNER: Through the Chair. My
2.4
25 understanding, on the Federal side, if you get a
26 Federal citation and you wanted to fight it, it would
27 have to be some arrangement through the Federal court
28 in Anchorage.
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: George, you
31 have a comment.
32
33
                   MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
34 Through the Chair. Good to see you, sir.
35
                   As I understand, as explained to us at
37 the Yukon Delta RAC, the citation under State
38 regulation, it's a misdemeanor, which includes losing
39 the animal, forfeiting the animal, fine, reparations
40 and mandatory court appearance. And on the Federal
41 side, I understood it was identical. So I'm not a
42 Federal enforcement officer, but I can speak for the
43 State side.
44
45
                   Thank you, Madame Chair.
46
47
                   MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Nanci's
48 comment here, Council member, why are we dealing with
49 this proposal if it's something that can't be done in-
50 house without us going through a whole year's proposal.
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                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Chris.
                  MR. McKEE: Yes. From what I
4 understand, it is the same on the Federal side. And
5 the purpose of this proposal, as was told from me by
6 the Refuge, right now all they have is a hammer, and
7
  they don't want to use a hammer. They want to make
8 this a bailable offense. So rather than have somebody
9 have to go through all of this and have the burden, if
10 they want to challenge it, to go into Anchorage, rather
11 just basically pay the money and be done with it. But
12 at this time, on the Federal side, their hands are
13 tied, and there's not much else they can do other than
14 this more heavy-handed approach.
15
16
                  MS. KENNER: And to clarify, this is
17 Pippa Kenner, OSM, I got the information, most of it,
18 from an interview with the Refuge, and it isn't a
19 mandatory Federal court appearance. The person cited
20 is not required to come into Anchorage or make other
21 arrangements with the Federal court. They can just pay
22 the fine.
23
2.4
                  And there are other details. On the
25 Federal side, after a couple of years, it goes off your
26 record. On the State side, it stays on your record
27 longer. There's a lot of details about it that
28 contribute to the differences between the two
29 citations, the State and the Federal.
30
31
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Well, you
32 know, before a person gets to that stage, they would
33 have to be cited, and like I said before, what happens
34 to a caribou that's wounded and on the run. Do I just
35 let it go and not dare chase it with a snowmachine to
36 harvest it.
37
38
                  MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mrs. Chair.
39
                  Well, you know, George Pappas
41 representing the State, really got into the language a
42 lot. My understanding of this is that when they talk
43 about -- when take is referred to in the regulations,
44 you may not take, it means firing. I think wounded
45 caribou that are on the run may be a different story.
46 In both the State and the Federal law enforcements'
47 minds. This proposal is referring purely to the firing
48 at moose and caribou while they're at gallop.
49
50
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
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MR. DUNAWAY: Well, once again I think
2 it's a public education thing, and I'd encourage OSM to
3 help with that. I think the Refuge could do something
4 on that, produce videos, get them on the TV out there.
                   Personally I like to see a big hammer
7 for somebody that's chasing game around. I'd like to
8 see them suffer a lot of consequences, because it's
  wrong. It shouldn't be done.
10
11
                   They just -- but there's a lot of
12 people that don't know about it. And it goes on around
13 here, and it's a really poor practice. I've heard
14 people saying, ah, somebody gave me the meat. They
15 chased a caribou all over. It's terrible. I don't
16 hunt that way.
17
18
                   So, yeah, if the guy actually gets
19 caught, which isn't that often, go to Anchorage, lose
20 his snow-go, I don't really care.
21
                  But I think public education is the
22
23 place to reach it. You have the regulation. I mean, I
24 would encourage them to just -- or administratively put
25 a page in this regulation book, harassing animals with
26 motor vehicles is illegal.
27
28
                   Thank you.
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
31
32
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Page 16. Use of a
33 motorized vehicle to drive, herd or molest wildlife.
34 Not. You may not. It's one, two, three, four, five,
35 six, seven, eight -- Number 8 bullet down the page.
36
37
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
38 more comments for this.
39
40
                   (No comments)
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I guess we're
43 moving down to other Federal and Staff.
44
45
                   (No comments)
46
47
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Tribal
48 comments.
49
50
                   (No comments)
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1
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency.
2
3
                   (No comments)
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
6
7
                   MR. MIKE: Comments for SRC, there's
8
 none.
9
10
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Subsistence
11 Resource.
12
13
                  MR. MIKE: None.
14
15
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Fish and Game
16 Advisory.
17
18
                  (No comments)
19
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: As noted
20
21 before, there's nobody here.
22
23
                   Summary of written public comments.
24
                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. There are no
26 written public comments received.
27
28
                   Thank you.
29
30
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Public
31 testimony.
32
33
                  (No comments)
34
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: None. And so
35
36 we're down to Regional Council deliberation.
37
                  MR. DUNAWAY: Do we want to add?
38
39 (Indiscernible, mic not on).
40
41
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Pippa. Sorry.
42
43
                   MS. KENNER: No. Mrs. Chair. Thank
44 you.
45
46
                   I forgot to clarify that this is Unit
47 18. This is Unit 18 ungulates. And the C&T that
48 involves -- it's a crossover proposal to the Bristol
49 Bay region, but it's Togiak, Manokotak, and Twin Hills
50 are included in the customary and traditional use
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determination for caribou in Unit 18. And that's who
  would be affected by this. I'm sorry, I forgot to
  mention that.
4
5
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.
6
7
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Madame Chair.
8
9
                   Yeah, I understood that, Pippa.
10
11
                   And I guess I'm just looking for some
12 direction from my fellow Council members. I would
13 either take no action or oppose this. I see it as
14 burdensome and unnecessary, and I'm really at this
15 point wondering why I'm wasting my time on it. And I'd
16 be happy to listen to somebody else's ideas if they
17 have some.
18
19
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: I think a
20 majority of us feel the same way, so maybe.....
21
22
                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. You know
23 what....
2.4
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: A motion.
25
26
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: I will. I'm going to
28 make a motion to put on table so we can oppose it,
29 because I don't want it to go forward by taking no
30 action. I don't want it to be misinterpreted. So I'm
31 going to put on the table WP12-53.
32
33
                   MR. WILSON: Second.
34
35
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
36 been a motion and a second to oppose the 53 proposal.
37 Comment.
38
39
                   (No comments)
40
41
                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.
42
43
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: There's a
44 question called. All in favor of opposing WP12-53 say
45 aye.
46
47
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
48
49
                  MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Any
50 objections.
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1
                   (No opposing votes)
2
3
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Hearing none.
  We're done with this.
6
                   And we're to the point I think where we
7
  can take a break and start -- Mike, you have -- I mean,
8 Donald, you have a comment. Dan.
10
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I think I can anticipate
11 what he's going to say, but before we quite take that,
12 we took action on WP10-45, and we didn't say anything
13 about all the other ones. I was wondering even if we
14 just verbally agree that.....
15
16
                   REPORTER: Your microphone.
17
18
                   MR. DUNAWAY: I'm sorry. We didn't
19 take any action -- we took action on WP10-45 about the
20 moose. We didn't say anything about 46 through 52.
21 was just wondering if even just verbally we can say
22 here that we chose to address the problem with that
23 proposal and we're taking no action on the rest of
24 them. Just kind of to get it on the record, if that's
25 the consensus of the Board or the Council.
26
27
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
28
29
                   MR. MIKE: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
30 Chair. I was going to address the same issue. So the
31 Council can adopt 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52 and take no
32 action based on the action taken on 45.
33
34
                   Thank you.
35
36
                   MR. WILSON: I'll so move.
37
38
                   MR. DUNAWAY: Second.
39
40
                   MR. O'HARA: I'll second it, yeah.
41
42
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: All in favor
43 say aye.
44
45
                   IN UNISON: Aye.
46
47
                   (No opposing votes)
48
49
                   MADAME CHAIR CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
50 done. So we'll take a break for the evening and be
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back by 8:30 tomorrow morning.

mr. MIKE: Before the Council leave, I
got some information that Verner Wilson discussed. He
brought resolutions for the Council to consider or
review for presentation tomorrow.

so I'll just hand them out.

(Off record)
(PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)
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1	
2	CERTIFICATE
3	
4	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
5)ss.
6	STATE OF ALASKA)
7	
8	I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the
9	state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court
10	Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:
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12	THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through
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24	THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
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28	October 2011.
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32	Salena A. Hile
33	Notary Public, State of Alaska
34	My Commission Expires: 9/16/14