

1 BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING  
5  
6 VOLUME I  
7  
8 Bristol Bay Borough Chamber  
9 Naknek, Alaska  
10  
11 October 27, 2009  
12 8:30 a.m.  
13  
14 MEMBERS PRESENT:  
15  
16 Randolph C. Alvarez, Chair  
17 Peter M. Abraham  
18 Alvin Boskofsky  
19 Molly B. Chythlook  
20 Dan O. Dunaway  
21 Thomas A. Hedlund  
22 Nanci A. Morris Lyon  
23 Dale C. Myers  
24 Daniel J. O'Hara  
25  
26  
27  
28 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike  
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S  
2  
3 (Naknek, Alaska - 10/27/2009)  
4  
5 (On record)  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess right before  
8 we get started, we'll ask Dan O'Hara to do an  
9 invocation.  
10  
11 MR. O'HARA: Yes, while we stand.  
12  
13 (Invocation)  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Good morning to the  
16 Bristol Bay Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory  
17 Council meeting here. I'll call the meeting to order.  
18  
19 Donald, will you do the roll call and  
20 establish a quorum.  
21  
22 MR. MIKE: Thank you Mr. Chair. Donald  
23 Mike, the Regional Advisory Council coordinator. Where  
24 did Pete go?  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't know. He  
27 went to have coffee I guess.  
28  
29 MR. MIKE: No problem. For the Bristol  
30 Bay Council, Mr. Daniel O'Hara.  
31  
32 MR. O'HARA: Here.  
33  
34 MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.  
35  
36 MS. MORRIS LYON: Here.  
37  
38 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dale Myers.  
39  
40 MR. MYERS: Here.  
41  
42 MR. MIKE: Mr. Alvin Boskofsky.  
43  
44 MR. BOSKOFKY: Here.  
45  
46 MR. MIKE: Ms. Molly Chythlook.  
47  
48 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Here.  
49  
50 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.  
2  
3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Thomas Hedlund. Mr.  
4 Chair. Mr. Hedlund was -- he couldn't make it last  
5 night due to weather and he'll be here sometime this  
6 morning.  
7  
8 Mr. Randy Alvarez.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Here.  
11  
12 MR. MIKE: And Mr. Pete Abraham, let  
13 the record show he's present.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, he's here.  
16  
17 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. You have eight  
18 members present and you have quorum.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Donald.  
21 And I'd like to welcome everybody to the meeting here  
22 today.  
23  
24 I guess we'll start with introductions.  
25 And we'll start with our recorder, and then we'll go  
26 along the wall and make sure everybody.....  
27  
28 REPORTER: Hi. I'm Joe from Computer  
29 Matrix Court Reporters.  
30  
31 MR. BRITTON: Ron Britton from Alaska  
32 Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge.  
33  
34 MR. SCHAFF: Bill Schaff, Alaska  
35 Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge.  
36  
37 MR. BRADY: Mike Brady, Alaska  
38 Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge.  
39  
40 MR. SHARP: Dan Sharp, Bureau of Land  
41 Management.  
42  
43 MR. DEVALPDUE: Andrew Devalpdue (ph),  
44 Fish and Game, Dillingham, boards.  
45  
46 MR. LABRIE: Neal Labrie, here with  
47 Katmai National Park.  
48  
49 MS. HILL: B.J. Hill, a resident of  
50 Naknek.

1 MR. HILL: Pete Hill, Naknek resident.  
2  
3 MR. WOODS: I'm Frank Woods, Bristol  
4 Bay Native Association.  
5  
6 MR. HANSEN: Paul Hansen, Naknek,  
7 subsistence hunter and fisherman.  
8  
9 MS. CARLY GOMEZ: Good morning.  
10 Courtenay Carly Gomez, BBNA, Dillingham.  
11  
12 MS. EVANS: Sarah Evans, BBNA,  
13 Dillingham.  
14  
15 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Subsistence  
16 Division, Fish and Game, Dillingham.  
17  
18 MR. LIND: Orville Lind, Alaska  
19 Peninsula Refuge.  
20  
21 MR. EASTMAN: Warren Eastman, wildlife  
22 biologist with the BIA.  
23  
24 MR. PAVEY: Scott Pavey, Katmai  
25 National Park.  
26  
27 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, Katmai,  
28 Aniakchak, and Lake Clark National Park.  
29  
30 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch,  
31 Staff Committee to the Federal Board for the National  
32 Park Service.  
33  
34 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Department  
35 of Fish and Game, Subsistence Liaison Team.  
36  
37 MR. SCHWANKE: Craig Schwanke, Fish and  
38 Game, Sport Fish.  
39  
40 MR. FO: Ian Fo, Fish and Game,  
41 Dillingham.  
42  
43 MR. C. WILSON: Chester Wilson, Naknek  
44 resident.  
45  
46 MR. R. WILSON: Richard Wilson, also a  
47 local.  
48  
49 MS. WHEELER: Polly Wheeler, Office of  
50 Subsistence Management.

1 MR. REARDON: Spencer Reardon, Office  
2 of Subsistence Management.  
3

4 MS. WILLIAMS: Liz Williams.  
5 Anthropologist, Office of Subsistence Management.  
6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,  
8 guys. I think that's everybody.  
9

10 And that will get us down to number 4,  
11 review and adoption of the agenda. Do we have a motion  
12 to adopt the agenda.  
13

14 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chair. I so move.  
15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It's been moved by  
17 Dan O'Hara to adopt the agenda. Do we have a second?  
18

19 MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.  
20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any comments or  
22 questions on the agenda. Nanci.  
23

24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Mr. Chair. I'd  
25 like to propose that we would find a nice little place  
26 in here to address an issue that's been brought before  
27 me concerning redfish up in Naknek Lake. I think this  
28 is an issue that bears enough importance to the  
29 community and the resource that we need to find it's  
30 own -- establish its own location here on the agenda to  
31 talk about it.  
32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Anybody have  
34 any suggestions on where to put it.  
35

36 MR. O'HARA: Well, Mr. Chairman, Dan  
37 O'Hara.  
38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
40

41 MR. O'HARA: If we could do it  
42 somewhere earlier in the agenda. I don't know if these  
43 people want to wait all day long to get to us. Maybe  
44 just before reports we could have this redfish issue,  
45 Katmai National Park; is that okay? Nanci? Sorry.  
46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.  
48

49 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, if I may, Mr.  
50 Chair. I was considering, Dan, to Put it possibly when

1 we're with the fisheries just because they've got them  
2 separated out here between fisheries and wildlife. And  
3 I guess I was thinking maybe we could either put it  
4 directly after public testimony or after the Fisheries  
5 Resource Monitoring Program, whichever folks would find  
6 it more comfortable with.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that would  
9 probably be a good spot for it. So I guess we could  
10 just put it after public testimony. That would  
11 probably be.....

12

13 MS. MORRIS LYON: Call it 9A?

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, 9A. Any more  
16 comments on this.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in  
21 favor of the modified agenda signify by saying aye.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

26

27 (No opposing votes)

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.  
30 Review and approval of the minutes from April 1st,  
31 2009, at the last meeting. Do we have a motion to  
32 approve.

33

34 MS. MORRIS LYON: Move to approve.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: A motion's been made  
37 to approve by Nanci. Do we have a second?

38

39 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dan  
42 Dunaway. Any questions or comments.

43

44 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been  
47 called. All in favor of approval of the minutes from  
48 April 1st, 2009 signify by saying aye.

49

50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
2  
3 (No opposing votes)  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried.  
6  
7 Number 6 is the Chair's report, the  
8 2008 annual report. Let's see that would be on Page 8.  
9 And this is a letter from the Chairman of the Federal  
10 Subsistence Board, Mike Fleagle. And it's just a  
11 response to our annual meeting report of what action  
12 the Federal Subsistence Board took at their meeting.  
13 And if there's any comment on that.  
14  
15 (No comments)  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, let us  
18 move on.  
19  
20 Council members reports. Do Council  
21 members have anything to report on.  
22  
23 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
26  
27 MR. O'HARA: In 2009 Bristol Bay  
28 harvested 31 million fish. And in 2010, the projection  
29 came out the other day, and it's 33.5 million harvest,  
30 which is two and half million more than last year. And  
31 I'm sure it's not Council business, but as mayor, if  
32 anybody has any idea on any more processing capability,  
33 I'll be like Ross Perot with my ears wide open.  
34  
35 (Laughter)  
36  
37 MR. O'HARA: And then Molly and I  
38 attended the AFN last week, and I don't know if Molly  
39 was in on it or not, but there was a special  
40 presentation by the Administration, that would the  
41 Federal, and that would the President apparently, and  
42 there's going to be some revamping of Title VIII.  
43 There was a special presentation at AFN, and I don't  
44 know if any of the Federal people were there or not,  
45 but the system is going to be -- they're not happy with  
46 what we're doing -- or they're not happy with what the  
47 Federal Board is doing and said there will be some  
48 changes by I think January 15th, which is really not  
49 very far away. It's something we need to watch very  
50 carefully. Our Council does well. Everything we've

1 pretty much wanted, we've gotten, and it's a very well  
2 run Council, and so I think it's something we can keep  
3 our eye on.  
4  
5 Maybe there will be some reports by the  
6 Feds before the day is over.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.  
9  
10 Any other Council members have anything  
11 to report on. Dan Dunaway.  
12  
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair. I'm not  
14 really sure how this fits in with our assignment and  
15 all, but I spent about a week in Port Heiden in August,  
16 and they're doing a major clean up of World War II  
17 stuff down there. And in the middle of their clean up  
18 they had some sort of problem with I guess it's PCB  
19 stuff they found. They were possibly -- whoever the  
20 contractor was might be spreading it around instead of  
21 cleaning it up, which could get into subsistence  
22 resources. I mean, there's ptarmigan walking around on  
23 the roads down there, and there's berries and  
24 everything else.  
25  
26 And I attended a community meeting  
27 where they were trying to figure out what to do. I  
28 don't if they decided, I had to leave before it was  
29 over. But I just thought I'd kind of note it for the  
30 folks here. I don't know if it could become a  
31 subsistence issue or not. But understandably the  
32 concern, they're dragging PCBs right through town.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They were trying to  
35 clean it up and then doing a bad job of it?  
36  
37 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, apparently some of  
38 the trucks, there's some problem with letting some of  
39 the dirt escape and they were talking about hand-  
40 sweeping the roads and some other things. But it just  
41 started making me wonder where -- hopefully they'll  
42 have it fixed up and it won't be a issue. And it's  
43 probably way outside our purview, but I just thought  
44 I'd mention it.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks,  
47 Dan.  
48  
49 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.  
50



1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Dan, that's a good point.  
4 There's tons of ptarmigan down there and, you know,  
5 waterfowl migration as well, eating berries and all  
6 things, and, of course, our Chairman, is on the  
7 assembly of the Lake and Pen Borough, so it might be a  
8 good thing for you to watch.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. I've Got  
11 one thing I'd like to bring up. I heard that -- this  
12 is for you, Dale. I heard that you were down fishing  
13 this fall, silver fishing in one of the tributaries  
14 down there up above Meshik there.  
15  
16 MR. MYERS: Yeah, Meshik River.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Was there an  
19 eruption of some sort I hear that you -- where acid  
20 came out of one of the.....  
21  
22 MR. MYERS: Oh, no, that was a  
23 different -- that was a couple years back. That was  
24 coming out of the.....  
25  
26 MR. O'HARA: Mother Goose Lake.  
27  
28 MR. MYERS: Out of Mother Goose Lake.  
29 That was different.  
30  
31 MR. O'HARA: That was more like almost  
32 five years ago.  
33  
34 MR. MYERS: Yeah, that was a few year  
35 back.  
36  
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: Does anybody have an  
38 update on that?  
39  
40 MR. O'HARA: It's recovered. It's  
41 recovered itself. The fish are back.  
42  
43 MR. MYERS: I'd like to also comment  
44 though on fishing the Meshik River, it was a very poor  
45 silver run. There was poor fishing down there. Very  
46 few fish.  
47  
48 MR. DUNAWAY: There were lots of seals  
49 out front.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody else have  
2 any comments or reports to do.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Let's  
7 see. That would bring us down to -- I guess anybody,  
8 you know, they can bring up any issue at a later -- as  
9 we feel the need to bring it up.

10  
11 And also, in public testimony, i's on  
12 the agenda as number 9, but you need to fill out a  
13 card. Do we have any cards, Donald? And then also we  
14 will be taking public testimony all through the  
15 meeting. Just not only on what's on the agenda as  
16 nine. So if somebody wants to testify, and you can  
17 testify more than once as long as we don't have  
18 everybody testifying on issue or it's going to take a  
19 long time. We will let you testify more than once as  
20 long as it's not taking a long time.

21  
22 And that would bring us down to number  
23 8, administrative business. Donald.

24  
25 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. This  
26 morning I handed out a yellow folder for all the  
27 Council members. And these are just additional items  
28 for the Council to have for their information. There's  
29 some reports that didn't make the deadline for the  
30 book, that's under agency reports. And there's a green  
31 handout called the assessment of king salmon escapement  
32 in the Togiak River.

33  
34 Also in the yellow folder I have  
35 proposals that the Regional Council at the last spring  
36 meeting, back in April. Two proposals. One is dealing  
37 with moose and one dealing with caribou. And we also  
38 had proposals from the Village of Perryville on moose  
39 closure on Federal public lands.

40  
41 And I just have some information from  
42 the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge just for agency  
43 reports later on in the meeting. Mr. Chairman.

44  
45 And there's a flyer from the North  
46 Pacific Fishery Management Council just for Council  
47 information. It's a two-page document, and it's just  
48 informational material for the Council.

49  
50 And we also have a schedule for the

1 winter 2010 and all 2010 meeting windows.

2

3 Mr. Chair. That's all I have for the  
4 administrative report.

5

6 I don't have the green cards here with  
7 me, but I'll have a couple of additional sign-in paper  
8 for the public that wish to testify. They can just  
9 write their names, and they can just let me know and  
10 I'll let you know, Mr. Chair, that a public wishes to  
11 testify.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right, Donald.

16

17 Okay. That brings us to public  
18 testimony, if anybody wants to testify, or you can wait  
19 until after the -- we could go to 9.A. first and then  
20 we could have public testimony.

21

22 All right, since I don't anybody with  
23 their hands up, let's go on to 9.A, redfish. Nanci,  
24 would you take.....

25

26 MS. MORRIS LYON: Sure, Mr. Chair, I  
27 would. I would like to. It has been brought to my  
28 attention here this fall that we have a huge conflict  
29 just to catch everybody up to day. And basically in  
30 regulations the State versus our Federal subsistence  
31 regulations, in our Park Service, right up here at  
32 Naknek Lake, in an that's been very traditionally used  
33 by the locals and residents of this area, and it's been  
34 a big oversight on our part. And it's time we really  
35 do need to address it. I think it's something that  
36 we've totally overlooked.

37

38 And I'm happy to see we've got the Park  
39 Service here, of course, as well as several of the  
40 local residents who I know make use of this resource.  
41 And I would like it, Mr. Chair, if we could hear from  
42 them as well so we can maybe start establishing some  
43 areas that we're going to have to start getting things  
44 lined out for so that we can make things meet up and be  
45 much more in alignment with each other, because right  
46 now the law is totally conflicting with each other.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes. Thank you. I  
49 was contacted on that same issue, too, but you were  
50 more up to speed on it, what was going on, so it would

1 have been best for you to take the lead on this.

2

3 And we have us with us Neal Labrie from  
4 the National Park Service. Neal, can you report to us  
5 on the current reg, what the regulation currently says  
6 on this for the Federal, the National Park Service  
7 regulations.

8

9 MR. LABRIE: Good morning to the  
10 Council.

11

12 Mr. Chairman. I have some information.  
13 Nanci and I did speak briefly on the phone. Lots of  
14 research since then to help us try to understand where  
15 everything's coming from.

16

17 There have been some misinformation I'd  
18 like to get out of the way up front if I could. One of  
19 my rangers did contact several of the local residents  
20 down at Lake Camp several weeks ago regarding the  
21 redbfish. At the time there was confusion on our part  
22 as to whether those were part of the allowed local  
23 residents who are descendants of Katmai residents,  
24 which is the way it reads in the regulations.

25

26 So for that purpose the fish that were  
27 confiscated that day. The fish that were confiscated  
28 were -- yeah, I'm going to be stepping back and forth,  
29 so bear with me.

30

31 The State subsistence regulations  
32 which we'll talk about in a second as far as their  
33 applicability, say that the season for the take at  
34 Johnny's Lake was only open until September 15th. This  
35 was about a week after that that it occurred. So the  
36 fish were taken out of season as well.

37

38 So that was the reason for that take.  
39 There were no arrests made, there were no citations  
40 issued, and the fish were put in the freezer and  
41 eventually turned over to Mr. O'Hara to return back to  
42 the community since they were an illegal take, but we  
43 didn't want the fish to be wasted.

44

45 We understand there was a lot of  
46 confusion at the outset. There was confusion on our  
47 part as well.

48

49 The Park's understanding at the time,  
50 and this went for me as well, that that particular

1 activity, the take of the redbfish, was a specific  
2 authorization for the Angasan/Melganak family at the  
3 mouth of the Brooks River. We understand that that is  
4 incorrect. It's partly right, but it's mostly  
5 incorrect.

6

7 And this is where I'll jump into where  
8 our current status is on this.

9

10 It is not a subsistence activity or  
11 regulation. And this is probably the biggest glitch in  
12 the whole thing as far as understanding on where it  
13 comes into play.

14

15 Back when all of this originally came  
16 up into being in the late 80s and early 90s, when  
17 ANILCA came in and the park, and it was again addressed  
18 that the subsistence activities within Katmai National  
19 Park were not authorized but they were in the preserve  
20 and along the Alagnak and those such areas. The issue  
21 came up and at the time it appears to me from the  
22 records that I can find that some of the local  
23 residents, Mr. Angasan, Mr. Nielson from South Naknek,  
24 got together and put together a list of names that were  
25 going to be the authorized group to partake in this  
26 redbfish. They sought action to rectify the non-  
27 allowance of that subsistence take. At that time it  
28 was still being referred to as subsistence take.

29

30 But the way the regulations came to be  
31 was not in a subsistence manner. So when the public  
32 law was passed in 1996 that opened the door to that  
33 redbfish take, it was not passed as an amendment to  
34 ANILCA. It did not change any of the Title VIII  
35 entitlements; it did not change the fact that no  
36 subsistence could be done in Katmai National Park.  
37 What the public law in effect did was allow the Park  
38 Service to change the Federal regulation in the 36 CFR,  
39 the Park Service regulations, to allow the take of fish  
40 by other than hook and line. So within Katmai National  
41 Park, there is still no subsistence take within Katmai.

42

43

44 And this for us was a major confusion  
45 point as well, and I was trying to understand where  
46 this line of law came into being. So again ANILCA was  
47 not changed, so it was not dealt with in a subsistence  
48 manner. It was dealt with by a change in the  
49 regulation on how fish could be caught. And that's  
50 kind of how we ended up where we were. Or where we are

1 now.

2

3

Standard park regulations generally default to the State sport fishing regulations. So there's step 1. So in general the park adopts at the surface the State's sport fishing regulations for how fish are caught and the number kept, et cetera.

8

9

Many of you are aware that, for example, the Brooks River does have a couple specific Federal regulations that are in the park regulations that address the retention of fish above the bridge, for example, and the number of fish you can take per day. So there are a couple of Federal regulations that additionally apply to the Brooks River on top of the State Regulations.

17

18

And it's this overlap that's real important on this issue. When the regulation was passed and the modification in here said that you could take fish by other than hook and line, what it did was modify that restriction. And if you'll allow me, I'll read the short paragraph from the authorization. It is 36 CFR 13.1204. This was put into place, best I can tell, in the late 90s, early 2000 when the regulation was officially passed through.

27

28

And it says that local residents who are descendants of Katmai residents who lived in the Naknek Lake and River drainage will be authorized in accordance with State fishing regulations or conditions established by the superintendent to continue their traditional fishery for redbfish, and in parenthesis, spawned-out sockeye salmon that have no significant commercial value. That was the change that allowed this to-be-described group of people to take redbfish by other than a hook and line and a pole.

38

39

So the issue at hand is really not a subsistence issue, and even I myself have been using that subsistence word since we first made the contact and this issue came up. But from a regulatory standpoint, it's not a subsistence issue. It's a regulatory issue that does certainly need to be clarified.

46

47

As Nanci spoke, the confusion came in with the fact that dates, times and method of take are set forth, if you look in the 2009/2010 fin fish and subsistence State regulation booklet. So even as

1 authorized here in .1204 where it says this activity  
2 will be done in accordance with State fishing  
3 regulations, there is a distinct confusion I think if  
4 you are a local resident. I'll use myself as an  
5 example. I am qualified, if I want to go down to the  
6 Fish and Game office, obtain a subsistence permit and  
7 go set a net for subsistence take of salmon if I so  
8 choose, but I am not allow to catch redfish within  
9 Katmai National Park.

10

11 So for me to pick up the blue book this  
12 year, 09/10 and to read that, I may think I am  
13 authorized to partake in that activity. But I'm not.  
14 I'm prevented therein with the Federal regulation, as  
15 opposed to this group of local residents who are  
16 descendants of Katmai residents.

17

18 In the late 90s Ralph Angasan and  
19 Donald Nielson put together a list of names. There was  
20 84 names that comprise this list. And as far as I can  
21 tell, since that came in in the late 90s, nothing  
22 really has been done with this issue. And I  
23 unfortunately don't have an explanation of why.

24

25 There was a redfish study plan that was  
26 actually put together, developed to occur between 2000  
27 and 2003 that apparently never happened, and I can't  
28 speak to why that did not occur either. Unfortunately  
29 the -- maybe the nature of how we're set up here, the  
30 people that started that are no longer here, and all I  
31 have is a few papers on the plan was proposed.

32

33 It's my understanding that that redfish  
34 study plan was to establish the second part of that  
35 regulation that talked about basically authorizing  
36 those individuals. So whether or not they were still  
37 required to get the State subsistence permit down at  
38 the Fish and Game office -- the plan I believe was for  
39 them to stop by the park office and just say, you know  
40 -- either fill out a second permit or get the  
41 authorization to proceed.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Neal, is that for  
44 just the Brooks River or anywhere in Naknek Lake?

45

46 MR. LABRIE: No. No, my understanding,  
47 the way this came in is that the three areas were  
48 identified: mouth of the Brooks River -- and this was  
49 unknown to us at the time of the contact as well.  
50 Mouth of the Brooks River, Johnny's Lake, primarily the

1 west shore, and the west shore of the outlet of Naknek  
2 Lake around the Fish and Game markers at Trefon's  
3 cabin. So those three areas, reading into some of the  
4 original public law material, is the three areas that  
5 were described as would-be-authorized for this redfish  
6 take.

7

8 And so this is -- as Nanci spoke  
9 earlier, this is where we have a direct conflict  
10 between the State and the Federal laws. If you read  
11 the State book, it is on the surface authorized to do  
12 that for anybody that would be authorized to partake in  
13 that subsistence take. But it is specifically not  
14 authorized for the general public within the boundaries  
15 of Katmai National Park. And it is only allowed for  
16 that specific user group.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What was the reason  
19 for that?

20

21 MR. LABRIE: That I don't know, and  
22 perhaps Mr. Angasan or Mr. Nielson or maybe some of the  
23 other folks here may be able to have some more history  
24 on the build-up up to the time of that public law. I'm  
25 still looking into that. I have some Congressional  
26 discussion, and I have spoken in the past with Mr.  
27 Angasan about that. As far as I know, he was involved  
28 in some of the written material that went forth to  
29 Congress on that regulatory change. But I'm not sure  
30 of the build up other than that there was a recognition  
31 of a traditional cultural activity, the take of the  
32 redfish. But I think what they ran into was that to  
33 change the ANILCA language, the subsistence language,  
34 was going to be a very long road and with an unknown  
35 ending.

36

37 I believe the reason they took the  
38 regulatory method was that because there was already a  
39 legal take of fish. That was already something that  
40 was allowed. So all that was really necessary for them  
41 to do was to change the manner in which those fish were  
42 taken. And so that was this redfish take regulation  
43 that got passed, was basically just a change in the way  
44 that you could take fish. They just took the extra  
45 step of saying who could then partake in that activity.

46

47

48 I have been in contact with Mr.  
49 Angasan, I've left a message for Mr. Nielson, in hopes  
50 that we can get an updated list, because if we're going



1 to follow the regulation, we'll need some type of  
2 assistance to understand who's allowed to do that  
3 activity. And if this list was in the late 90s we're  
4 talking a good 10, possibly 15 years worth of family  
5 growth of people that may now be authorized that will  
6 not be on the list that was supplied to us or worked to  
7 build in the late 90s.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a question  
10 for you, Neal. What's the Park Service's position on  
11 expanding this list to other -- you know, other  
12 residents of the Naknek/King Salmon/ South Naknek area?  
13 I don't think it's fair that just this Katmai  
14 descendants -- for example, I was born here in Naknek.  
15 In fact I remember the first time I went up to Brooks  
16 Camp was in the conversion before the Park Service was  
17 even there, and we stayed in the boat, because there  
18 was so many bears. My dad had to pack his gun around  
19 when Mom picked berries. But anyway, we got fish up  
20 there also, and that's what everybody did in that time  
21 of the year. So I remember going up there. I don't  
22 know if I'm on this list or not that I'm qualified.  
23 You know, my dad's, his mother's side of the family has  
24 been in Naknek since the beginning. They're part of  
25 the genealogy on that side. And so, you know, the  
26 people -- that's where they used to go to get their  
27 redfish. You know, that's why they did that. But to  
28 have a certain amount -- only the certain people that  
29 are allowed to go up there, that's not right.

30

31 And Katmai descendants, some of them  
32 are in Ivanoff and Perryville, which some of the  
33 Ivanoff people have moved since then, and they've  
34 closed that place, so who knows. They're all spread  
35 out now, but they're Katmai descendants.

36

37 But, you know, I think that user groups  
38 that are customary and traditional user groups out of  
39 this area should be able to go up there and harvest  
40 redfish, you know, not just a certain user group. But  
41 anyway that's.....

42

43 What is the Park Service's.....

44

45 MR. LABRIE: The Park.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: .....position on  
48 this? It's probably -- we need to resolve this. And  
49 what is the Park Service's position on how to -- what  
50 should come -- how it should be?

1 MR. LABRIE: I don't believe the Park  
2 has a position at this point on whether it should be  
3 expanded beyond the current regulatory language or not.  
4 I'd have to speak with the superintendent on that. I  
5 do know that we have a sincere interest in at minimum  
6 insuring that the current regulation is properly  
7 enforced and the people that at least right now in the  
8 regulation they're authorized to perform that activity  
9 have the ability to do that and do it in a manner that  
10 won't result in a contact similar to what occurred in  
11 September.

12  
13 Beyond that I can't speak as to the  
14 long-term plans for any modification to that  
15 regulation. That may be something that your Council or  
16 the public at large may want to address at the upcoming  
17 -- there will be an opportunity to comment on the  
18 compendium, the Park compendium coming up in about  
19 another month or two. And that maybe an opportunity to  
20 provide some public comment on that specific  
21 regulation.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

24  
25 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
26 Yeah, Neal. I just -- the first thought that pops into  
27 my head just listening between, you know, Randy's  
28 comment and your reply to me it seems just logical that  
29 the onerousness in and of itself of carrying around a  
30 list of people that you're going to have authorized is  
31 probably hardly worth the effort. And I think even  
32 after we listen to the people here who would like to  
33 testify on this and their use of it, I think the use is  
34 still down at such a low minimal point, I don't see  
35 that this is going to open up a whole vast bag of worms  
36 for anybody. In all honesty, would it not be simpler  
37 for the park to be able just to have it open to  
38 residents rather than having to worry about carrying  
39 around a list and making sure you have the right people  
40 on that list?

41  
42 MR. LABRIE: It may be easier from an  
43 operational standpoint, but not from a regulatory  
44 standpoint. It's definitely going to be easier to  
45 adopt, or I'll say perhaps easier, to adapt the  
46 regulation the way it currently reads.

47  
48 But one thing that I'm very hesitant to  
49 do is incorrectly enforce or not enforce a regulation  
50 that is currently on the books. I think that's very

1 hazardous to the way regulations should be applied. I  
2 think if we're going to be true to the regulation at  
3 this point, the way it's written, we need to do our  
4 best as a community and park to understand who that  
5 group may be.

6

7 If I may say one more thing. I have  
8 heard some doubts in the manner in which that list was  
9 produced early only, that it may not have included the  
10 people -- other people that may have been authorized  
11 the way that this is written. And I would like to see  
12 that process maybe addressed over the winter or in the  
13 spring so that come next year that we kind of have this  
14 ironed out as much as possible to the extent that the  
15 regulation will allow. And then we can be proceeding,  
16 especially if requested to further clarify that  
17 regulation and to see if it needs to be expanded.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

20

21 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Mr. Chair.  
22 Neal, I guess what I'm saying is it sounds to me like  
23 this regulation needs fixing more than anything else.  
24 You're trying -- your job is to abide to the  
25 regulation. To me it appears that the regulation is  
26 not giving you a very good tool to work with. Would  
27 that indeed be the best thing is to go back and have  
28 the regulation changed into a manner that would read  
29 that residents would be allowed, and what those methods  
30 and means would be, what all do we need to include in  
31 that. Can you help us make it right for you?

32

33 MR. LABRIE: We may. And I say that  
34 because we are currently proceeding on a regulations  
35 package that we're going to be putting in within the  
36 next I'll say 8 to 12 months, in the next year to  
37 address several inconsistencies in the regulations in  
38 other areas that apply to the Park. And I'd be happy  
39 to include this in there. But because the regulation  
40 was brought forth by the local families originally, I  
41 don't think the Park is in a position to -- or should  
42 be the ones to solely modify or request modifications  
43 to that regulation. I think that needs to be done in  
44 concert so that whatever the original purpose was,  
45 which my understanding was to continue the traditional  
46 take of those redfish in an area that became  
47 unauthorized, or the subsistence activities were ended  
48 within Katmai National Park, I think they need to be  
49 involved in that end of it. And that's why I'm really  
50 kind of pushing that end of it, is because they I

1 believe are the ones that brought it forward back in  
2 the late 80s and early 90s when ANILCA was passed. And  
3 I think we're going to need their help inherently in  
4 either rewriting or redrafting that so that it still  
5 needs the purposes that originally was intended.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Neal, I think that  
8 this entity here is the entity that you should be  
9 working with to redraft this proposal, not any  
10 specific family, but this group that represents all of  
11 Bristol Bay. And so I think that this is who you need  
12 to be -- the Park Service needs to be working with to  
13 get this regulation fixed. That's my opinion on that.

14

15 MR. LABRIE: I'd be happy to work with  
16 the group. I just want to ensure that we understand  
17 that what we're dealing with is not a subsistence  
18 issue. I believe you're largely correct, and that this  
19 may be the better group to speak with, as long as we  
20 have the understanding that we're not making any  
21 subsistence changes. We're making regulatory changes  
22 in the take of fish.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald, do you have  
25 any comments on where we should go on this?

26

27 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. The only thing I  
28 can say about the redbfish issue is that our program,  
29 the Office of Subsistence Management, do not have any  
30 jurisdiction on NPS land where ANILCA's not part of the  
31 program.

32

33 But as far as the Council working with  
34 the Park Service to develop the regulations, my only  
35 suggestion is that, Mr. Chairman, you may want to  
36 appoint one of the Council members to work with the  
37 Park Service, to help review their compendium and the  
38 regulations.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

41

42 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, Neal, you're  
43 probably familiar how this redbfish thing came about to  
44 be able to put a net in. First of all, Brooks Lake,  
45 Brooks River where you can take fish at a certain time.  
46 Johnny's Lake and Trefon's cabin can only be fished by  
47 those people designated, as you say, the names that  
48 were given to you.

49

50 MR. LABRIE: Correct.

1 MR. O'HARA: No one else has a right to  
2 go in there and put in a net.

3  
4 MR. LABRIE: That is our current  
5 understanding.

6  
7 MR. O'HARA: So that's a  
8 misunderstanding that we had with the people who came  
9 up there from Naknek, went up and got the fish  
10 illegally and when they were contacted.

11  
12 MR. LABRIE: Correct. Correct.

13  
14 MR. O'HARA: Okay. So we're perfectly  
15 clear on that. And how this came about was Bristol Bay  
16 Native Association put in a bill to Congress with these  
17 names and people, that Katmai descendants was pretty  
18 broad, and the name from that time, I'm not sure where  
19 it come from. And the first time it went in, the late  
20 Senator Ted Kennedy loaded that bill up and nothing  
21 happened, it didn't past. The bill came back again and  
22 Senator Ted passed it and Congress passed this law that  
23 you could put a net in in Katmai National Park, and  
24 these names were designated, you know. It wasn't  
25 welcome news for the people up at Katmai, because they  
26 thought that, you know, the whole thing was doomed.  
27 Obviously it's not. And so that is the rules and  
28 regulations on how it come about.

29  
30 And it was unclear to me until we had  
31 this confrontation with the people here locally in  
32 September. And I guess now what we need to understand  
33 is whether or not traditional and customary use was  
34 established prior to ANILCA of these areas. And that  
35 is a rather interesting skeleton to bring up.

36  
37 MR. LABRIE: Yeah. I agree.

38  
39 MR. O'HARA: And it could be that this  
40 Council would still go back and reach over there. And  
41 I know the Park Service, you know -- and I guess the  
42 question I have to ask you is, this regulation is  
43 probably not something widespread across the nation.  
44 And so the question I have to ask you is whether or not  
45 a regulation is made here in the Katmai National Park  
46 in relationship to everything that happened within the  
47 Park Service across the nation. And that's a very  
48 important question, because there could be just a  
49 little bit of a light at the end of the tunnel on that.  
50 And I understand that regulations are made pretty much

1 on a national basis. And I'd like you to address that.

2

3 MR. LABRIE: I'd be happy to. This is  
4 the unique nature of Alaska parks. Within this booklet  
5 are the regulations for the entire national park  
6 system. Every national park in the system gets their  
7 regulations out of this booklet. There primary  
8 enforcement tools for the protection of those  
9 resources. There's one section in here that deals with  
10 park-specific issues for the Lower 48, and it's Part 7,  
11 and there's a few things that each park then has the  
12 ability to modify based on the original regulations.  
13 They usually have to deal with access via snowmobiles,  
14 establishing snowmobile routes. Kind of more the  
15 activity-based recreation and have further limitations  
16 for individual parks.

17

18 Alaska has Part 13, so all of the  
19 Alaska parks have a specific section within Part 13  
20 that allows us to take the differences that Alaska  
21 parks are, which are significant. The Lower 48 parks  
22 do not have ANILCA. The biggest example I can give you  
23 is, you know, how we treat wilderness in Alaska as  
24 opposed to the Lower 48. Up here the access of  
25 wilderness areas and the unencumbered landing of  
26 aircraft is allowed in wilderness where it wouldn't be  
27 in the Lower 48. So there's a lot of sections of 13 --  
28 of Section 13 in the regulations that only apply to  
29 Alaska parks in general.

30

31 And within that, there are specific  
32 sections. Ours happens to be Part O in 13. So 36 CFR,  
33 Part 13, Part O. And those are the Katmai-specific  
34 regulations. That's the part where this redfish  
35 language is taken, this 13.1204. We do have the  
36 ability as showcased by that redfish regulation to  
37 adapt or modify a current regulation to further specify  
38 for a specific park that does not necessarily have any  
39 applicability to any other park in Alaska or any other  
40 park in the Lower 48.

41

42 So it's entirely possible, because we  
43 recognize the fact that resources say at Katmai  
44 National Park may be unique enough that a special  
45 regulation is required, but obviously won't apply  
46 elsewhere, because that activity either doesn't exist  
47 or just doesn't apply. So we have the ability to do  
48 that.

49

50 Does that help clarify the question?

1 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. I think  
2 that's a really good beginning. Or else we can go back  
3 to Congress and try to have another bill passed where,  
4 you know, that those Katmai descendants and maybe --  
5 redfish is a done deal. I mean, they're just going to  
6 die. I mean, it does not hurt the resource to have a  
7 few people go up there. And even if you want to put  
8 the cap on the few people, that could be part of it,  
9 too. So I think it's worthwhile, and I'm not so sure  
10 we can legally do it under ANILCA that prior to ANILCA  
11 passing for those people who did use that resource. I  
12 think that's a really good challenge for you guys in  
13 the Park Service to look at, because it could change  
14 because of that.

15  
16 And I appreciate the fact that you can  
17 have some, I don't know, ability to change something  
18 within Alaska versus the national level. And I think  
19 that's something to work with.

20  
21 So, Mr. Chairman, I would think by the  
22 next time we meet, we're going to have a lot of  
23 homework to do on where we're going to go with this  
24 thing. And we need to resolve this issue.

25  
26 MR. LABRIE: We do have a good  
27 opportunity here to address it. And given the way that  
28 it was addressed the first time through that regulation  
29 instead of ANILCA gives you a door to work with, if  
30 indeed we want to modify that regulation the way it's  
31 written to address whatever issues have come up, you  
32 know, to the Council today. We've got a method to do  
33 that. It's not going to solve any of the bigger  
34 questions that you're asking, but as far as the redfish  
35 take, we have an opportunity I think to modify the  
36 regulation or at least propose modifications to that  
37 regulation and get it out there for public input.

38  
39 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Years ago, Mr.  
40 Chairman, not too many years ago, the Federal Board  
41 decided that rainbow trout would be designated a sports  
42 fish. Rainbow trout is a subsistence user trout first  
43 of all, you know. And we had a hard time, I mean, we  
44 scrounged up four of the seven votes and made rainbow  
45 trout within, you know, the Federal waters and these  
46 type of things under State regulation, to be used as a  
47 subsistence fish. So it's not impossible. And Pat  
48 Pourchot I believe is the guy who was in from D.C.  
49 along with a former senator from Juneau, appointed by  
50 President Obama, and I think maybe these type of things

1 is where they're maybe looking at whether this Federal  
2 Subsistence Board is really working or not.

3

4                   Anyway, I think it's a way to start  
5 working from.

6

7                   MR. LABRIE: Agree.

8

9                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. Dan  
10 Dunaway.

11

12                   MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I listened to this,  
13 I'm starting to wonder, too, if the State could help a  
14 little bit. I'm not real conversant in how the regs  
15 are presented in the State, but I've seen in other  
16 parts of the State regulations where they'll say, in  
17 some cases these regulations may not be the entire  
18 picture, and that you should check with -- I think it's  
19 some line nearby that says, check with -- if you find a  
20 deficient side of Federal lands area, check with the  
21 Federal land manager. I think there's some lines like  
22 that in some of the State books to warn people that you  
23 can't just go out to some of these places if there's  
24 other places you should look for other regulations. So  
25 I see Ted and a few other State folks out here. I was  
26 wondering if they could make a note that -- to help  
27 folks not get crossed up too much, just a little  
28 warning line could be inserted in the next regulation  
29 book to help people avoid the problem.

30

31                   That's all.

32

33                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

34

35                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Mr. Chair. Yes,  
36 I agree, Dan, but I would much rather see regulations  
37 brought into alignment with each other so we don't even  
38 have to worry about having the extra line in there. I  
39 think that that's the best way for people to look at  
40 any book and be able to know that what they're doing is  
41 the right thing.

42

43                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's a good idea.

44

45

46                   MR. BOSKOFKY: Mr. Chair.

47

48                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Alvin.

49

50                   MR. BOSKOFKY: Just like you stated a



if your name is on there. We've got people  
3 that I think are in Ouzinkie, Kodiak, along that  
4 island, too, that were from Katmai. And I think they  
5 would probably want to be on that list, too.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm actual -- yeah,  
8 that would probably -- they have a right to if they're  
9 descendants in my opinion. Something has to be  
10 changed. It has to be rectified so that the local  
11 people can, that qualify for C&T, go up there and  
12 harvest redfish, because currently the only fishing  
13 that is allowed up there is sport fish. So the way it  
14 looks is the Park Service has sport fishing all above  
15 every other resource. Subsistence. Commercial. You  
16 can't commercial up there, but at least you should be  
17 able to subsistence fish up there. And so we need, you  
18 know -- and it would be in everybody's best interest to  
19 doing that, because the State recognizes that it should  
20 be done up there. And somehow that by next season  
21 maybe we can have it changed so that people can go up  
22 there that qualify to do it and harvest subsistence  
23 redfish.

24

25 Is there any other comment from the  
26 members.

27

28 (No comments)

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mike, Donald.

31

32 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
33 don't know what the position of the Council is, but the  
34 Park Service mentioned that their are some regulations  
35 up for review. And, Mr. Chairman, you can always  
36 assign a couple of Council members to help review them.

37

38 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That would be a good  
41 idea. I think that probably Dan O'Hara and Nanci  
42 Morris Lyons.

43

44 MR. O'HARA: And yourself.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I could.

47

48 MR. O'HARA: You're thinking about a  
49 committee.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I could, but you and  
2 Nanci are residents here, and even Dale. The people  
3 that are residence in Naknek/King Salmon probably  
4 should work with the Park Service, and if they need  
5 other members' input, then they can call is.  
6  
7 Is there any more comment.  
8  
9 (No comments)  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Violet, would you  
12 like to testify.  
13  
14 MS. WILLSON: Yes. I think I speak  
15 loud enough where I don't have to get to the speaker.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, you need to. It  
18 has to be recorded.  
19  
20 MR. O'HARA: This is recorded there, so  
21 forever your words will be with us.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Neal. If  
24 we need you, we'll call you.  
25  
26 MS. WILLSON: Yes. I'm Violet and I  
27 live in Naknek.  
28  
29 I wanted to comment on this, because  
30 every year when we go to the Fish and Game to get our  
31 subsistence permit, Carol always asks if we want to get  
32 spawn-outs. That means going to Naknek Lake to get  
33 these redbfish. And we always take that. I didn't know  
34 that there is a certain list, and I don't know if I'm  
35 on that list or not. But being born and raised in Lake  
36 Iliamna and living down here, we're used to taking  
37 those fall fish. And I never knew that there was a  
38 certain area in Naknek Lake to take these fish.  
39 They're all spawn-outs anyhow, so what difference is  
40 it?  
41  
42 MR. O'HARA: Just the fact that it is a  
43 rule in the law and it was Congress that did it just  
44 for the Katmai descendants.  
45  
46 MS. WILLSON: I think it's totally  
47 ridiculous that we have to go to certain areas in  
48 Naknek Lake.  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: Well, I think, you know,

1 Violet, I really appreciate you testifying today. Too  
2 bad there couldn't have been a little more public input  
3 on how this could be expanded out to other user groups  
4 that could use a fish that's not going to go anywhere  
5 anyway.

6

7 MS. WILLSON: Yeah. If this is a  
8 Federal issue, why is the State asking if we want to go  
9 take spawn-outs?

10

11 MR. O'HARA: Well, I'm sure Donald Mike  
12 can answer that.

13

14 MR. MIKE: Yeah.

15

16 MR. O'HARA: And put the microphone  
17 near you so we can hear you.

18

19 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair, the Park Service  
20 presentation that was made, the spawn-outs is under  
21 State jurisdiction, and as far as harvesting redfish  
22 from Katmai and Brooks River area, ANILCA Title VIII,  
23 you know, that area doesn't apply to the Katmai/Brooks  
24 River area since that the National Park Service. It  
25 was designated as National Park Service prior to ANILCA  
26 passage. Does that answer your question?

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kind of. So that  
29 brings me to another question here. So would it be  
30 possible if then if local qualified residents could  
31 fish the rest of the State besides the Brooks River  
32 area? You know, the people of Naknek, you know, they  
33 don't need to go all the way to Brooks to get redfish.  
34 They can go to Johnny's Lake or anywhere.....

35

36 MS. MORRIS LYON: Right at the mouth.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Or at the mouth of  
39 the lake. That's in the Park. So, you know, that's  
40 maybe what we should be targeting. Neal, would you  
41 like to.....

42

43 MR. LABRIE: If I may just clarify  
44 that. All three areas that are.....

45

46 MR. O'HARA: I'm sorry, you've got to  
47 sit down to the table just like anybody else.

48

49 MR. LABRIE: All three areas that were  
50 authorized by that regulation fall within Katmai

1 National Park. Those boundary expansions up until 1978  
2 go out past that outlet of Naknek Lake, so whether  
3 you're talking about the outlet of Naknek Lake,  
4 Johnny's Lake or the mouth of the Brooks River, all  
5 three of those are within Katmai National Park, which  
6 is where you run into the subsistence issue, or non-  
7 issue in this case, because there is no subsistence  
8 take. That's why they went the regulation route,  
9 because they didn't want to try to fight the  
10 subsistence side of it. It was an easier route and  
11 they took that through the regulation at Mr. O'Hara  
12 pointed out. You know, they went to modify the method  
13 of take, and the language that got put together got put  
14 together in such a fashion that we have the regulation  
15 we have now. But all those areas will be national  
16 park, and you're going to run into the same issue of no  
17 subsistence for any of those areas.

18

19 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank  
22 you, Neal. Dan.

23

24 MR. O'HARA: I think one of the things  
25 that we should go back, and Trefon would be the key  
26 resource. And if we get together with the committee  
27 and begin working with you on that, I think Trefon  
28 sitting as our shareholder representative of the  
29 Bristol Bay Corporation, going to Congress to get this  
30 past.

31

32 You know as well as I do, Neal, that  
33 when Congress passes a law and then when the  
34 administrators below that look at the law, they can  
35 make it almost read anything they want. Congress has  
36 forgotten about it. The areas are designated. A lot  
37 of things fall through the cracks. And so I think  
38 we're going to have to go back and research how this  
39 came about. And I'm not so sure that we will get an  
40 answer to ANILCA whether or not we had customary and  
41 traditional use of it before ANILCA passed and what our  
42 rights might be in prior use such as yourself going up  
43 there, the conversion, which most people don't even  
44 understand any more, to use that resource. I think it  
45 would be a good thing to look into and really figure  
46 out, find out who should be able to go use that  
47 resource, with a limited amount.

48

49 MS. WILLSON: Yes. I was wondering  
50 where is this list posted for public viewing?

1 MR. O'HARA: A good question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Neal.

4

5 MR. LABRIE: Yeah. This is a list that  
6 I found in a file when I was trying to get more answers  
7 to this contact in September. Apparently that list was  
8 developed, I don't know that it's ever been a public  
9 document outside of the people that wrote it and the  
10 original people that were dealing with the issues back  
11 in the late 90s. I don't believe that sheet has ever  
12 come out of that file since the late 90s to be honest  
13 with the Council. So this is something that's new to  
14 me, and that I've only found as a result of this  
15 contact in September.

16

17 So we're looking forward, number 1,  
18 that if that is the method of knowledge, that we need  
19 the input from the local residents who are -- I'm  
20 trying to get that phrased correctly -- are descendants  
21 of Katmai residents is the way the regulation's  
22 phrased. It's very broad, intrinsically broad, so we  
23 fully understand that that list may be well beyond the  
24 84 names that's on it. And that's something that we  
25 just -- I just don't understand the inner workings of  
26 or how that list came to be in the file, other than  
27 there was some early communications, like I said, with  
28 Mr. Angasan and Mr. Nielson, because their names are on  
29 the bottom as having written the list. And that's as  
30 far as I can provide you with information.

31

32 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. Neal, you  
33 have emphasized over and over and over again, which is  
34 not a friendly user for us, is there's no such thing as  
35 subsistence use in national parks.

36

37 MR. LABRIE: Well, it's correct. The  
38 ANILCA legislation closed Katmai National Park to  
39 subsistence use. So that's why I want us to be clear  
40 on the terminology. As far as me talking about the  
41 redfish take, that's why I'm calling it redfish take  
42 and not subsistence, because if you call it  
43 subsistence, you're fighting a different battle.  
44 You're fighting the ANILCA battle. If you discuss  
45 redfish take, you're talking about a regulatory issue  
46 that we have a fair amount of control over.

47

48 MR. O'HARA: That's very clear. I  
49 mean, that's a very key point.

50

1 MR. LABRIE: Right. Agree.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: If we do that, if we ever  
4 do. Yeah.  
5  
6 MS. MORRIS LYON: Right. Right. And I  
7 recognize that. But I also recognize that -- Mr.  
8 Chair, if I may? I also see it as a door for us to go  
9 in. Although it pains me not to have the subsistence  
10 name included, if that's all it takes to make this law  
11 work for everybody. Because I'll just say that as a  
12 heavy user of the park in all areas of the park, year  
13 after year I have seen folks going up there making use  
14 of these redbfish, I will not use the name, and it  
15 certainly has been something that's very obvious to me,  
16 even though I did not partake in it. And for me to  
17 find out all of a sudden this year that what they were  
18 doing was not legal within the Park was a huge  
19 surprise, and quite frankly almost a slap in the face  
20 as having a seat on this Council for as many years as I  
21 have, not realizing in my own back door that I had laws  
22 that were not lined up the way that I believed that  
23 they were just from what I had observed for a long,  
24 long time happening. So I would like to make use of  
25 that door and walk right in there and try to make  
26 things the way they need to be made versus trying to  
27 rebuild the fort.  
28  
29 MR. MYERS: Mr. Chair. Probably the  
30 simplest way to do this would probably be to work with  
31 them and just go in, change the methods and means, you  
32 know, to allow use of the net during whatever time  
33 period the redbfish are taken. And if so, a bag limit.  
34 I mean, that would be the simplest solution.  
35  
36 MS. MORRIS LYON: We'd also have to  
37 broaden it though for as far as who's allowed to use  
38 it.  
39  
40 MR. MYERS: Yeah, and it would it  
41 roaden [sic] it for -- that would open it up. Because  
42 that's almost unconstitutional having people's names  
43 and a national park saying, you know, you guys can go,  
44 but you guys can't.  
45  
46 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. Congress  
47 can make those laws land those are the things we have  
48 to live with. But I think we'll give you a little bit  
49 of credit, your superintendent has been a very good  
50 individual to work with. And I think has been more

1 sympathetic towards local needs. For instance, the  
2 recreational vehicle to do subsistence in the preserve  
3 up at Kakhonak and Igiugig, perhaps we tried to squeeze  
4 Levelock in there, but I don't know if we did or not,  
5 has been a good thing.

6  
7 So we'll give you some credit, maybe  
8 not very much.

9  
10 MR. LABRIE: Thank you.

11  
12 MS. WILLSON: It's very interesting to  
13 me, because -- this list, I don't understand that. I'm  
14 not a descendant of Katmai. My grandma did come  
15 through Katmai though when she came over from Kodiak  
16 years and years ago.

17  
18 MR. O'HARA: There you go.

19  
20 MS. WILLSON: And this is interesting  
21 to me. I would like to see this list to see if I'm on  
22 it. Thank you very much.

23  
24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Thank you.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Violet  
27 and Neal. Is there any more comment on this from the  
28 Council members.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So I guess that's  
33 what we'll be doing then is working -- Donald.

34  
35 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. There  
36 was some villages that wished to call in at 10:00  
37 o'clock and testify on moose issues, so if you can find  
38 the time to take a five-minute break, we can do that  
39 and come back.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure, we can do that  
42 right now. We'll take a five-minute break.

43  
44 (Off record)

45  
46 (On record)

47  
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We have on  
49 teleconference, we have Jeanette Carlson from Chignik  
50 Bay, but she's kind of waiting for more people to be

1 there before they testify, so she didn't have anything  
2 to say at this moment. But we do have them on line.

3

4 And I guess I want to step back to  
5 where we were on the redbfish issue. What we haven't  
6 heard this morning was what the State regulation says  
7 on this issue. And can somebody from the State report  
8 on what exactly the State regulation says on redbfish  
9 take in the park. Okay. Ted.

10

11 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Division of  
12 Subsistence, Fish and Game in Dillingham. I have the  
13 regs here; I can read you the regs.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure.

16

17 MR. KRIEG: I mean, it's basically --  
18 I'm sorry, I forgot his name, the Park Service.

19

20 MR. O'HARA: Neal.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Neal.

23

24 MR. KRIEG: He already -- I mean, he  
25 basically already stated. Under 5 AAC 01.320, number  
26 2, from August 30th through September 30th, by spear,  
27 dipnet and gillnet along a 100-yard length of the west  
28 shore of Naknek Lake near the outlet to the Naknek  
29 River as marked by ADF&G regulatory markers. From  
30 August 15th through September 15th by spear, dipnet and  
31 gillnet at Johnny's Lake on the northwestern side of  
32 Naknek Lake. And number 4, from October 1 through  
33 November 15th by spear, dipnet and gillnet at the mouth  
34 of Brooks River at Naknek Lake.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So that's the  
37 current State regulations which conflict with the  
38 Federal regulations, right? Okay. So most of those  
39 dates were until September 15th.

40

41 MS. MORRIS LYON: No.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Besides Brooks  
44 River, which was later, right?

45

46 MR. KRIEG: Yes, August 30th through  
47 September 30th, west shore of Naknek Lake. August 15th  
48 to September 15th on Johnny's Lake. And October 1st  
49 through November 15th at the mouth of Brooks River at  
50 Naknek Lake.



1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Why is it all  
2 different in your opinion?  
3  
4 MR. KRIEG: I don't know if I'm  
5 qualified to answer that. I mean, I have.....  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Does anybody know?  
8 You know, when you get different times, it just causes  
9 more confusion. You know, if there's going to be  
10 anything, it should be all the same.  
11  
12 George.  
13  
14 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. George Pappas,  
15 Department of Fish and Game. It appears to me these  
16 dates move up river. Maybe it's run timing when the  
17 fish will be ready, post-spawn and available for  
18 harvest to meet the original intent of this.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that's  
21 basically about a two-week window to do this, right?  
22 And it just kind of moves up the lake.  
23  
24 MR. PAPPAS: That's what it appears at  
25 first glance, sir.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.  
28  
29 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. George Pappas  
30 again. The local folks here would actually know  
31 exactly when the fish are where, so they could probably  
32 testify.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Maybe we can  
35 hear, before we move back, maybe if somebody wants to  
36 testify on that. Richard.  
37  
38 MR. WILSON: I was on your list there.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't have a list.  
41  
42 MR. WILSON: Oh. Yeah, Rich Wilson  
43 here, local, Naknek.  
44  
45 This has been an eye opener, this issue  
46 here. You know, the take of the fish up on the lake  
47 there. And even in the State regs, you know, it starts  
48 off in September when the fish are down low in the  
49 river, and their timing, to me it seems like it's  
50 almost backwards. I mean, you know, they allow you to

1 fish on the fish, take them in those regs early in the  
2 mouth of the river, and then a little later in Johnny's  
3 Lake and then even later yet up at Brooks. Saying that  
4 those fish on the lake -- or the mouth of the river are  
5 ready, they're already spawned out before they are in  
6 Johnny's Lake? No. It's the other way around. You  
7 know, they're still moving up through, so that part of  
8 it I don't agree with.

9

10 What I'd like to see and hear is, and  
11 something we haven't had in a long while is  
12 communication between ourselves here, locals, our  
13 advisory committees here and our Federal entities. I  
14 think this to me is a component that is missing in our  
15 community and has been right from the get-go. And this  
16 is something that I'm going to encourage. I think this  
17 is what we lack, is our communication with our Park  
18 Service here.

19

20 We all know that we are all descendants  
21 of this area, and that they came in to regulate our  
22 back yard after it had been put into place. So there's  
23 always been a lack of communication here in this  
24 community. I mean, you go anywhere in this community,  
25 you ask about the Park Service and it's like, you know,  
26 there's like this lot of negativity between the locals  
27 and the Park, and it shouldn't be that way. You know,  
28 we should all be working together.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a question  
31 for you. You know that Orville Lind was the liaison,  
32 and also John Knutson was the liaison\* before him with  
33 the Fish and Wildlife Service. Maybe it's a good idea  
34 that the Park Service get a liaison to work with the --  
35 you know, somebody from the village or from the area  
36 that knows the villages, can work with village  
37 councils, work with, you know, the local people to deal  
38 with Park Service issues like the U.S. Fish and  
39 Wildlife Service does and used to do.

40

41 MR. WILSON: I think that would be a  
42 great idea. I think several years ago there was  
43 communication between -- we actually had a liaison, but  
44 he was a local guy here that was employed, you know,  
45 with the Park Service. And even though it was an  
46 unofficial liaison, he was still -- there was a  
47 connection in there that we had. And that's a very  
48 good thought.

49

50 You know, because of the lack of

1 communication, I mean, you can go up into that park  
2 system now today and -- or not today, it's closed down,  
3 but, you know, during the summer at any point and ask  
4 any of their rangers about our communities, and they  
5 don't know anything. They won't tell you anything  
6 about our communities here. And to me that's another  
7 component that's missing here in this park is that they  
8 have seemingly no interest in the heritage of the  
9 people. All they are is, you know, they're there for  
10 the land, to secure the land. And to bring tourists in  
11 to show them the land. But to me there's a component  
12 missing.

13

14 And I've also asked in the past that  
15 the Park Service go local, come down to our community  
16 schools maybe, you know, once or twice a year, and have  
17 some sort of a program, you know, and tell the kids  
18 what they're all about, what we have in our back yard  
19 there. You know, different things could be in place.  
20 And if we had somebody that was communicating on a  
21 regular basis, it would be a great thing.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, that's  
24 what I think. In fact, I think we need to recommend to  
25 the National Park Service that they do get a liaison to  
26 work, which is somebody from the area here, King Salmon  
27 or South Naknek, that knows the people, that can work  
28 with the village councils to -- and also they could  
29 work with the -- you know, when they're not working  
30 with the village councils, they could work with the  
31 tourists, because, you know, how familiar that -- you  
32 know, up at Brooks they've got this barabara or old pit  
33 house back there, and now they've got a building over  
34 it, so you know, they do highly talk about our culture,  
35 I mean, the way we used to be, or the people that used  
36 to live here, but they put more emphasis on the people  
37 that used to live here than the people that live here.

38

39 MR. WILSON: Right. You know, to me  
40 it's still just a lack of communication, that we've let  
41 down in the past year, and I really appreciate, you  
42 know, the Council here coming up and starting to bring  
43 up some of these issues, you know. If this redfish  
44 thing this fall hadn't occurred, maybe we wouldn't be  
45 having this discussion right now. So I think it's a  
46 positive thing. You know, they know that, you know,  
47 people have been coming into this upper lake system and  
48 taking redfish, you know, forever. Do they go publicly  
49 and say these things, or post them, or -- I mean, it's  
50 just a communication thing to me. It's just, you know,

1 get involved more. They need to get involved more with  
2 us, and we also need to be a bigger part of their  
3 program, if we could fit somehow.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Thank you,  
6 Richard.

7  
8 MR. BOSKOFISKY: One if one of the  
9 people that work with the Feds, Orville Lind, if you  
10 contact him, he'll probably work with you and give you  
11 all the information he can.

12  
13 MR. WILSON: And we have been.  
14 Orville's been a great source of information for us  
15 local people.

16  
17 MR. BOSKOFISKY: It's good to have him  
18 back.

19  
20 MR. WILSON: Yeah. I agree. Thanks.

21  
22 MR. LIND: Your check's in the mail.

23  
24 (Laughter)

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,  
27 Richard.

28  
29 Pete, you have a comment?

30  
31 MR. ABRAHAM: Yes. What kind of  
32 escapement are we looking at and how much of the  
33 residents are using the spawn-outs? I mean, if you  
34 have.....

35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't know the  
37 exact number, but I think last year the Naknek River  
38 had over 2 million. The minimum escapement number is  
39 1.1 to 1.4, but I think they had like 50 percent more  
40 than what they needed. So there's plenty of escapement  
41 up Naknek River.

42  
43 And then the other part of your  
44 question, I don't think there's very many people that  
45 use -- the percentage of the people that are qualified  
46 for C&T up there, it's a small percentage of those  
47 people that do go up there and take redbfish.

48  
49 MR. ABRAHAM: There's a question. You  
50 have 1.5 million escapement and how much the users are

1 using, like maybe -- even if 100 people use that fish  
2 there, it's not going to fish anything. I mean, and we  
3 hear the regulations over here from the State, let's  
4 make it more ridiculous. I mean, we as users in Alaska  
5 here wherever we are, we take what we need and use it.  
6 And why a ridiculous regulation for the spawned-out  
7 salmon that's going to die in a few weeks anyway. I  
8 mean, the ecosystems, yes will use it. A brown bear  
9 will use it. Plants will use it. But we're the users  
10 here, too. Like, for instance myself, we take less  
11 than 100 spawned-out for our own use, and that's  
12 enough. And that's three families. I mean, over here,  
13 in this region here, there's not that many users here.  
14 Let's erase out that ridiculous regulation. Let's make  
15 one regulation so everybody will be happy.

16

17 That's all I have.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Pete.

20 Yeah, I agree with you. It should be the same on that.

21 I guess next on the public testimony we have Pete Hill.

22 He's standing up and ready to -- chomping at the bit.

23

24 MR. HILL: Excuse me. My name is Pete  
25 Hill. I'm a resident of Naknek and have been since --  
26 lately since 1984, but prior to that I was born in the  
27 old cannery of Libbyville back in 1942.

28

29 My family, including my father, we've  
30 got a picture of him working up at the Katmai in 1925,  
31 so the family's been around a long time.

32

33 I am one of those criminals from a  
34 couple of weeks ago. And I told my brothers that since  
35 I am the chief of the Naknek Dena'ina that I would take  
36 the rap. Okay.

37

38 MR. O'HARA: You probably need the time  
39 off anyway.

40

41 MR. HILL: But when I read the State  
42 regs, to me it was pretty clear. And then I got to  
43 looking, and I said, well, this is kind of messed up,  
44 because when I read ANCSA, the original ANCSA, it says  
45 actually there was going to be no more aboriginal  
46 rights. Okay. But it instead said there also that the  
47 State and the Federal government would see that people,  
48 that the Natives would have their customary and  
49 traditional use.

50

1                   Reading further in the House  
2 resolutions related to Title VIII ANILCA, I think it  
3 was .1364, they discussed this, and that then they  
4 authorized the State of Alaska then to regulate fishing  
5 in the national parks.  
6

7                   Since then I went and looked at what  
8 the Park Service has here, and the superintendent's  
9 compendium of 2007, I forget what the line item is, but  
10 under redfish it says, no restrictions. So I think I'm  
11 okay. I'm ready to go. Okay.  
12

13                  So I'm up there fishing and, you know,  
14 I'm getting the fish and I'm thinking, okay, now it's  
15 after the 15th, so we get busted. Okay. That's fine.  
16 Okay. I get busted because if I'm going to be going to  
17 be going by the State regs, I ought to be busted by the  
18 State regs. And so we got busted, got our fish taken  
19 away.  
20

21                  And I'm thinking, okay, why is the  
22 arbitrary date of September 15th? I have no idea why  
23 September 15th is an arbitrary date. Why can't you  
24 just keep it all the way until the end of December?  
25 There's no reason. Those fish are going to die anyway.  
26

27                  Some of the comments that I was reading  
28 during the discussion of taking the fish was there was  
29 a lot of excitement over the pictures from long ago of  
30 people up at Brooks with these huge racks of fish.  
31 They were taking fish and putting up fish. And the  
32 fear then that that would keep on happening. Well,  
33 back then we fed our dogs fish. I mean, you know, we  
34 put up thousands of fish every year for our dogs. We  
35 don't do that any more.  
36

37                  My personal use of redfish would  
38 probably be limited to about 25. I consider the  
39 redfish my desert. You know, we've got all the reds,  
40 the sockeyes going up, nice fresh ones, and then the  
41 redfish my desert for the winter. And I really  
42 appreciate it. We make a traditional thing we call a  
43 (In Native) which is a dried -- we dry them, hang them  
44 and dry them.  
45

46                  Also some of the fear of people taking  
47 redfish in some of the discussion, that it would  
48 contribute to nitrogen depletion if we took the fish  
49 out of the water and not let it rot. We'd get nitrogen  
50 depletion. Well, I contend that after years and years

1 of over-escapement, that there shouldn't be any there.

2

3

4                   So I appreciated the narrative the  
5 young -- I'm sorry, I forgot your last name -- gave,  
6 the historical narrative. I have a little bit of  
7 problem with some of the interpretations. I'll have to  
8 go back and reread what I've -- and re-do what I've  
9 done. I've done quite a bit of research since I got  
10 busted.

11

12                   And, you know, I want to know actually  
13 where I stand and I think we need to get together.

14

15                   I understand that there was a  
16 compendium in December 2008 that was signed off by the  
17 Feds and the State that we're going to work together,  
18 we're going to make things coordinated and we're all  
19 going to be happy. We're all going to be coming on in  
20 the same -- reading from the same book. And I would  
21 really appreciate seeing that happened.

22

23                   That's my statement and thank you.

24

25                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Pete. So  
26 in other words, you would be willing to work with the  
27 Council members that are on the committee and with the  
28 Park Service to fix the -- or amend the regulations to  
29 make it so that we could -- it is not against the law  
30 or people down here to go up there that want to get  
31 redfish any more. So you'd be willing to take part in  
32 that then, right?

33

34                   MR. HILL: Oh, yeah. You know, the  
35 particular thing, the method and means, you know, why  
36 can't I just go up there with my hook and catch fish  
37 with a hook? Why do I have to use a gillnet or a spear  
38 or a dipnet? Why can't I just use a -- like if I'm  
39 getting redfish or -- well, they don't call it  
40 subsistence now I guess, but I'd much rather just go  
41 and grab a salmon with a hook. You know, there's just  
42 little issues like that that don't make sense to me.  
43 Using a seine would be better, because then we can  
44 release all the fish we don't want, including the  
45 rainbows and the char. I mean, you know, if we only  
46 want 20 fish, you let the rest go.

47

48                   So, anyway, yes, I'd be willing to work  
49 with you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks,  
2 Pete.  
3  
4 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
7  
8 MR. O'HARA: Probably at the end of the  
9 day, other business, identify topics for 2009 annual  
10 report, B, identify Council topics for January 2010,  
11 and we could make a C where you would assign a  
12 committee. You know, you talked about myself and Dale  
13 and Nanci. Richard is a willing participant it looked  
14 like, and Pete, so we can think about that later, okay?  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Next we  
17 have B.J. Hill.  
18  
19 MS. HILL: Hi, I'm B.J. Hill.  
20  
21 The redfish issue to me, maybe we could  
22 relabel and not call it subsistence or sports, and  
23 maybe call it cultural fishing. And maybe that would  
24 take it out of the realm of either one of the  
25 jurisdictions and put it into a category where we could  
26 preserve the culture for our young people.  
27  
28 I just see that from the interaction  
29 that we had that there was not any type of cultural  
30 sensitivity. And I really appreciate the comments that  
31 have been made today, because I think a new awareness  
32 will rise up out of this, and I think it will enhance  
33 our park system, because cultural activities really  
34 draw a lot of attention worldwide. And if this gets  
35 established as a cultural fishery, I can't see but it  
36 would help everybody involved.  
37  
38 Thank you.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, B.J.  
41 Next we have Paul Hansen.  
42  
43 MR. HANSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
44 Chair. I'm a subsistence user of this area, a long-  
45 time resident, and also a hunter. And I represent  
46 myself here on this here.  
47  
48 And I've got concerns about the redfish  
49 here, the Yukon-Kuskokwim kings that they wanted to  
50 subsist, but couldn't because of the high take of the



1 drag fleet, and the restrictions on subsistence kings,  
2 because a counting tower was missing, and here the fish  
3 went by up into the Yukon and there was civil  
4 disobedience. I feel for these Natives as peoples that  
5 if this continues, the State and Federal regs, our  
6 grandchildren aren't going to be able to do anything in  
7 our areas without being criminals.

8

9 And I agree that we have to work with  
10 the State and the Federal government, but it's not  
11 workable. There's too much gray areas overlapping in  
12 regulation. So we need to resolve this.

13

14 I also get fish from the area, our  
15 area, redbfish I'm talking about, and I don't get a  
16 permit from the State, because it's already in there on  
17 my subsistence permit. And when I went to park where I  
18 want to go, this usually occurred maybe near October,  
19 about the 3rd on a normal year. but some years it's  
20 not that. Like this year we have a lot of fish on the  
21 12th. So we need to get these regulations to read how  
22 we want to be involved. While they enjoy spending  
23 millions on fixing the park, subsistence users are  
24 starving.

25

26 So we need to be involved and funded to  
27 go to D.C. to testify ourselves, not on behalf of the  
28 State or the Park Service.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Paul.

33 Dan.

34

35 MR. O'HARA: Paul, before you leave, we  
36 really appreciate you coming out today. It's -- you  
37 know, we come here to these meetings since, I don't  
38 know when we started, 1990 I guess. And we sit here  
39 with a bunch of bureaucrats, and that's all that ever  
40 happened. No one -- and I think things were going  
41 fine, and, you know, even in the years in the early  
42 90s, up until the fish started coming back and we got  
43 25 million, we still got the subsistence take.

44

45 But I think one of the things that you  
46 hit on that's pretty important, you mentioned the word  
47 civil disobedience, and that's always a fun one to deal  
48 with, and I'm not so sure I'm against it if we have to  
49 do what we have to do to maintain our traditional and  
50 customary use.

1                   And so we really appreciate you guys  
2 coming out today and dealing with the Council on  
3 something that would be -- our grandchildren and great  
4 grandchildren should preserve this right. And we thank  
5 you for taking time today.

6  
7                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Can I ask a question,  
8 Chair?

9  
10                  MR. HANSEN: Thank you, Dan. Also, you  
11 know, we shouldn't have to -- you know, there's so much  
12 gray area, we shouldn't have to have someone hold their  
13 -- hand over their pistol and say, I want that fish  
14 that you have. We shouldn't have to do this. We're  
15 not a violent people. We included the State people  
16 here as calm people. They're also here breathing the  
17 same air and using the same resource in our area, and  
18 we didn't object. Now they object to helping us after  
19 they enjoy all the dollars that's being pumped by the  
20 Federal Government into their area, and exclude the  
21 poor subsistence user. Please. We need support on  
22 subsistence.

23  
24                  CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Paul.  
25 Nanci.

26  
27                  MS. MORRIS LYON: Paul, I've got one  
28 quick question for you as well. I am in total  
29 agreement with you. These gray areas need to stop. I  
30 think they're ludicrous. I think for us to have to  
31 read two, three, four books in order to find out if  
32 we're going to be legal or not is insane when we live  
33 here and this is our resource and we're the ones who  
34 have been protecting it for as long as we have. And  
35 not even myself, as long as your family and many of  
36 these families in here have. And I guess I just -- I  
37 totally agree, and I think we need to clean that up.

38  
39                  I would also ask, you had said that you  
40 would like to see a later date. What date do you think  
41 would be safe? We've heard the end of December.

42  
43                  MR. HANSEN: I think that we should not  
44 put it into committee and just allow it when we feel  
45 that we should go up there before the cold weather sets  
46 in, because we're not going to take more than we need,  
47 we're just going to take what we need. I myself for my  
48 family take about 30, that sustains me, because I was  
49 taught to eat that like my parents taught me and their  
50 parents taught them. So I'd like to see this

1 continuation for my grandkids and theirs without having  
2 to fight the Federal officers or the State officers in  
3 our waters.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's why I  
8 brought it up. You know, that timeline of two weeks  
9 is.....

10

11 MS. MORRIS LYON: Crazy.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I didn't think it  
14 was right, because in my opinion, when you take  
15 redfish, you've got to get them before they're moldy  
16 and rotted up, but you need to take them when they're  
17 pretty thin, you know.

18

19 MR. HANSEN: Seasonal, yes.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And when they don't  
22 have any fat on them and they're -- but there's kind of  
23 a space in between where they don't have any fat before  
24 they start getting so moldy that they're no good,  
25 they're rotten. And that timeline wouldn't make sense  
26 to me, and that's why, you know, I think like you're  
27 right, that's when it should -- it shouldn't be a  
28 timeline on that. I mean, that harvest date.

29

30 Nanci.

31

32 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would agree with  
33 that, too, Randy, and the methods and means needs to  
34 change because just as was spoken to earlier, if you  
35 can't pick which ones that are the ones that you can  
36 use, it doesn't make much sense either, because if you  
37 don't have the right method and means, you're not going  
38 to be able to adequately -- you're just going to be a  
39 criminal again.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Dan.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Randy. Listening  
44 to this, some of this started coming back to me. I  
45 know it was a huge deal to finally get any sort of  
46 redfish fishery legalized in the park. And I think  
47 that meeting where that occurred may have been right  
48 here in Naknek, the Board meeting. And I'm pretty sure  
49 that wherever it was, that I was at the meeting, but  
50 since I was sport fish, I didn't get too involved.

1 But I think the dates that were picked,  
2 there's probably a record of how they were picked and  
3 why from that Board meeting So you might need to go to  
4 the Board support section of the State, and get those  
5 old records. Because when I first heard about this, I  
6 knew right away, I remember it was a big deal that they  
7 allowed -- all I could remember was the west end of  
8 Naknek Lake. But I'm imagining they did some  
9 consultation among the advisory committee members or  
10 the folks that were at that Board meeting to come up  
11 with those dates and that location.

12  
13 I'm really regretting we didn't know  
14 about this in time to get a proposal into the Board of  
15 Fish this fall. I would think it would be pretty easy  
16 to fix it with the Board of Fish to get the dates  
17 fixed, but like I say, all I do remember was it was a  
18 big deal for years, subsistence was -- redbfish was  
19 wanted, but not allowed until what was it, 1996 that  
20 somebody mentioned. So a matter of changing the dates  
21 a little bit shouldn't be too big a deal, but you might  
22 have missed the opportunity for this fall's Board  
23 meeting.

24  
25 That's all I've got.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. All right,  
28 Dan. All right. Thank you, Paul.

29  
30 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. I  
31 think Paul just taught us a lesson, that we'd better  
32 fear our government, because, you know, a lot of things  
33 are going away. Can't really look at.....

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And that brings me,  
36 you know, to the point where we discussed asking the  
37 Park Service to have a local liaison that would work,  
38 and I think we need to direct Staff, unless there's  
39 opposition, that we should direct Staff to write a  
40 letter to Park Service to work towards to get a liaison  
41 of somebody from the area that knows the traditional  
42 activity and how people do utilize the resource in the  
43 area.

44  
45 MR. HANSEN: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
46 comment that the State might have money to go to  
47 Congress. It might cost \$10,000 a person, and so does  
48 the Federal regulators in our Park Service area  
49 probably has that in their budget, too, to go to  
50 testify. I'd like to see a representative from the 92

1 villages of Bristol Bay also get budgeted to go to  
2 Congress and testify on our behalf, not through the  
3 State or through the Federal government.

4  
5 Thank you. That's all I have.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. All right.  
8 Thank you, Paul.

9  
10 Yeah, you know, they can't amend  
11 ANILCA. The only way they could do that is open it up,  
12 and then the whole article would be opened for change.  
13 So they hesitate from having to open it up for -- from  
14 my understanding for amendment, because if you want to  
15 amend one little thing, then the whole article is open  
16 for amending it, and it's probably -- from what I  
17 understand, it's nothing that we want to do. So that's  
18 why they hesitate to open it up.

19  
20 All right. Next we have Frank Woods.

21  
22 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods, BBNA. Thanks  
23 for listening.

24  
25 I had two things. This is pre-ANILCA  
26 park, there's issues that come up because of ANILCA,  
27 and this is pre-ANILCA, so it's even before, you know,  
28 Title VII.

29  
30 And Dan hit it right on the head, the  
31 State needs to address it at a Board of Fish level to  
32 iron out -- maybe the committee, Dan is pretty familiar  
33 with, everybody is pretty familiar with the whole  
34 process.

35  
36 And Peter hit it right on the head, is  
37 he works for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in the  
38 educational and communication department as a liaison.  
39 And we've got Orville back here.

40  
41 I mean, on a subsistence user side, you  
42 know, we've got to thank the enforcement officer for  
43 bringing this to our attention, but how do you thank  
44 someone and shame someone at the same time. You know,  
45 the heartburn is that this is a prime example of dual  
46 management in Alaska. We have state regs that are  
47 different, and, you know, Federal regulations, trying  
48 to align each other. And it ain't fitting our needs.

49  
50 But I appreciate being able to come and

1 testify on this. I personally use redbfish for my  
2 grandmother. And mine automatically went to the parks  
3 and refuges over in our area. And I'm thinking, you  
4 know, how do we protect that, you know, that this has  
5 even come to the table and addressing subsistence on  
6 this level. You know, that we're down to taking fish  
7 from people that need it, so I'd like to thank and  
8 shame the Park Service at the same time, I don't know  
9 how you do that, but thank you.

10

MR. O'HARA: Good job. Good job.

12

MS. CHYTHLOOK: Randy.

14

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Frank.

16 Molly.

17

18 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Just a comment and to  
19 praise the Togiak National Park people from our area.  
20 When I first started working for State of Alaska in the  
21 early 80s, Togiak and the villages west of us were the  
22 hardest communities to work with. And it was because  
23 of miscommunication, misunderstanding, and then with  
24 the enforcement. And then as we go into those  
25 communities, and even when I started and was working as  
26 a Native person for the State of Alaska, I was  
27 considered a spy for State of Alaska, because of the --  
28 so much misunderstanding from that area.

29

30 And I had to -- every time I go into  
31 those communities, had to explain myself, that I'm here  
32 to work as much as I can to have them understand the  
33 process of the agencies.

34

35 And then getting back to the Togiak  
36 National Park system today, and I think -- and the  
37 reasons why it's working so well, especially with our  
38 migratory birds harvests, the liaisons, the RITs that  
39 they have in the communities that go into the school  
40 system. You know, when the children come home from  
41 schools, and tell the parents that the Refuge  
42 representatives or any agency representatives were in  
43 there to talk to them about these different resources,  
44 the parents listen. And when there's a respect coming  
45 from the children to these agencies, you know, the  
46 parents, me as a parent, have to think back, or set  
47 myself back and say, well, you know, if my boys are  
48 respecting these agencies, and coming home with this  
49 information, I need to be in the same level with my  
50 children and understand where they're coming from.

1                   And that's why the gentleman, Richard,  
2 emphasized the lack of communication. And the lack of  
3 communication usually, sorry to say, it develops  
4 misunderstanding eventually. And then -- and so I'm  
5 going to emphasize that the communication with any  
6 agencies, be it Federal or State, needs to be developed  
7 here as well as anywhere else. And it's working in our  
8 area, and it needs to be brought forth to other areas.

9

10                   Thank you.

11

12                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Molly.

13

14                   We have Chignik Bay on the  
15 teleconference. And, Chignik, we're down onto the  
16 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program on the agenda,  
17 and then after that is the call for proposals, and then  
18 that would be the stuff that you are interested in  
19 testifying on, so it will probably be a little while  
20 yet before we get there.

21

22                   So next on the agenda is 10, Fisheries  
23 Resource Monitoring Program. And Liz Williams would be  
24 reporting on that.

25

26                   MS. WILLIAMS: Good morning, Mr. Chair  
27 and members of the Council.

28

29                   I'm just going to pass out some maps so  
30 that people will know where and what I'm talking about.  
31 There are a couple of new Council members I think who  
32 haven't been on the Council when we've gone through a  
33 monitoring program presentation.

34

35                   And for the record again I'm Liz  
36 Williams. I'm a cultural anthropologist with the  
37 Office of Subsistence Management based in Anchorage.

38

39                   And what we'd like to do today is  
40 discuss the proposals that were submitted to the  
41 Fisheries Monitoring Program, and for the Council to  
42 make recommendations on these proposals.

43

44                   And for new Council members, as I said,  
45 the monitoring program research areas are divided  
46 differently than our Council regions, and so this  
47 Council is part of the Southwest Region, and that  
48 includes the Kodiak/Aleutians area. So you'll see a few  
49 projects from that area as well. So I just passed out  
50 the map so we'd all be oriented.

1                   And for some background, this program  
2 is clearly mandated in Section .812 of ANILCA. And I'm  
3 just going to read a paraphrased section of Section  
4 .812, and it says that the Federal agencies shall  
5 undertake research on fish and wildlife and subsistence  
6 uses on the public lands, seek data from, consult with  
7 and make use of the special knowledge of local  
8 residents engaged in subsistence uses, and make the  
9 results of such research available to the State,  
10 Federal and other local agencies, Councils for their --  
11 as they work on regulations and also substantiating  
12 their subsistence uses.

13

14                   So what this Section .812 essentially  
15 does is mandate the involvement of local people in  
16 subsistence research, and to document the use of  
17 traditional ecological knowledge to inform Federal  
18 subsistence management. So it's a clear mandate in  
19 ANILCA and that's where this program comes from.

20

21                   It was started in 2000, and to date  
22 statewide 322 projects have been funded through this  
23 program, and 50 of those will still be ongoing through  
24 2010. And there are two types of projects.

25

26                   There's stock status and trends. These  
27 tend to be the more biological projects that look at  
28 fishery abundance, fishery composition, timing,  
29 behavior or status of fish populations that sustain  
30 subsistence fisheries with linkage to Federal public  
31 lands. The budget guideline for this category is two-  
32 thirds of the available funding for the monitoring  
33 program.

34

35                   The second type of project is harvest  
36 monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge. And  
37 when you hear harvest monitoring, sometimes it doesn't  
38 sound really good, but quantifying subsistence uses is  
39 incredibly important to show the importance of the use  
40 for communities. And I think what Molly did, what she  
41 was talking about before, showing people how the  
42 numbers of fish or whatever type of wildlife that they  
43 use, is incredibly important for documenting and  
44 showing how important subsistence is to their economy  
45 and their culture.

46

47                   Traditional ecological knowledge  
48 studies include harvest and effort, description and  
49 assessment of fishing and use patterns, local  
50 taxonomies, traditional management strategies, and



1 local observations of fisheries. And a really  
2 important aspect of things is so many people expect  
3 that people only want to harvest bright fish when in  
4 fact we had a snagging proposal a couple years ago from  
5 Chignik where people want to harvest specific fish for  
6 specific reasons. Snagging is not a way to cheat, like  
7 maybe some sportfishers think, it's a traditional  
8 practice of a selective fishery.

9

10 And the budget guideline for this  
11 category is one-third of available funding.

12

13 First we get proposals from entities  
14 that want to do research, and then the Technical Review  
15 Committee suggests proposals to be further developed  
16 into an investigation plan. The first review is by  
17 Staff at OSM and then recommendations come from  
18 InterAgency Technical Review Committee and now by the  
19 Regional Advisory Councils.

20

21 Projects are evaluated according to  
22 four criteria. And if you look on Page 13 and 14 of  
23 your book, you'll see those criteria listed. Strategic  
24 priority. And they have to have some connection with  
25 Federal jurisdiction. A conservation mandate.  
26 Allocation priority. Data gaps. Importance of the  
27 resource to subsistence lifestyle. And local concerns.

28

29

30 The second is technical and scientific  
31 merit. The projects have to meet accepted standards  
32 for scientific research and investigator ability and  
33 resources. Past performance of researchers. And  
34 partnership and capacity building.

35

36 As I read before in Section .812,  
37 partnership and capacity building is an incredibly  
38 important aspect of these projects, and capacity  
39 building is a two-way street. We want researchers to  
40 have their capacity built to understand what's going on  
41 in communities, to learn to listen and to see different  
42 ways of harvest and use of subsistence resources, as  
43 well as get local people, as Molly said, to get some  
44 insight into the regulatory processes that affect their  
45 harvest and their methods and means.

46

47 Statewide this year, for 2010 a total  
48 of 44 investigation plans are currently under  
49 consideration for funding statewide. And these include  
50 35 stock status and trend projects and 9 harvest

1 monitoring and traditional knowledge projects. And if  
2 you want to see the regional breakdown, there's a table  
3 on the middle of Page 15 that shows just the geographic  
4 regions and the different types of plans that have been  
5 submitted, as well as the ones that the Technical  
6 Review Committee has recommended for funding.

7

8                   Currently statewide the Technical  
9 Review Committee recommends funding 41 out of the 44  
10 investigation plans. And the 2010 monitoring plan  
11 recommended by the Technical Review Committee would  
12 provide 34 percent of the program funding to Alaska  
13 Native organizations, 29 percent to State agencies, 27  
14 percent to Federal agencies, and 10 percent to other  
15 non-government organizations.

16

17                   If you turn to Page 18 you will see  
18 sort of a history of the projects that have been  
19 conducted in the Southwest Region, and as I noted  
20 before, these include the Bristol Bay area as well as  
21 the Kodiak/Aleutians area. Since 2000 about 43  
22 projects have been funded in this region, and one of  
23 them will still be continuing in 2010.

24

25                   The requests for proposals this year  
26 identified four information issues and information  
27 needs, and you can see that on Page 17. And they're up  
28 at the top. And for Bristol Bay, Chignik non-salmon  
29 there was a request for information to document trends  
30 in whitefish harvest and use for Lake Clark  
31 communities, and then for Bristol Bay and Chignik,  
32 obtain reliable estimates of spawning escapement over  
33 time for Chinook salmon runs to the Togiak River. And  
34 there are about three or four other proposals from the  
35 Kodiak/Aleutians that are also in the Southwest group  
36 of projects.

37

38                   In March 2009 the Technical Review  
39 Committee reviewed these six proposals and recommended  
40 five of them for investigation plan development. In  
41 July 2009 the Technical Review Committee reviewed five  
42 investigation plans. They recommended funding four of  
43 the five projects. And if you turn to Page 20 you will  
44 see that they prioritized them according to the ones  
45 that had priority in their mind based on the summary  
46 criteria that we went over or evaluation.

47

48                   If you want to see summaries of the  
49 projects, they're on Page 20 through 21, and then there  
50 are fuller descriptions of each project on Pages 22

1 through 23.

2

3

And so if you go back to Table 3 on Page 19, you will see that three of the projects that the TRC recommended for funding for the Southwest area are Kodiak-related projects, one of the projects that they recommended for funding as far as an FST project is 10-402, the Togiak River Chinook Salmon Adult Assessment, which is in a sense a continuation of the Togiak Chinook project that went on before.

11

12

And then the one project that they did not recommend for funding was 10-450, the Lake Clark Whitefish Subsistence Harvest and Uses.

15

16

And at this point I'll stop and see if we have any questions, and then if you'd like, we can discuss why the TRC didn't recommend that project for funding.

20

21

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any questions for Liz.

23

24

MR. O'HARA: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

25

26

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

27

28

MR. O'HARA: On Page 19, at the bottom of the page, the very last paragraph, the 2010 draft monitoring plan recommended by the Technical Review Committee would provide 34 percent of the funding to Alaska Native organizations. Are those village councils or like Bristol Bay Native Association or who does that money go to?

35

36

MS. WILLIAMS: Yeah, it's Native associations. I'm not sure if there are any -- I think there are a couple of village councils in the northwest part of the State. And also a lot of times the Native organization or another agency will get project funding and then they contract with a tribal council for local hire. And so the money goes from those agencies to village organizations so that they can hire locally for research who they want to hire.

45

46

MR. O'HARA: Uh-huh. The Togiak River, Mr. Chairman, Chinook thing that you mentioned earlier gave a dollar amount there, then the Buskin River which we have been following for a long time. Why didn't they do the whitefish at Lake Clark?

1 MS. WILLIAMS: If you turn to -- let's  
2 see -- I will actually pass this blue page out, because  
3 it's easier to see. This is investigation plan review.  
4 There you go. And I'll just give you a minute to get  
5 that. This may be in your book as well. Yeah.

6  
7 I wanted to give you the whole review,  
8 but if you want to turn to Page 32 in your book, I'd  
9 like to draw your attention to the justification.  
10 Thank you. So again the last page of the blue sheet  
11 has the justification. Page 32 in your book has the  
12 justification, but what's in the book is more of a  
13 summary of the project. And the blue packet is  
14 actually the review that was done initially by Staff,  
15 but amended by the Technical Review Committee.

16  
17 There are two reasons that this project  
18 was not recommended for funding. One is support of the  
19 local land manager, which is the National Park Service  
20 just at this time. The other are some technical  
21 deficiencies in the project, and you can read about  
22 those in detail in the justification. But I can go  
23 over some of those as well.

24  
25 There was a lack of a rationale for  
26 using both harvest calendars and a subsistence survey.  
27 The proposed harvest calendars would include  
28 distribution of harvest calendars to families in the  
29 study communities each quarter. So that would be four  
30 times a year that people would have people coming by to  
31 talk to them. There was also going to be a follow-up  
32 survey at the end of the year to again get people to  
33 quantify their research.

34  
35 This is the area that is where the  
36 Pebble Mine is going to have some impact if and when  
37 it's implemented, and there have been extensive studies  
38 going on in that region for several years now,  
39 including two years worth of baseline harvest surveys,  
40 which are extensive surveys. And the Technical Review  
41 Committee was concerned about the number of contacts  
42 that the communities would have, especially in light of  
43 the past several years of surveys that have been going  
44 on there. Specifically they noted survey fatigue.

45  
46 Another aspect that was not mentioned  
47 in the investigation plan was sampling design. When  
48 you do this type of survey or calendar research,  
49 generally you specify are you going to do a census, are  
50 you going to do a random sample, are you going to do

1 maybe a chain referral sample where you talk to  
2 harvesters who refer you to each other. There was no  
3 sampling design noted, and that's pretty standard for  
4 Subsidence Division surveys. And without that  
5 information, we weren't really sure how harvest numbers  
6 for the community were going to be expanded, how the  
7 budget is covering the expenses necessary for a study.  
8 A census survey is much more expensive than a chain  
9 referral survey.

10

11                   And perhaps one of the most critical  
12 elements that was a technical deficiency we considered  
13 and the Technical Review Committee considered is that  
14 capacity building is one of the four evaluation  
15 criteria for these projects. And as Molly discussed,  
16 going into communities, especially if you're from there  
17 and asking people how much they harvested is kind of  
18 like going into another community and saying, how much  
19 do you make, or does anybody take care of you. And  
20 there was no plan in this study for training and  
21 mentoring and working with local people. They were  
22 going to -- as we could tell from the proposal, they  
23 were going to be given the calendars, but there was no  
24 plan for working maybe like in teams. Often it seems  
25 that an agency person and a local person work best  
26 together in these types of situations just because the  
27 agency needs to hear the type of questions that get  
28 asked in a household setting, and a local person has an  
29 area of expertise that the agency person can learn  
30 from. And the agency person can answer some of the  
31 thorny questions that get asked of people when you're  
32 in a house talking about fish and wildlife resource  
33 issues.

34

35                   So those were some of the reasons that  
36 the Technical Review Committee considered in  
37 combination with the fact that the Park Service sent a  
38 letter saying that they just didn't have the capacity  
39 to participate in this project and would like to, but  
40 they weren't involved in the initial planning of the  
41 project. And they do have local people working for the  
42 Park Service in those areas, and the investigation plan  
43 for this project talks about consultation with the Park  
44 Service Staff who are local to the area extensively,  
45 but then we get a letter from the superintendent saying  
46 that his Staff cannot commit to this project at this  
47 time, and they would like to be involved in the  
48 planning and do the project sort of as a team in the  
49 future.

50

1                   So if you would pass those out. And I  
2 do have copies of the investigation plan if you want.  
3 The letter was included in the investigation plan. And  
4 Mary McBurney of Park Service also has some of the  
5 letters from the Park Service, and she can talk more  
6 about that if you have more questions about it.

7  
8                   MR. O'HARA: That was a long answer.

9  
10                  MS. WILLIAMS: Sorry. Well, we thought  
11 about it. I mean, this has gone back and forth. You  
12 know, we asked for some changes at the proposal stage  
13 and we got some of them, but we didn't see all the  
14 changes -- or the Technical Review Committee didn't see  
15 all the changes that they thought were necessary for a  
16 successful project at this point.

17  
18                  But there are several more  
19 recommendations, including this Council, the  
20 InterAgency Staff Committee as well as the Federal  
21 Subsistence Board. So the Technical Review Committee  
22 is just one stop on a long journey for these proposals.

23  
24                  MS. MORRIS LYON: The bottom line is  
25 this could happen at some time in the future.

26  
27                  MS. WILLIAMS: Yes. And I would invite  
28 Mary to come up and speak to that if she's like.  
29 That's the gist of what we got from the letter.

30  
31                  MS. MORRIS LYON: It just seems to me  
32 like it's left hanging in the air since we've been  
33 working on it, you know, for a while. Here, Molly, you  
34 can have a copy, too.

35  
36                  MS. WILLIAMS: I don't want to s peak  
37 for Park Service's future commitment.

38  
39                  MS. CHYTHLOOK: Mr. Chair. I've got a  
40 question.

41  
42                  CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

43  
44                  MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. I noticed the --  
45 I guess the justification and the general comments,  
46 it's pretty extensive and pretty detailed. And my  
47 question is Subsistence Division and also BBNA have  
48 been working with these communities and doing research  
49 for quite a while. And do you normally nitpick or get  
50 into all these little details to justify a survey as

1 important at this? I think this survey is important,  
2 because you mentioned that there's -- you know, the  
3 Pebble Project is coming on.

4  
5 And not only that, we have climate  
6 changes that is really disturbing the resources. And  
7 to my knowledge, except for baseline, we don't have  
8 specific information on whitefish, and whitefish I know  
9 are very sensitive to any changes.

10  
11 And we also have two areas that I know  
12 of that we can harvest whitefish except for the  
13 Kuskokwim area. And they'll come from Togiak to  
14 Dillingham is like a donut hole where we harvest  
15 whitefish incidentally. But from the Nushagak River  
16 east to the two main rivers, we can go and specifically  
17 go and harvest the whitefish. They're not incidental.  
18 My husband and I go up to Nushagak every spring in May  
19 to harvest whitefish, and we only target whitefish,  
20 because we know the areas where we can harvest the  
21 whitefish. And I'm sure from receiving whitefish from  
22 this area that, you know, there's Igiugig and then the  
23 other -- Nondalton seems to be the highest harvest area  
24 for this whitefish.

25  
26 And I guess we have been looking for  
27 results of this particular species to be researched and  
28 I'm, I guess, kind of disappointed that this project  
29 isn't going to go, because of all the concerns that I'm  
30 sure people here have more than I have, because I do  
31 receive fish from, whitefish from this area when the  
32 Nushagak whitefish isn't available. So I guess that's  
33 my concern here, that this isn't going to happen.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Molly.

36  
37 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

40  
41 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Nice to have other  
42 members of the Park Service here as well.

43  
44 Mary, you're involved in the Lake Clark  
45 Park and Preserve. There's two sections to it, one is  
46 -- I don't know if there's two parts to it. And  
47 there's five villages that participate in subsistence.  
48 Port Alsworth, Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen, Pedro Bay.  
49 Is Kokhanok involved?

50

1 MS. MCBURNEY: No, but Lime Village is.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Lime Village. Okay.  
4 That's interesting.  
5  
6 Could you give us the -- I know there's  
7 a lot of interest on when the lodges aren't flying out  
8 some place else, that there's a certain amount of  
9 sport/recreation that take place in whitefish. And I  
10 may be a little weak on that, but do you have any idea  
11 what the take might be, if there is a recreational type  
12 general use, where people go out and set hooks and get  
13 whitefish or fish them out of a boat on a recreational  
14 basis? Nonresidents.  
15  
16 MS. MCBURNEY: For the record, Mary  
17 McBurney, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.  
18  
19 You're asking for a recreational  
20 general fishery on whitefish?  
21  
22 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Take, if there is  
23 one. And I'm pretty gray in that area, but I've heard  
24 of some it taking place out there in the waters.  
25  
26 MS. MCBURNEY: You know, I can't speak  
27 to that with any certainty. I would imagine that there  
28 is some level of use, but I also don't think that it  
29 has risen to a level where it has come to our attention  
30 as being an issue within the Clark waters. I don't  
31 know outside of Lake Clark what happens, if there's,  
32 you know, a general fishery or not.  
33  
34 MR. O'HARA: The five villages, user  
35 groups, people who come as tourists to the area,  
36 recreational users, they have pretty much a free rein  
37 of fishing, don't they, like under sport regulations?  
38  
39 MS. MCBURNEY: They are allowed to fish  
40 under sport regulations, yes.  
41  
42 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. So I was just kind  
43 of curious of what the take might be by nonresidents of  
44 the whitefish in the area. I see a hand raised.  
45  
46 MS. MCBURNEY: Craig Schwanke might be  
47 might be able to answer that.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Craig, can you come  
50 up and answer that.



1 MR. SCHWANKE: Sure. Good morning.  
2 Craig Schwanke with the Alaska Department of Fish and  
3 Game, Division of Sport Fish. I did pick up.....  
4  
5 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Are you the --  
6 you're the sports biologist?  
7  
8 MR. SCHWANKE: Assistant area  
9 management biologist for the Bristol Bay area.  
10  
11 As you guys were discussing that, I dug  
12 up an old table I had in my folder there. It's 2007  
13 numbers, and the recreational harvest is zero for  
14 whitefish for the Lake Clark area in 2007.  
15  
16 MR. O'HARA: That answers then. Thank  
17 you. Maybe that's why it wasn't public. Okay.  
18  
19 Thank you, Mary. Appreciate that.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, they're hard  
22 to catch. They don't bite anything I know. Bottom  
23 fish, bottom feeders.  
24  
25 Anyway, Mary, can you continue.  
26  
27 MS. MCBURNEY: If there are any other  
28 questions, I'd be happy to entertain them.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
31  
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I had a question  
33 about this and I was wondering if it contributed to  
34 this survey not being funded, but, what is it, Lime  
35 Village was mentioned in here as well? I can see why  
36 you might include it as part of the Park study, but as  
37 far as for subsistence for this area, Lime Village  
38 falls into Kuskokwim I think, doesn't it? It just kind  
39 of -- I wondered if that added another level of  
40 confusion to the study.  
41  
42 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, from the Park  
43 Service perspective, I don't think so. It's just that  
44 within our Part 13 regulations in the Park Service  
45 regulations we have six named resident zone  
46 communities, and they're Port Alsworth, Nondalton,  
47 Iliamna, Newhalen, Pedro Bay and Lime Village.  
48  
49 MR. DUNAWAY: Do Lime villagers come  
50 down into Lake Clark to take whitefish at all, or do

1 you know?

2

3 MS. MCBURNEY: No, I'm fairly certain  
4 that they don't, but people in Lime Village do have  
5 very close ties to the people in Nondalton.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I knew that. Okay.  
8 Thanks.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Continue.

11

12 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, I just wanted to  
13 respond to that as well. The inclusion of Lime Village  
14 was actually a plus. Because it's a resident zone  
15 community of the National Park Service, it's very  
16 important that we understand their subsistence harvest  
17 and uses. And I just want to underscore again that the  
18 Park Service didn't say no. They not at this time.

19

20 And there are two people who are from  
21 the local areas who live in two of the communities that  
22 were going to be research communities, and those are  
23 Port Alsworth, or they're from there, and Nondalton.  
24 And part of the concern was that their inability to  
25 participate would maybe make this not the right time.  
26 I mean, they're Park Service Staff, and correct me if  
27 I'm wrong, who are liaisons to the community and I  
28 think would -- or the TRC thought that they would  
29 facilitate this project.

30

31 And this is a very important project,  
32 and it's a competitive process, and there's two levels.  
33 A proposal is submitted and Staff and the TRC make  
34 recommendations and then ask the proponents to send an  
35 investigation plan. And some of the things that we  
36 looked at were not necessarily responded to in the  
37 investigation plan. And we evaluate every project very  
38 thoroughly. These are taxpayer dollars.

39

40 And sport fishing may be an issue for  
41 whitefish, but commercial fisheries of whitefish are on  
42 the increase and whitefish are fragile. A whole heck of  
43 a lot isn't necessarily known. and for those reasons  
44 we really want to make sure that every project,  
45 including this one is done right.

46

47 Sometimes when you have survey fatigue,  
48 you don't always get the responses that you want, and  
49 we wanted every partner to participate fully. ADF&G  
50 and BBNA have a great partnership and they've done

1 great work. But there's a third-party who also happens  
2 to be the Federal land manager who has Staff from those  
3 communities that we would like to see as an integrated,  
4 active partner from the planning through the  
5 implementation.

6

7 MR. O'HARA: Well, we've probably  
8 flogged that horse enough.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Did we?

11

12 MR. O'HARA: Flogging a dead horse.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Where are we. Does  
15 that conclude your -- Liz?

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that puts  
20 us down to number 11, the call for proposals to change  
21 2010 to 12 Federal subsistence wildlife regulations.  
22 The proposal period ends November 5th, in about a week,  
23 2009. Okay. A. Review and confirm proposals  
24 submitted by the Council.

25

26 Donald. Polly.

27

28 MS. WHEELER: I was trying to get your  
29 attention.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're better  
32 looking than Donald anyway.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 MS. WHEELER: For the record, Polly  
37 Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence Management.

38

39 If you could, Mr. Chair, if I could ask  
40 you to back up a little bit. We actually are looking  
41 for a recommendation from the Council on the Fisheries  
42 Resource Monitoring Program. The Technical Review  
43 Committee makes its recommendations. We look to the  
44 Regional Advisory Councils to make their  
45 recommendations and then it will go before the Federal  
46 Board in January. So if you could look at the projects  
47 that the Technical Review Committee both recommends for  
48 funding and also recommends not funding and give --  
49 endorse the Technical Review Committee recommendations  
50 or not, and then that will be presented to the Federal

1 Board when the Federal Board considers these projects.  
2 Mr. Chair.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So we backed  
5 up to those technical review one. Donald, do you have  
6 those?  
7  
8 MS. MORRIS LYON: Polly, what yeah,  
9 what table would you recommend we work off of?  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What pages or fold-  
12 outs?  
13  
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, which table.  
15 It's this one I think.  
16  
17 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair. Excuse me,  
18 Mr. Chair. It's the Table 5 on Page 21, which is in  
19 really small print, and I apologize for that, because I  
20 can barely read it myself, but it's the funding  
21 recommendations by the Technical Review Committee for  
22 Southwest Alaska, the 2010 Fisheries Resource  
23 Monitoring Program. And if you -- sometimes when we  
24 have -- because this region encompasses the area of two  
25 Regional Advisory Councils, if you just want to make  
26 recommendations on the projects in your area, you know,  
27 and defer the to the Regional Advisory Council for the  
28 other projects, that's fine. I mean, however you want  
29 to proceed, Mr. Chair. But that's the Southwest Region  
30 projects. Mr. Chair.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So we should  
33 pass judgment on Togiak and Lake Clark programs. We  
34 don't need to do anything about Kodiak, do we? Molly.  
35  
36 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Mr. Chair.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.  
39  
40 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Since we're still on  
41 this, we have one of the investigators, well, Courtenay  
42 Gomez is here, and I'd like to hear her side of this  
43 plan, on the whitefish, before we make a decision.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, you mean she  
46 participated in the Lake Clark or Togiak?  
47  
48 MS. CHYTHLOOK: No, the whitefish.  
49  
50 MS. MORRIS LYON: The Lake Clark

1 whitefish?  
2  
3 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)  
4  
5 MR. DUNAWAY: I think she might be  
6 involved in Togiak, too.  
7  
8 MS. CHYTHLOOK: And Togiak.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do we need to?  
11  
12 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Are we going to make --  
13 are we going to be deciding the recommendation right  
14 now?  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Because the purpose  
17 of explaining it in time? Well, what Polly wants us to  
18 do is, you know, they recommend that we support the  
19 Togiak proposal for funding, but they don't recommend  
20 funding the Lake Clark whitefish program at this time.  
21 And unless you guys think it should be different, we  
22 need to pass judgment on that one way or the other.  
23  
24 Donald.  
25  
26 MR. MIKE: Well, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
27 Excuse me. These Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan,  
28 you know, Ms. Liz Williams provided the background on  
29 the information on which projects were funded and which  
30 projects were not funded, or made recommendations by  
31 the Technical Review Committee. But all these four  
32 projects and the one that wasn't recommended for  
33 funding. And then it's up to the Council to make a  
34 recommendation if they want to go ahead and support the  
35 Technical Review Committee's recommendation, or if the  
36 Council wish to do so, they can make a recommendation to  
37 the Board on which projects to fund.  
38  
39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
40  
41 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
44  
45 MR. O'HARA: It looks to me like we're  
46 going maybe not go into the Afognak Lake sockeye thing,  
47 which is Kodiak.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I don't think  
50 we need to either.

1 MR. O'HARA: All right. But then  
2 you're talking about 10-402, 10-3, 10-4.  
3  
4 MS. MORRIS LYON: No, 3 and 4 are both  
5 Buskin.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, they're still  
8 Kodiak, the other two. So just Togiak and Lake Clark.  
9  
10  
11 MR. O'HARA: So Togiak. We want Togiak  
12 and Lake Clark.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.  
15  
16 MR. O'HARA: Oh, it looked like, you  
17 know, we -- if they're going to look at the whitefish  
18 in the near future, I think that that's fine not to  
19 include it in our recommendation, but Togiak and the  
20 Buskin River is how we should do it. I don't now.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.  
23  
24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
25 Yeah, my comments that I would like on record are that  
26 we have talked about this Lake Clark whitefish study  
27 for a long time. And I think that we need to finish  
28 with it. And I certainly don't want something done  
29 that's only halfway there and prepared to be done. But  
30 I guess my urgings would be that a plan be put together  
31 that's feasible and workable for all entities in the  
32 very near future. And it would be a high priority  
33 funding at that point.  
34  
35 And I would certainly support the  
36 Togiak River Chinook salmon adult assessment as well,  
37 Mr. Chair. Thank you.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Nanci.  
40 Dan Dunaway.  
41  
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm pretty much  
43 along with Molly and Nanci. One thing, it seems like  
44 it's harder to get non-salmon subsistence studies  
45 funded. It sounds like there could be some science  
46 coming out from Lake Clark on these other studies that  
47 might render this Lake Clark one moot, but I'm  
48 certainly in support of either a whitefish study  
49 eventually, or if it looks like grayling or other  
50 species, other parts of this area, that requires

1 somebody come up with a good design and well thought  
2 out and well coordinated with multiple agencies. So  
3 I'm disappointed a little bit, but I can understand why  
4 the Lake Clark one isn't recommended.

5  
6 And I'm very supportive of Togiak River  
7 Chinook. From what I've heard about it and looked into  
8 it, that's been a problem in the past to really knowing  
9 what the escapement is and it would be nice to see that  
10 funded and get some better answers.

11  
12 That's all, Mr. Chair.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I think that,  
15 you know, because they didn't support the Lake Clark  
16 whitefish project, that maybe the next time it comes up  
17 they'll be ready to work on it and then continue it.  
18 So I guess we need to pass judgment on this review,  
19 requested project funding so. And I would support  
20 Dan's recommendation, of just Togiak and Lake Clark  
21 recommendations. We don't necessarily need to do  
22 Kodiak, it's not in our jurisdiction, unless you guys  
23 think otherwise.

24  
25 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. Should we put  
26 that in a motion? I'd move to.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, we probably  
29 need to have a motion for that.

30  
31 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. I could move to  
32 support the TRC's recommendations with the  
33 understanding that we're eager to see non-salmon  
34 studies in the future that are better designed for the  
35 Lake Clark or a better time for Lake Clark.

36  
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'd second that.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Motion's been  
40 made and seconded. Was that for the whole -- all the  
41 projects or just Togiak and Lake Clark?

42  
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Specifically Togiak and  
44 Lake Clark. The studies that occur in our area we're  
45 involved with.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right.

48  
49 MR. O'HARA: When you say Lake Clark,  
50 are you talking about specifically whitefish.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Their  
2 recommendation.  
3  
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.  
5  
6 MR. O'HARA: So you're recommending  
7 they say no, and we say yes?  
8  
9 MR. DUNAWAY: No, I'm supporting  
10 overall the TRC's report.  
11  
12 MR. O'HARA: Okay. The over-all  
13 report, yeah.  
14  
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Understanding the  
16 weaknesses they've said, but that if a better study  
17 comes in the future, we'd like to see it.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: According to the  
20 report, the Lake -- they didn't recommend the Lake  
21 Clark whitefish, because the Park Service wasn't on the  
22 project. They had other obligations that they were  
23 doing, so they couldn't do this, so that's why it  
24 didn't get passed.  
25  
26 MR. O'HARA: It's interesting, Mr.  
27 Chairman, that when we had a downturn, we all were in  
28 the river for about seven or eight years, and the  
29 Kvichak was completely closed, that without even a  
30 doubt the Katmai National Park, Lake Clark, Sixmile  
31 there, Sixmile Lake, got their escapement every year,  
32 and that's because Area M didn't get fishing until  
33 those fish were past, because they're the first ones to  
34 come up. So you're right, Dan, we put a lot of  
35 emphasis on the sockeye up there, but you've got other  
36 fisheries. You know, you've grayling and other  
37 fisheries that I think we -- whitefish that people use.  
38 I think we ought to keep that in mind.  
39  
40 So I'm ready to call for the question.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been  
43 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.  
44  
45 IN UNISON: Aye.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
48  
49 (No opposing votes)  
50



1           CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. The Motion carried.  
2 That's over.

3  
4           That brings us back to number 11, call  
5 for proposals. Donald.

6  
7           MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. In  
8 your folder you should have some proposals that were  
9 passed by the Council last spring, spring meeting. We  
10 had a proposal that dealt with caribou in Unit 17 and  
11 moose in Unit 9. Recently the announcement for call  
12 for proposals was delayed due to the Federal Register  
13 issues. Ms. Polly Wheeler will be addressing the  
14 information and the discussion of call for wildlife  
15 proposals. Mr. Chair.

16  
17           MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
18 The good news is that the window for the wildlife  
19 proposals was extended until November 5. So we are  
20 accepting proposals through November 5th. And in a  
21 nutshell, the reason why the window was extended, and  
22 why you have to repeat kind of -- we're asking you to  
23 revalidate your proposals that you submitted at the  
24 spring meeting, because we had a proposed rule that  
25 published in the Federal Register and then it was  
26 withdrawn. And there was.....

27  
28           It's basically bureaucratic SNAFU.  
29 Under our program the meetings have to be properly  
30 noticed. They're properly noticed when the proposed  
31 rule goes into the Federal. And it was published but  
32 then it was withdrawn, so we have to kind of redo what  
33 was done last spring. And I apologize on behalf of the  
34 Federal program, but we do have these rules and  
35 regulations that we have to follow. And that's it in a  
36 nutshell.

37  
38           So we're accepting wildlife proposals  
39 through November 5th, and then at the Federal Board  
40 we'll be dealing -- we'll be taking action on these  
41 proposals in May 2010 just in time for the wildlife  
42 regulations to start, what is it, July 1. So we have  
43 -- that's going to be our process. So at your winter  
44 meeting you'll be hearing the analyses on the wildlife  
45 proposals.

46  
47           CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, we need to  
48 adopt these proposals that we have before us. If we're  
49 going to discuss them, we need to put them on the  
50 floor.

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do you want me  
2 to?  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure.  
5  
6 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. Mr. Chair. I  
7 would move -- can we do them both at same time? I  
8 assume there isn't much.....  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. They both  
11 would need.....  
12  
13 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. I would like  
14 to move that -- can I use the letters they've got on  
15 here now -- WCR08-05 and WCR08-07 are approved by this  
16 Board.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do we have a second.  
19  
20 MR. O'HARA: I'll second it.  
21  
22 MR. DUNAWAY: Is that the right -- I'm  
23 not sure that's the right one.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's not.  
26  
27 MS. WHEELER: Those are the wildlife  
28 closures that are going to be talked about in a minute.  
29 You need the wildlife proposals.  
30  
31 MS. MORRIS LYON: Oh, these are the  
32 reviews. Okay. Gotcha.  
33  
34 MR. O'HARA: So we take that motion  
35 away?  
36  
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, let's erase it.  
38 Don't second it.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Adopt and don't move  
41 to approve.  
42  
43 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, so he doesn't  
44 have numbers on these.  
45  
46 MR. DUNAWAY: There's a caribou. No,  
47 but you could probably just say like the harvest of  
48 caribou proposal and the moose proposal. There's three  
49 here. Well, if we took them up one at a time.  
50

1 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.  
4  
5 MR. MIKE: In the yellow folder, as I  
6 discussed earlier today, the proposal to change the  
7 wildlife proposal on Federal public lands, these two  
8 proposals I had mentioned earlier for caribou and  
9 moose, on the top of the proposal it's dated April 28.  
10 And I worked with Togiak Refuge Staff, and this is the  
11 result of the last April 1 meeting in Anchorage that  
12 the Council passed as their proposal through the  
13 process and the result of that action that was taken by  
14 the Council. So we have harvest limits on caribou and  
15 change the season dates for Unit 9 caribou. I think  
16 these were alignment proposals. Mr. Chairman.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Let's put on  
19 the floor one at a time. The first one, this is our  
20 proposal and what is the number on it. I don't see a  
21 number on it, but it deals with changing the harvest  
22 limits of caribou in 9A, 9B, 9C, 17A, 17B, 18 and 19.  
23 These are where the Mulchatna caribou, and our  
24 recommendation was to shorten on Federal lands the  
25 caribou limit, bag limit from three presently down to  
26 two as it is in State regulations.  
27  
28 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. This is,  
29 what do you call this, it's just bringing this into  
30 compliance with the regulations, yeah, lining up.  
31  
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, aligning them up.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Aligning.  
35  
36 MR. O'HARA: I so move that we support  
37 this recommendation -- what do you call it?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion  
40 to.....  
41  
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dan.  
45 Any question on this regulation that we -- I mean this  
46 proposal that we submitted at the last meeting.  
47  
48 (No comments)  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Hearing none.

1 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All in favor signify  
4 by saying aye.  
5  
6 IN UNISON: Aye.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
9  
10 (No opposing votes)  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.  
13 Okay. That brings us to the second proposal here,  
14 deals with.....  
15  
16 MR. DUNAWAY: The season dates I think  
17 it is.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dates, right.  
20 Season dates, and again Mulchatna caribou. Changes  
21 some of the dates.  
22  
23 MS. MORRIS LYON: For consistency  
24 again.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. To align with  
27 the State season. It shortens the present season on  
28 Federal land for caribou. For instance, 19B -- or 9B  
29 presently opens July 1st to April 15th for caribou. In  
30 our proposals we asked that it be opened August 1st  
31 until March 31st, so it would shorten it up, because of  
32 the circumstance of the Mulchatna caribou. And some of  
33 the other ones also change as you can see.  
34  
35 And, this is our proposal we submitted,  
36 we proposed at the last meeting. Is there any more --  
37 do we have a motion to adopt the proposal.  
38  
39 MS. MORRIS LYON: So moved.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Moved by Nanci.  
42  
43 MR. O'HARA: Second. I'll second it.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dan  
46 O'Hara.  
47  
48 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. And this is a  
49 housekeeping issue.  
50

1 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Okay.  
4  
5 MS. MORRIS LYON: It wasn't. As I  
6 recall, the user groups were all amenable to this, too,  
7 because of the situation with the Mulchatna herd.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, because the  
10 Mulchatna herd is in such dire straits, you know,  
11 there's hardly any around that we recommended  
12 shortening this hunting season and then putting the  
13 limit down to two as it is in State regulations.  
14  
15 Any more comment on, questions on this.  
16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The question's been  
20 called. All in favor signify by saying aye.  
21  
22 IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
25  
26 (No opposing votes)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. This is --  
29 and we have one more proposal here. The proposal is  
30 Gerald Cosgrove from Perryville.  
31  
32 Donald.  
33  
34 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The  
35 proposal from Mr. Gerald Cosgrove from Perryville, he's  
36 one of the village residents that called and testified  
37 last spring. And he requested a proposal through the  
38 assistance of OSM, that we provided this proposal he  
39 submitted to the program for consideration by the  
40 Council and to be deliberated on the next wildlife  
41 proposal cycle. Our program assisted Mr. Gerald  
42 Cosgrove with this proposal. And I spoke with Mr.  
43 Cosgrove, asking if Mr. Cosgrove would like to continue  
44 with this proposal, and he agreed that we're going to  
45 resubmit this as a wildlife proposal for Mr. Cosgrove.  
46  
47 And we've had several emails from  
48 villages, from Chignik Lake and Port Heiden I believe,  
49 in support of closing Federal public lands to non-  
50 rural residents and only opened to rural residents for

1 the harvest of moose. And I'm in the process of  
2 contacting those villages and ask if they need  
3 assistance on submitting wildlife proposals for moose  
4 in Unit 9.

5  
6 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Donald.

9  
10 MR. MIKE: So there's no action needed.

11  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. No action  
14 until the next meeting. All right. So that takes care  
15 of those proposals.

16  
17 Review and confirm wildlife closure  
18 recommendations. Where did Chignik Bay want to  
19 testify? On what part of these?

20  
21 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman. I think you  
22 can just go ahead and take comments, public testimony  
23 from those villages that are standing by before we get  
24 into review and confirm closure recommendations.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. I'll see  
27 if there's anybody still there. Is anybody still  
28 available in Chignik Bay.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 MR. DUNAWAY: I haven't heard that beep  
33 for a while.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess not.

36  
37 MR. O'HARA: Well, we can try to get  
38 them back on line later today.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So I guess we can  
41 try again. Anyway, part B, review and confirm wildlife  
42 closure recommendations. And that's also in this  
43 yellow folder. Polly.

44  
45 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
46 just wanted to take this opportunity to introduce  
47 Spencer Reardon. He's a new biologist working with the  
48 Office of Subsistence Management. He'll be working in  
49 this region. And he comes from a long line of wildlife  
50 biologists, and we're really happy to have him working

1 here at OSM. So I just wanted to take this opportunity  
2 to introduce him to this Council.

3

4 Mr. Chair. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.

7 All right. Spencer.

8

9 MR. REARDON: Mr. Chair. Members of  
10 the Council. Spencer Reardon for the record.

11

12 I've been tasked with going over the  
13 wildlife closure review which you did in your last  
14 meeting in April. And again this is kind of a  
15 housekeeping issue as Ms. Polly Wheeler said. This is  
16 something that -- there was a technicality with the  
17 posting of the information, so it's kind of going  
18 through it again.

19

20 These reviews are being conducted in  
21 accordance with the guidance found in the Federal  
22 Subsistence Board's policy on closure of hunting,  
23 trapping, fishing on Federal public lands and waters in  
24 Alaska.

25

26 At your last meeting discussion of the  
27 current closure reviews which are applicable to the  
28 Regional Advisory Council were provided, and you all  
29 weighed in as to whether you agreed with the OSM  
30 preliminary recommendations whether the closure should  
31 be retained. Because the last time meeting wasn't  
32 properly noticed, we'd like to reaffirm the Council's  
33 position on the closure review documents.

34

35 So within your yellow folder there are  
36 two documents in there for wildlife closure review.  
37 WCR08-05 has to do with Unit 9C moose, that portion  
38 draining into the Naknek River from the south, one bull  
39 by Federal registration permit only, August 20th to  
40 September 15th. It was an early season for locals that  
41 occurs from August 20th to the start of the State  
42 season, which is September 1st. And then also Federal  
43 public lands are closed during December for hunting of  
44 moose, except for rural residents of Units 9A, B, C and  
45 E.

46

47 The second Federal wildlife closure  
48 review, WCR08-07, has to do with caribou in Units 17A  
49 and 17C, that portion of 17A and 17C consisting of the  
50 Nushagak Peninsula south of Igushik River, Tuklung

1 River and Tuklung Hills, went to Tvativak Bay. These  
2 Federal public lands are closed to the taking of  
3 caribou except for residents of Togiak, Twin Hills,  
4 Manokotak, Aleknagik, Dillingham, Clark's Point and  
5 Ekuk hunting under these regulations.  
6  
7 And again we're looking for your  
8 confirmation of these wildlife closures.  
9  
10 Thank you.  
11  
12 MR. O'HARA: Do you want to take these  
13 one at a time, Mr. Chairman.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Probably  
16 should.  
17  
18 MR. O'HARA: While we're realigning? I  
19 mean, it's just a housekeeping issue.  
20  
21 MR. REARDON: Yeah, that's correct.  
22  
23 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. WCR08-05,  
24 and we were given the Units 9C, what else were there.  
25 Anyway, I make a motion that we support this proposal  
26 which does alignment with State regs.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do we have a second.  
29  
30 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Motion's been  
33 made.  
34  
35 MR. O'HARA: Could I have a  
36 clarification, Spencer. That was 9C. What was the  
37 other ones? Oh, B and 9A, 9C, 9B and 9E; is that  
38 right?  
39  
40 MR. REARDON: Are you talking in  
41 regards to the first closure that I went over?  
42  
43 MR. O'HARA: Yes. Uh-huh.  
44  
45 MR. REARDON: It's just talking for 9C,  
46 Unit 9C.  
47  
48 MR. O'HARA: Okay. All right. That's  
49 good.  
50



1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Spencer, who's  
2 proposal is this?  
3  
4 MR. REARDON: This isn't a proposal.  
5 This is just a review that the Office of Subsistence  
6 Management does every three years to reaffirm whether  
7 the closure should still stay for Federal public lands.  
8 And it's been three years, and so the reviews go  
9 forward again.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The closure for who?  
12  
13 MR. DUNAWAY: I think this the way it's  
14 been since 1992 around here.  
15  
16 MR. REARDON: Only rural residents.  
17 Mr. Chair.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.  
20  
21 MR. O'HARA: That's the same one we've  
22 had for years.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It's closed for  
25 anybody besides rural residents. Okay. That's what  
26 you're saying.  
27  
28 MR. REARDON: Yeah.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I understand now.  
31 Any more comments or questions on this proposal.  
32  
33 (No comments)  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in  
36 favor signify by saying aye.  
37  
38 IN UNISON: Aye.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
41  
42 (No opposing votes)  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That brings  
45 us to the second proposal, WCR08-07, the Togiak  
46 proposal. Spencer.  
47  
48 MR. REARDON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I'd  
49 just like to say that these are reviews, not so much  
50 proposals. They're just reviewing the current

1 regulations on Federal lands for closure of Federal  
2 lands.  
3  
4 MS. MORRIS LYON: A quick question,  
5 Spencer. So my understanding is the reason we're not  
6 hearing about any new population trends or anything is  
7 because we already heard those in our spring meeting,  
8 and we're just.....  
9  
10 MS. WHEELER: (Nods her head  
11 affirmative)  
12  
13 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank you,  
14 Polly.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The same thing,  
17 different area and different species. Anybody move.  
18  
19 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'll move to approve.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Moved by Nanci to  
22 approve WCR08-07.  
23  
24 MR. MYERS: Second.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Dale.  
27 Any question.  
28  
29 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Pete says  
32 good.  
33  
34 MR. O'HARA: That means he's hungry.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. He's not  
37 getting anything to eat. We're going to finish this.  
38  
39 All in favor signify by saying aye.  
40  
41 IN UNISON: Aye.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.  
44  
45 (No opposing votes)  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried.  
48 Okay.  
49  
50 That brings us to agency reports. And

1 the first on the list is the BLM. Donald.

2

3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Before we get  
4 started with the BLM, I don't know if it's the wish of  
5 the Council to get those villages back on line so they  
6 can have public testimony and I would defer to your  
7 time certain.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We can take  
10 five minutes and we'll use the restroom. And so we can  
11 get those guys back on line.

12

13 MR. MIKE: When do you want them back  
14 on line, Mr. Chairman, that's the.....

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Whenever you can get  
17 them on, we might as well take their testimony so they  
18 won't get lost again.

19

20 MR. MIKE: Okay.

21

22 (Off record)

23

24 Mr. Hedlund arrives at meeting.

25

26 (On record)

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. It's a  
29 quarter after. We will continue.

30

31 We are on agency reports. BLM is  
32 first.

33

34 MR. SHARP: Good afternoon, Mr.  
35 Alvarez, Chair, and members of the RAC. My name is Dan  
36 Sharp. I'm with Bureau of Land Management. I serve on  
37 the InterAgency Staff Committee to the Federal  
38 Subsistence Board.

39

40 I have two items with respect to BLM  
41 issues for information only, not for any decisions or  
42 action.

43

44 The first is to give you an update. A  
45 year ago I presented the draft timber and vegetative  
46 resource use policy that BLM was trying to enact. I'll  
47 give you the status of that. Essentially what we were  
48 trying to do at the request of the Western Interior RAC  
49 where folks felt ill-served by BLM's firewood and  
50 timber policy, was to enact a policy wherein

1 subsistence users would not require a permit from BLM  
2 to harvest firewood. The Western Interior RAC was --  
3 they are surrounded by BLM lands along the Dalton  
4 Highway and around the community essentially of  
5 Wiseman. And part of the codified regulations require  
6 a right-of-way set back for timber harvesting as well  
7 as riparian setbacks. If you're familiar with that  
8 part of the world, the only place big trees grow is  
9 close to streams, and most of the access along the  
10 Dalton Highway, which runs along the river. It  
11 essentially displaced them from usable timber  
12 resources.

13

14                   After a number of iterations of the  
15 policy, we were essentially told by Department of the  
16 Interior solicitors that we could not administratively  
17 do away with the permit requirement. That's written  
18 into the 1898 Free Use Timber Act.

19

20                   So I guess to address their concerns  
21 and their desires, we've submitted to Office of  
22 Management and Budget language to amend the permit that  
23 allows the authorized officer that issues the permit to  
24 write in allowances for harvesting in riparian zones or  
25 along rights-of-way. And also explicitly recognizing  
26 the subsistence preference outlined in ANILCA. That  
27 was their other concern, that potential competing uses  
28 in the future would displace them from what they needed  
29 for that part of the world.

30

31                   So in essence, that's about where it  
32 stands now. The permit is in review back in  
33 Washington, D.C. with those changes, but the draft  
34 policy itself has sort of been set aside and we're just  
35 left with those changes to the permit which will allow  
36 us to address subsistence users' needs in an area by  
37 area basis. That's about the summary of that.

38

39                   Are there any questions.

40

41                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Dan. Thanks.  
42 So presently you need a permit to go cut firewood on  
43 BLM land?

44

45                   MR. SHARP: That's correct.

46

47                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Where do you get  
48 that at?

49

50                   MR. SHARP: That's the question that

1 we're trying to address. Through a BLM authorized  
2 officer. Now, in this part of the world, the BLM lands  
3 there shown in the sort of gold are set back there.  
4 You'd have to pass a lot of timber to get to BLM lands  
5 to harvest timber. Most of those areas where there is  
6 a firewood program going on, there are some BLM  
7 offices. If, in fact, someone in this part of the  
8 world wanted to use BLM lands for house logs or  
9 something else, they'd have to write either the  
10 Anchorage Field Office, or you could contact me in the  
11 Anchorage State Office building.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

14

15 MR. SHARP: The other issue I wanted to  
16 touch on is with respect to the Alaska Native Claims  
17 Settlement Act, the Section (d)(1) withdrawals that  
18 were in place. In essence, in the 70s BLM lands were  
19 sort of taken off the table for any uses so that Native  
20 corporations and the State could select their lands for  
21 entitlements. That process is almost complete with  
22 respect to selections and most of the conveyances.  
23 Where that leaves us now is that those withdrawals will  
24 be as part of the resource management plan, they can  
25 potentially be revoked, which in essence removes that  
26 protection simply because the Native corporation and  
27 State selections are virtually complete.

28 That changes the status of those lands  
29 so that they would all under both the resource  
30 management plan and the Federal Lands Policy and  
31 Management Act. There's been some concern because of  
32 the Pebble Mine controversy, but if those withdrawals  
33 are lifted, that opens them up for potential mineral  
34 leasing and exploration. To date -- the process that  
35 has to happen is the State has to submit to the  
36 director of BLM a revocation request to lift those  
37 withdrawals. He has to review those, send them on to  
38 the Secretary of Interior. The only person that can  
39 lift those withdrawals is the Secretary of the  
40 Interior.

41

42 To date there have been no revocation  
43 requests put forward through BLM to the BLM director.  
44 My understanding is lands in the planning area aren't  
45 high on the list of lands being considered for any  
46 revocations.

47

48 The other salient point is that BLM  
49 geologists in examining those BLM lands that remain  
50 aren't considered to have high mineral potential. In

1 essence the State and the Native corporations selected  
2 the best lands and this is sort of what remains.

3

4 So this is just sort of a head's up  
5 that that process is potentially in play, that those  
6 withdrawals can be revoked. And then the management  
7 status of those lands could potentially change in the  
8 future.

9

10 And that's about all I had to summarize  
11 that.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Pete.

14

15 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah, a question. What  
16 are we talking about, live wood or dead wood and what  
17 species?

18

19 MR. SHARP: For firewood?

20

21 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah.

22

23 MR. SHARP: Whatever timber or  
24 vegetative resources are on BLM land, whatever. It  
25 would essentially be -- I believe the standard amount  
26 is about 15 cords of wood, although the Free Timber Act  
27 allows up to 200 cords of wood removed. So it could be  
28 green timber, it could be standing dead timber.

29

30 One of the issues in Wiseman and one of  
31 the things that they requested is their method is to  
32 girdle trees in advance of harvesting, a year or two a  
33 head of time. That's what they like to do, and there  
34 was no allowance in the codified regulations to address  
35 that. So this again one of the -- it's a permitting  
36 issue.

37

38 MR. ABRAHAM: Thank you, sir. Doi.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right, Pete.  
41 Thanks. I guess let's find out who we have on line  
42 here? Do we have somebody on teleconference. Chignik  
43 Bay or anybody? I hear beeping. Nobody on line for  
44 testimony.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I guess not.  
49 Any more questions for Dan?

50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.  
4  
5 MR. SHARP: Thank you.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody on  
8 teleconference, on line?  
9  
10 MR. KINGSLEY: Yeah. Dan Kingsley,  
11 Pilot Point Tribal is here.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Dan, what  
14 would you like to testify on? Let's see. Let me  
15 explain to you where we're at. We're just doing agency  
16 reports. We just got done with the BLM. And we're  
17 going to be discussing some game proposals, moose and  
18 -- specifically moose later on.  
19  
20 But do you -- would you wish to  
21 testify? If you wish to testify, we can take you at  
22 any time you desire, so we won't lose you.  
23  
24 MR. KINGSLEY: Yes, I'd like to lend  
25 support for the moose proposal that we put in last  
26 year.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Just a  
29 second. Can you tell us your name and where you're  
30 from and what you want to testify on first.  
31  
32 MR. KINGSLEY: Okay. I don't know the  
33 specific proposal number. Do you have it there in  
34 front of you?  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, we don't. Would  
37 you tell us your name and where you're from and about  
38 what you're going to testify on?  
39  
40 MR. KINGSLEY: Okay. All right.  
41 Daniel Kingsley, Pilot Point. I'm going to testify on  
42 our concerns about moose population, predator control  
43 in the area, mainly wolf and bear.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Go ahead  
46 then, Dan, and testify.  
47  
48 MR. KINGSLEY: Okay. We all know that  
49 we have a phenomenal number of bears down here and a  
50 wolf population that's on the increase. Most of the

allowed to hunt caribou, which is a  
3 traditional subsistence food source, so we've turned  
4 our attention to subsistence moose, of which it is  
5 getting almost impossible to harvest a moose. Nobody  
6 in this village got one this year. I myself took four  
7 hunters out, we spent the full 10 days out, and we  
8 never saw a moose. Lots of bear, lots of wolves. And  
9 that was on Federal land. That was up in Ugashik,  
10 upper and lower lake and up Dog Salmon River. Without  
11 an airplane, you cannot access the bulls up high. And  
12 we've encountered -- in one day alone we counted 27  
13 bears on the lower part of the river.

14

15 We've gone to the State and pleaded to  
16 the State for some kind of predator control, and they  
17 basically tell us that they are managing this area for  
18 bear, optimum bear hunting, which is fine, but in the  
19 last five years we've gone from 2500 bears to 6400  
20 bears in this game unit. Tremendous bear problems. We  
21 were losing dogs all the time. They're in town.  
22 They're in our dumps, even with all the bear deterrents  
23 we have up. And we just get fewer and fewer moose.

24

25 The guides this year, if you look at  
26 the success rate, it's gone down steadily, averaging  
27 around 80 percent. Now we're down to about probably  
28 less than 40 percent in this game unit. Success rates  
29 with the guides and all their equipment. So it just  
30 goes to show what our population's doing.

31

32 So I guess we'd just encourage the  
33 Subsistence Board to put in some kind of measurements  
34 or protections so that we can get a handle on the wolf  
35 predation and the bear population so we can get some  
36 ungulates back here for us for subsistence food.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right, Dan.  
39 Thanks for the testimony.

40

41 We've been discussing that with the  
42 Federal agencies, predator management for the last  
43 couple years or so. And the State is doing a program  
44 down in 9D and then I think part of 9E now, but on  
45 Federal lands that's -- do you know which Federal  
46 agency that manages the land that you're talking about  
47 up around Ugashik? Would that be the Fish and Wildlife  
48 Service or the Park Service.

49

50 MR. DUNAWAY: The Becharof Refuge.



1                   MR. O'HARA: The Becharof Refuge over  
2 there.  
3  
4                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Fish and Wildlife,  
5 okay.  
6  
7                   MR. KINGSLEY: I think Fish and  
8 Wildlife, because that's a big refuge up there.  
9  
10                  CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Okay. The  
11 way this works, it's the Federal Subsistence Board at a  
12 meeting -- at the Federal Subsistence Board meeting a  
13 couple years ago, I was told that the Board doesn't  
14 authorize predator control. We have to deal with the  
15 individual Federal agency that manages that land. So  
16 in this case then we would have to deal with the U.S.  
17 Fish and Wildlife Service to have any predator control  
18 management in that area. And I've discussed a little  
19 bit of it with them before, but I think we still need  
20 to -- the Council still needs to talk with the U.S.  
21 Fish and Wildlife Service on what they are doing, if  
22 anything, to rectify the situation, because it's not  
23 getting any better from the sound of things. So if the  
24 bear population went up from 2400 or something like  
25 2500 to 6400, that sounds like quite a lot of bears.  
26  
27                  Anyway, thank you, Dan, and we'll be  
28 discussing it later when we take up some other  
29 business. Does anybody have any.....  
30  
31                  MR. KINGSLEY: Yeah. Basically the  
32 people here understand that we've got to get  
33 cooperation between U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the  
34 State agency to implement any kind of predator control,  
35 because there's so much Federal land here. And most of  
36 our caribou calving happens on Federal land, and then  
37 they migrate off into State lands. So they have to  
38 have cooperation amongst those agencies to have any  
39 kind of control plan in place that's going to be  
40 effective. So that's basically what we're asking for  
41 is these agencies to sit down and work together.  
42  
43                  CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.  
44 Thanks, Dan.  
45  
46                  Does any of the Council members have  
47 comment or questions to Dan on his testimony.  
48  
49                  (No comments)  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Dan, is  
2 there anybody else there that -- on anybody else on  
3 line that would wish to testify.

4  
5 MR. KINGSLEY: No, no one right now.  
6 Nobody's in town. I'm kind of holding down the fort.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I hear the  
9 machine beeping once in a while. It makes me think  
10 somebody else has come on line. So if there is nobody  
11 else on line, then we'll just keep the phone lines open  
12 in case somebody does come on until the end of the  
13 meeting.

14  
15 MR. KINGSLEY: All right. Thank you.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right, Dan.  
18 Thanks.

19  
20 Okay. We are down to B, OSM.

21  
22 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I  
23 have a number of items that I need to go through if  
24 you'll indulge me. I'll try to go through them as  
25 quickly and as efficiently as possible, but also  
26 referring you to the page numbers in your books so you  
27 can just walk through.

28  
29 For the record, my name is Polly  
30 Wheeler. I'm deputy assistant regional director with  
31 the Office of Subsistence Management. I work with Pete  
32 Probasco and then all the rest of the other stuff.

33  
34 The first item on the agenda is the  
35 Federal Subsistence Management Program schedule of key  
36 dates. You can find that on Page 34 in your books.  
37 And this is just a head's up to all of you to kind of  
38 give you a reminder of where we all are in the process.

39  
40  
41 I said earlier that we had the proposed  
42 rule for wildlife regulations was published last  
43 January. It was subsequently withdrawn, which is why  
44 we're taking wildlife proposals again. The window  
45 closes November 5th. We'll go through our analysis  
46 process and the Federal Board will be meeting on those  
47 wildlife proposals in May of 2010 after all the  
48 Regional Advisory Councils have had a chance to weigh  
49 in on the analyses and make their recommendations. So  
50 that meeting will be May of 2010.

1                   The Federal Board is meeting in January  
2 of 2010. And that meeting was set several years ago.  
3 It was supposed to be the wildlife meeting, but because  
4 we've had this bureaucratic SNAFU with the wildlife  
5 proposals, all the Federal Board will be dealing with  
6 in January is the Fisheries Monitoring Program and also  
7 some changes to regulations which I'll speak to in a  
8 little bit.

9  
10                   So this just gives you a head's up as  
11 to what's on the horizon. I will say, as Mr. O'Hara  
12 said earlier, an announcement was made at AFN on Friday  
13 speaking to a broad-based review of the Federal  
14 Subsistence Management Program. We're still waiting to  
15 see what that review is going to consist of. They did  
16 say they wanted to do it in a couple of months in time  
17 for the Federal Board meeting in January, but at this  
18 point you all probably know about as much about it as  
19 we do. And we're looking forward to a review and  
20 certainly looking where we can improve on the program.

21  
22  
23                   There may be additional meetings  
24 because of this review that aren't on this list of  
25 meetings. I can't speak to that at this point, because  
26 I don't know what they might be. But we will certainly  
27 try and keep you appraised as best we can as things  
28 move forward.

29  
30                   The next item -- unless there's any  
31 questions, I can move on.

32  
33                   (No comments)

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No questions.

36  
37                   MS. WHEELER: Okay. Marching forward.  
38 The next item on the agenda is the status of the work  
39 group on tracking of brown bear claws and handicrafts.  
40 I don't know if Mr. Pappas wants to come up and join me  
41 here. Or even if he doesn't, I've invited him.

42  
43                   Again, the briefing for this, the bear  
44 claw working group, can be found on Pages 35 to 36 in  
45 your books. As you may -- Randy, I think you were at  
46 that meeting back in April or May of 2008, but probably  
47 most of you remember the analysis of the proposal that  
48 was submitted that the Board acted on in May of 2008.  
49 And that was a proposal submitted by the State to  
50 refine Federal regulations with regard to incorporating

1 bear claws into handicrafts, because the State felt  
2 that Federal regulations created market incentives for  
3 poaching.

4  
5 At the Federal Board meeting the  
6 Department of Fish and Game recommended that the Board  
7 defer that proposal until it gave time for a working  
8 group to form, a cooperative State/ Federal working  
9 group to form and sort of hash out some of the issues  
10 around bear claws that seem to come up time and time  
11 again, because this has been an issue that's been  
12 ongoing in the Federal program. So the Board directed  
13 that a work group be formed, and that it include  
14 representations from the Regional Advisory Councils.  
15 So if you may remember, last spring when we came to you  
16 to talk about this, we asked for this Council to  
17 provide a name of a person who might want to be  
18 involved in this working group. Molly Chythlook was  
19 your representative to that working group.

20  
21 The group met as a group by  
22 teleconference in June of 2009, this past June, and a  
23 number of questions came up. A lot of them were sort  
24 of what is the issue, what's the problem. And the  
25 combined group kind of talked about what the issue  
26 might be. Law enforcement staff talked about the  
27 worldwide illegal market for bear parts. There were  
28 Council members that wanted information basically on  
29 the numbers of illegally harvested brown bears that had  
30 been found by State and Federal enforcement people,  
31 wanted kind of more information on what really is the  
32 issue out there.

33  
34 At the end of the meeting anyway, the  
35 State and Federal managers described a bear claw  
36 tracking system as a means of protection for those who  
37 legally harvest them and want to sell the brown bear  
38 handicrafts that incorporate claws.

39  
40 And the group was really looking at  
41 sort of a paper tracking system. There had been talk, I  
42 don't know if you remember, when the Federal Board  
43 actually dealt with this, they were talking about,  
44 well, are we going to do something like microchips or  
45 something like that. And really the discussion with  
46 this work group was focusing more on some sort of a  
47 paper tracking system with the goal being really to  
48 protect the people that were making the handicrafts so  
49 that then these handicrafts could be brought across  
50 borders into other countries. Some way to protect the

1 people that were making handicrafts, protect these  
2 legitimate subsistence hunters that were subsequently  
3 making handicrafts.

4  
5 Where we are right now is that it's  
6 still a work in progress. The goal was to actually try  
7 to come up with something, a proposal for the State  
8 Board of Game also the Federal Subsistence Board,  
9 because as a reminder, the Federal Subsistence Board  
10 deferred that proposal, but that means that the Federal  
11 Board will be taking that proposal up again in May of  
12 2010. So if the work group comes up with something to  
13 present to the Council, terrific. But either way  
14 they're going to be dealing with this issue again.

15  
16 So this is again just a status update.  
17 It's a work in progress. The group ideally will meet  
18 sometime this winter, although it says yet undetermined  
19 when and where and if it will again be by phone. But  
20 it is still -- the issue is still out there in the form  
21 of the proposal specifically to the Federal Board.

22  
23 Do you have anything to add.

24  
25 MR. PAPPAS: Good job.

26  
27 MS. WHEELER: My sidekick here. Any  
28 questions.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody got any  
31 questions. Any Council members.

32  
33 (No comments)

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank  
36 you, Polly.

37  
38 MS. WHEELER: Okay. Thanks, George.

39  
40 MR. PAPPAS: Good job.

41  
42 MS. WHEELER: Couldn't have done it  
43 without you. Okay.

44  
45 Next on the agenda is the proposed  
46 changes to Section 19 regulations. I refer you to Page  
47 37 in your books. And I will preface this by saying  
48 this is one of those bureaucratic things that some  
49 people are like, good grief, do we even need to know  
50 about this. But we're just letting you know that this

1 is one of the items that is in front of us.

2

3                   You all know several years -- or about  
4 a year ago we -- I mean two years ago we switched to an  
5 every other year cycle so that we deal with wildlife  
6 regulations in one year and fisheries regulations in  
7 the next year. It used to be that we dealt with both  
8 of them every year.

9

10                   Because we're only dealing with them  
11 every other years, we have a mechanism in the off years  
12 if an emergency pops up for wildlife or for fisheries,  
13 we can deal with it. It's called our special action  
14 process. And some of you had the experience  
15 undoubtedly of dealing with our special action process.

16

17                   Well, our regulations dealing with  
18 special actions have come under scrutiny through some  
19 litigation we've had actually, and so we've been  
20 directed to refine our regulations dealing with special  
21 actions to make them less confusing, to make them  
22 consistent with this administration's move to have  
23 everything go electronic, so that things will all be  
24 submitted electronically rather than in paper form. I  
25 did talk to you last spring, saying that the Office of  
26 Subsistence Management still accepts things in paper  
27 form, and then we put them into the electronic form for  
28 you, recognizing that a lot of places don't have access  
29 or the ability to put things in electronically. So  
30 we're helping people. We've gotten approval to help  
31 people out and get the paper form and then we'll put it  
32 in electronically.

33

34                   Anyway, we are revising our regulations  
35 dealing with special actions to provide some additional  
36 clarity and also to address some of the kind of new  
37 administration rules. The regulations that provide the  
38 direction for how we deal with special actions are in  
39 Subpart B of our regulations. You as a Council deal  
40 with Subpart D, which is where fish and wildlife  
41 subsistence harvest regulations are included. The  
42 Subpart B regulations are actually regulations that  
43 require Secretarial signature. Subpart C and D is  
44 where the Federal Board has been delegating authority  
45 to deal with these things. But we're letting you know  
46 about this, because you might hear about the changes to  
47 special action regulations and some of you have  
48 submitted special action regulations through out  
49 program.

50

1                   We have a proposed rule. Whenever we  
2 have regulatory changes, we publish them in the Federal  
3 Register. We did put a proposed rule in the Federal  
4 Register. It was actually published a couple weeks  
5 ago. The comment period for the special action  
6 regulations is January 12th, 2010. That coincides with  
7 the first day of the Federal Board meeting in January.  
8 And we are accepting public comments on the special  
9 action regulations through that period of time.

10

11                   If the Board directs us at that January  
12 meeting to write a final rule, that's what we'll do.  
13 We will be presenting public comments to them if we've  
14 gotten them by that point in time. The actual Federal  
15 Register notice or the text for the Federal Register  
16 Notice is included in your booklet, and it describes in  
17 the booklet in pretty specific detail what the changes  
18 are.

19

20                   We've gone from -- we were told that  
21 extenuating circumstance was confusing, so we've  
22 changed that to time sensitive. You tell me if that  
23 provides additional clarity or not. Some people think  
24 it's good and some people don't. I guess the jury is  
25 still out, and we'll find out when it comes in the form  
26 of public comments.

27

28                   Anyways, this is just a heads up to  
29 you again. You all deal with the subsistence harvest  
30 regulations, which are in Subparts C and D -- or merely  
31 D, but this is a Subpart B. It's Secretarial  
32 signature, but we're letting you know about it.

33

34                   Questions or comments.

35

36                   (No comments)

37

38                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none. Thank  
39 you.

40

41                   MS. WHEELER: Moving right along.

42

43                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, just a second,  
44 Polly. Do we have anybody on teleconference, on line.

45

46                   (No comments)

47

48                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess not.

49 Donald.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman. We're  
2 expecting calls from Chignik Lake and Lagoon. I don't  
3 know if they're on line or not. Thank you.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, we'll  
6 keep monitoring that. Go ahead, Polly.

7  
8 MS. WHEELER: Okay. The next item on  
9 your agenda doesn't anything in your book. It's just  
10 climate change and subsistence management. And it's  
11 just a couple of comments that we wanted to make as a  
12 program.

13  
14 You've all been hearing about climate  
15 change. You've all been living and experiencing  
16 climate change. The struggle for us as the Office of  
17 Subsistence Management is hearing the concerns that are  
18 going on and translating those into a regulatory  
19 program. I mean, our scope is pretty limited. It's  
20 Title VIII of ANILCA, and devising regulations that  
21 protect and continue subsistence uses. We recognize  
22 that climate change is out there, but how our program  
23 can adapt -- you know, can help you adapt to climate  
24 change is sort of our bit question. It's the big  
25 science question of climate change and what are its  
26 impacts on people living on the land, but in terms of a  
27 regulatory program, we're trying to be responsive in  
28 the best way that we can, and that's what -- you know,  
29 I talked just now about the special action process. We  
30 can help through the special action process, opening  
31 seasons earlier, you know, extending them, changing  
32 methods and means, that sort of thing, but that's  
33 really what we can do in the context of our program.

34  
35 The other thing that we can do is put  
36 money towards research. Before lunch, Liz talked to  
37 you about the Fisheries Monitoring Program. We have  
38 had -- we did add climate change and its effects on  
39 subsistence management as an information need. We had  
40 a couple of projects this year that is looking at  
41 climate change and its impact on subsistence resources  
42 in the northern part of the state. But it's going to  
43 be an ongoing issue and it may be something that we can  
44 look at in future calls for proposals.

45  
46 I will say that through the monitoring  
47 program we have -- we're developing a long-term data  
48 set, and that's probably going to be one of the more  
49 useful tools in being able to evaluate change. And so  
50 we are committed to doing that and to continuing to do



1 that.

2

3 But as a Council, if you have any input  
4 to us in terms of how our program can better help you  
5 all to address the reality that you're dealing with,  
6 we're all ears. But we are trying to keep it to what  
7 we can do on a regulatory standpoint.

8

9 So that's really all I have. I just  
10 wanted to -- we just wanted to keep you apprised of our  
11 efforts.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

14

15 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. I just have a  
16 comment. I know when TEK came on the scene, that was  
17 added to any researches that were proposed. And I  
18 think at this time that should also, the climate change  
19 maybe should be included, even if it's just a  
20 supplemental question, you know, to the on-going  
21 research projects. And that will be my suggestion for  
22 a start. Because it's already affecting our resources,  
23 and it's going to continue.

24

25 MS. WHEELER: Thank you, Molly.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody else? Okay.  
28 Dan.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: Polly, I'm just thinking  
31 that if you're involved in discussion with other  
32 agencies, or if there's talk of restrictions,  
33 regulations, the one thing I'm thinking, you're talking  
34 about listing walrus as an endangered species from some  
35 of this. I guess helping us stay aware of what might  
36 become subsistence implications from agencies kind of  
37 as keeping us informed would be real helpful. And  
38 that's the one thing I can think of.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. And that  
43 brings us to number 5, North Pacific Fishery Management  
44 Council update. Who's going to be doing that.

45

46 MS. WHEELER: Sorry, Mr. Chair. It's  
47 still me. So I'll try and get through this here. Just  
48 a couple more items.

49

50 On Page 48 in your book there's a

1 written from Office of Subsistence Management, and  
2 that's followed by a briefing entitled, Understanding  
3 the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Bering Sea  
4 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Management Measure Action  
5 produced by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.  
6

7                   And just to touch on a few key points,  
8 Mr. Chair. As you're all well aware, at its April 2009  
9 meeting the North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
10 heard from a lot of different people, but in the  
11 context of our program, they heard specifically from  
12 the Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board as well as  
13 representatives from five different Regional Advisory  
14 Councils. All five of those representatives  
15 recommended a hard cap of just over 29,000 Chinook.  
16 The Council subsequently voted for a different hard  
17 cap, or for a different cap, which is 60,000 with a  
18 performance standard of 47,591 under industry incentive  
19 plans. This recommendation has been forwarded to the  
20 Secretary of Commerce. There will likely be additional  
21 opportunities for the public to comment when the  
22 proposed rule is released. It hasn't yet been  
23 released, but the last I heard late last week probably  
24 sometime maybe in early December. But we will let you  
25 know when it does come out, or as I'm sure there will  
26 be lots of publicity. It will be either in late 2009  
27 or early 2010, and the final rule is expected to be  
28 published in August 2010.  
29

30                   I will say that when it comes out as a  
31 proposed rule, one of the features of proposed rules is  
32 that there's opportunity for public comment, so when it  
33 does come out as a proposed rule, that's your  
34 opportunity to comment publicly. Once it does come  
35 out, typically it's 60 days for public comment period.  
36 But we will endeavor to let all of the Councils know  
37 that weighed in before when the final rule -- or the  
38 proposed rule is published, and then when there's an  
39 opportunity for public comment.  
40

41                   So that's with regard to Chinook.  
42

43                   With regard to chum, at its June 2009  
44 meeting, the Council reviewed and revised its suite of  
45 alternatives for chum salmon bycatch in the eastern  
46 Bering pollack fishery. And in December 2009 the  
47 Council, that is a little over a month from now, the  
48 Council will determine whether or not to pursue an  
49 environmental assessment or an environmental impact  
50 statement, and then set a schedule for analysis. The

1 public will have additional opportunities to comment  
2 and testify when the Council takes up this issue in its  
3 2010 meeting.

4  
5 What we're looking for from you at this  
6 point is to -- since we don't really know what the  
7 landscape is going to look like in December, January,  
8 February, potentially before this Council meets again,  
9 we'd like you to think about naming a volunteer or a  
10 representative of this Council that could potentially  
11 speak at these meetings if it's before the Council  
12 meets again. So if you want to consider that. If you  
13 don't want to avail yourself of that opportunity. We  
14 just kind of don't know what things are going to look  
15 like, but we thought as a proactive step, if you all  
16 wanted to name a representative and we needed somebody  
17 to travel to a meeting to provide some testimony, that  
18 would be an opportunity.

19  
20 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

23  
24 MR. O'HARA: I see your name here,  
25 Randy, in print on Page 48.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, I'm.....

28  
29 MR. O'HARA: You're still going to be  
30 the Chair.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Only until the end  
33 of this year.

34  
35 MR. O'HARA: When is this going to take  
36 place?

37  
38 MS. WHEELER: We're not exactly sure,  
39 but it may be earlier in 2010. It may be earlier in  
40 the next year.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So I think somebody  
43 that is going to stay on the committee probably should.  
44 Maybe Dale or somebody that knows fisheries, because,  
45 you know, looking at these figures, you know, like --  
46 you know, I attended two of the North Pacific  
47 Management Council meetings, the first one in Kodiak  
48 and then the one last year in Anchorage when we  
49 recommended this 29,200. Well, you know, and then they  
50 still took -- came up with a 60,000 cap with a 47,591

1 incentive. Well, it would probably come out to that  
2 from what I understand back -- it's still going to be  
3 at the 60,000 recommendation. It will probably come  
4 out to that, because it sounded to me like, but I might  
5 be corrected, that -- did the North Pacific Council  
6 recently downgrade the amount that they can harvest  
7 because of the biomass was estimated to be lower than  
8 what they had figured it was in recent years? I heard  
9 something about that on the news not too long ago, and  
10 I didn't get it all.

11  
12 But when I was gathering information  
13 because I had to go testify, and I didn't know nothing  
14 about the pollack fishery until I had to go to Kodiak  
15 to testify, and then I just started to find out what's  
16 been going on and how they fish. And I thought it was  
17 a cod fishery, I didn't know it was pollack fishery.  
18 But that's how much I knew about it.

19  
20 But anyway the reason why the bycatch  
21 went up so much is because they were having to fish  
22 twice as hard, and I testified to that, twice as much  
23 to catch their allocation. Well, if you've got to fish  
24 twice as much to catch your allocation, it sounds like  
25 they're having difficulty catching fish. Can't find  
26 them. Then I heard recently on the news that it  
27 sounded like the North Pacific Council might have  
28 downsized the biomass or downsized the amount that they  
29 can.....

30  
31 MS. MORRIS LYON: Allocation.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The allocation. And  
34 then just.....

35  
36 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Mr. Chair. At the SRC  
37 chairs meeting, We voted down that cap, to try to get  
38 that thrown out.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I'm wondering  
41 what the Western Interior and Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
42 Councils are going to do, because they're more affected  
43 by this than we are. But we are getting more and more,  
44 because for instance last year I didn't catch very many  
45 kings. You know, I've been fishing up here in the  
46 Naknek district for the last few years mainly, and last  
47 year I didn't even catch half the kings I normally  
48 would catch. And I don't know how you guys are doing  
49 up the river sport fishing, but I think it's starting  
50 to affect us quite a bit now.

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Two years now.  
2  
3 MR. BOSKOFISKY: The king season's been  
4 affected even in Chignik.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And if you look at  
7 this chum, the recommendation by the Council, you know,  
8 they want a hard cap range from 58,000 to 488,000.  
9 Well, that's not much of a -- you know, at that kind of  
10 a range, they're saying, well, you can catch from  
11 hardly any to as many as you want, you know. That's  
12 not much of a recommendation. And it makes me wonder  
13 if they know what's going on.  
14  
15 MS. WHEELER: Well, they haven't yet  
16 decided, Mr. Chair, if they're going to be doing and  
17 EIS or an EA. And so they're looking at as broad a  
18 range as possible. And they will bring it down through  
19 their process as time goes on. So all we were asking  
20 for is if there is a meeting between now and the next  
21 time this Council meets, and if you want a  
22 representative at that meeting. But it may be that  
23 they don't even meet between now and when this Council  
24 meets again, and then you'll have another opportunity,  
25 we'll be able to present you more information at that  
26 time. But this is sort of a safety measure.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You were at that  
29 meeting last year, weren't you, at the Marriott? When  
30 we had -- remember when we had the meeting in the same  
31 building? Didn't you stick around for the Council  
32 meeting?  
33  
34 MR. MYERS: No, I didn't.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, we need  
37 somebody to go if they have a meeting the next Council  
38 meeting.  
39  
40 MS. MORRIS LYON: Well, you wouldn't  
41 want to go if it was before the end of the year?  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't think they  
44 will have a meeting before the end of the year, do you  
45 think? I'm pretty busy, to tell you the truth. I've  
46 probably got to go to the Board of Fish meeting if I  
47 get appointed to do that. And then I've got some other  
48 meetings in November, but I just don't think I'll have  
49 time anyway even if they had a meeting before the end  
50 of the year. So you guys want to appoint somebody else

1 to go if they have a meeting before the next spring  
2 meeting?

3

4 MS. MORRIS LYON: I think we need  
5 representation there.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: I could possibly go, but  
8 I don't know. Dale, did you ever fish in the Bering  
9 Sea on the trawlers or anything?

10

11 MR. MYERS: Not in the Bering Sea.  
12 I've fished in the Gulf a little bit, but not on this  
13 side.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: Randy, I think -- you  
16 know, I served on a North Pacific Advisory Council to  
17 my limit with this issue. For years we were fighting  
18 this Chinook bycatch, and we went to the sports people,  
19 they didn't have a problem. But now they're helping  
20 out, because they're so affected by it. And the  
21 Nushagak I think is a big impact. And, you know, we  
22 don't have a commercial fisheries on Chinook here, but  
23 I think, Nanci, I don't know if you would be interested  
24 in going since you're pretty involved in that or not.

25

26 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'm very busy, but --  
27 I mean, yeah, I would go if we can't find anybody else.  
28 You know, I would certainly be happy to let somebody  
29 else if anybody else thinks that they can. Dan, if you  
30 think you can make, you certainly.....

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Possibly. I've got a  
33 pretty flexible -- but if Dan's had experience with the  
34 Council.

35

36 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, for a long, long  
37 time. I think what if we do either Dan or Nanci and  
38 I'll be an alternate. See whose schedule will work  
39 out.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Why don't we  
42 just do that recommendation then. Donald, if they have  
43 a meeting and then since Nanci's the Vice Chair call  
44 her, then Dan's the secretary, call him, and then Dan  
45 O'Hara if they're not available and then work your way  
46 on down.

47

48 MR. O'HARA: I'll be the fifth wheel.  
49 Okay.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dale.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Oh, Dale. Okay. We're  
4 really going to the break now.  
5  
6 MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman. Somebody  
7 needs to be there, because it's affecting the entire  
8 Bristol Bay. Even, you know, Togiak Bay is being  
9 affected already right now. If somebody over here is  
10 going to be telling us about it later on I guess. The  
11 local people over there caught less than usual this  
12 spring. That means us, too.  
13  
14 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Mr. Chair.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So that takes  
17 care of that then.  
18  
19 MS. WHEELER: That does take care of  
20 that.  
21  
22 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Mr. Chair. About maybe  
23 a month ago there was also a deal in the paper about  
24 tanner crab bycatch that these same boats are catching  
25 in massive amounts.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. You know,  
28 that brings up another comment. You know, we used to  
29 have a halibut fishery out here for CDQ program. And,  
30 you know, for a few years there they were doing -- they  
31 were catching a few halibut.....  
32  
33 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Basically all bottom  
34 fish are being caught.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: .....but the last  
37 couple years to my understanding they haven't been  
38 catching anything. And from what I understand, that  
39 the draggers, they catch probably more halibut than  
40 they catch anything else bycatch.  
41  
42 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Everything.  
43  
44 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Polly.  
47  
48 MS. WHEELER: Okay. Moving right  
49 along, just one more on the bottom of that, on Page 48,  
50 Mr. Chair. The North Pacific Fishery Management

1 Council has recently formed a rural community outreach  
2 committee, and the membership is listed on Page 49.  
3 They've had one meeting. And the intent of the  
4 committee is to advise the Council on how to provide  
5 opportunities for better understanding and  
6 participation from Alaska Native and rural communities.  
7 And you would note that Pete Probasco from the Office  
8 of Subsistence Management sits on that committee  
9 amongst lots of other people. But that's just a piece  
10 of information for you.

11  
12 MR. O'HARA: Paula Cullenberg is on  
13 that. She is a former setnetter/commercial fisher lady  
14 from Nushagak.

15  
16 MR. DUNAWAY: She still fishes.

17  
18 MR. O'HARA: Still fishes, right.

19  
20 MR. DUNAWAY: At least she was down  
21 this summer.

22  
23 MR. O'HARA: Uh-huh. Eric Olson, our  
24 chair, from Dillingham. One of our BBNC shareholders.  
25 Put that plug in there.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

28  
29 MS. CHYTHLOOK: What's the Council  
30 again? I didn't -- they advise the Council on rural  
31 things?

32  
33 MS. WHEELER: It's actually, Molly, on  
34 the bottom of Page 48. They say it's recently formed  
35 by the Council to and then it's got a couple of bullet  
36 points.

37  
38 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I got it,  
39 thanks.

40  
41 MS. WHEELER: Yeah. And there's a  
42 third bullet point on the top of Page 49.

43  
44 Mr. Chair. I just have one more item  
45 and then I will step down.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Go ahead.

48  
49 MS. WHEELER: And that's just to give  
50 you an update on two fishery proposals that the Board



1 decided on in December of 2007, going way back, that  
2 the State of Alaska requested that they be -- the Board  
3 action be reconsidered. There were two proposals. The  
4 first was -- the request for reconsideration submitted  
5 by the State was requesting that the Board --  
6 requesting reconsideration of action taken by the Board  
7 to adopt with modification a proposal that requested  
8 the addition of snagging to the legal methods of  
9 harvesting salmon for the Alaska Peninsula and Chignik  
10 areas.

11  
12 And if you remember back, this Council  
13 supported that proposal but asked for additional  
14 modification to allow for capture by snagging with hand  
15 line or rod and reel, and also by spear, bow arrow, and  
16 hand capture and to not require a permit for capture by  
17 these methods. The Board supported this proposal.

18  
19 The State asked that that action be  
20 reconsidered. And when the Board met in July of 2009,  
21 it concluded that none of the claims submitted by the  
22 State in their request for reconsideration met the  
23 criteria for further consideration. They denied it and  
24 completed the administrative process of that proposal.  
25 So the results of that proposals are on the books. And  
26 it was consistent with what this Council recommended.

27  
28 The other request for reconsideration  
29 that was also denied by the Federal Board had to do  
30 with its support for a proposal that requested the  
31 addition of traditional small scale subsistence fish  
32 traps and weirs, which are termed fyke nets and leads  
33 in the regulation, made of wooden stakes to the list of  
34 legal gear in the Kvichak, Iliamna, Lake Clark  
35 drainage. This Council supported that. The Board also  
36 supported that. And when the State asked for a  
37 reconsideration of that action, it was denied.

38  
39 So that's just giving you an update.  
40 And there's a full list of issues in there on Page 51  
41 in your books. But the long and the short of it is  
42 that the State requested reconsideration of Board  
43 action. And the Board found that there wasn't -- that  
44 none of the claims met the criteria for further  
45 consideration, so they denied it and moved on.

46  
47 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

48  
49 MS. WHEELER: That's all I have, Mr.  
50 Chair, unless there's questions.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: We decided at that if you  
4 have nothing better to do than to drive stakes, that's  
5 up to you. I can't imagine sitting around driving  
6 stakes all day. A stick of dynamite will work. At  
7 least, that's quick -- but don't put that in the  
8 minutes.  
9  
10 (Laughter)  
11  
12 MR. DUNAWAY: You're being recorded.  
13  
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: You better talk to  
15 Joe.  
16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Did you get that, Joe?  
18  
19 MS. WHEELER: Thanks, Mr. Chair.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Polly.  
22 Okay. We're on C, tribal and nongovernmental  
23 organizations. BBNA.  
24  
25 Do we have anybody on teleconference.  
26 Speak up. Boris.  
27  
28 (No comments)  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. BBNA  
31 representatives, you have the floor.  
32  
33 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods, Office of  
34 Special Trust for Subsistence at BBNA.  
35  
36 First I've got to report on we're  
37 having a migratory bird meeting on November 10th in  
38 Dillingham. And the migratory bird subsistence  
39 harvests are legal within the State of Alaska for all  
40 Alaskans. And through the Pacific Flyway Council that  
41 Molly sits on, they haven't enforced the duck stamp  
42 issue. But this year they're going to start cracking  
43 down on the requirement, being it's a Federal  
44 requirement in Federal law. We had an enforcement  
45 officer update us what the law does. They're going to  
46 start requiring it to subsist in Alaska.  
47  
48 Our survey project that we're required  
49 through agreement to not increase harvest within the  
50 Alaska region is going to be on hold until 2011.

1 They're revamping the whole survey process. And after  
2 your local reps go back after our meeting on November  
3 10th, they should -- at least my homework assignment I  
4 gave them last time was to give me a list of villages  
5 to fax all information and disseminate it within the  
6 villages in our region.

7  
8 Let me see. In 2005 or 2007, I jumped  
9 on board in 2007, and they had a second project they're  
10 working on is a moose and caribou and aspen (ph)  
11 project. Under full board resolution. A lot of  
12 complaints of not enough moose, not enough caribou, too  
13 many predators, too high, you know, of prey/predator  
14 ratios throughout the whole region. Not only here  
15 locally, but Togiak we've had complaints for the first  
16 time and letters written to our office and ADF&G, and  
17 up the lake and the same region, low moose counts, not  
18 enough opportunity to subsist.

19  
20 And then here this last spring, April  
21 22nd, there was a big meeting. Randy I think was a  
22 part of that. Hans Nicholson was in charge of that  
23 last year. He's kind of turned it over to me to bring  
24 it down to the lower villages. The same principle on  
25 the lower peninsula, the Chigniks, where I know. I  
26 raised my hand, because I wanted Dan to -- I'll get  
27 ahold of him later, but Dan Kingsley would be a part of  
28 that process in Port Heiden, Pilot Point, Chigniks,  
29 Perryville.

30  
31 And moving right along -- and that will  
32 happen sometime after Thanksgiving I hope. Between now  
33 and then it is the season for meetings, so between now  
34 and then I'm going to hold about five or six meetings.

35  
36 Then we have, you know -- in that  
37 process I think we'll come up with a real good plan  
38 that we work in a cooperative agreement between all  
39 agencies. I think I was -- I was talking to George in  
40 the last round, and I'd remind as to this Board, is we  
41 also forget about the second biggest landowner and  
42 that's Native corp lands. And, you know, Dan sits on  
43 the Bristol Bay Native Corporation Board.

44  
45 And in this process, you know, we have  
46 a broken system. We have a dual management system, and  
47 I've talked to Molly about this extensively, it's a  
48 heartburn for a lot of Alaskans and a lot of rural  
49 Alaskans, you might as well say Native people, is  
50 they're sick and tired of that dual management system.

1 They're getting sick and tired of fighting and to have  
2 to sort it out. My answer to that was, well, I'd like  
3 to develop a educational program in lieu of that. But  
4 I think it may be a little bit too late for that.  
5 Maybe it will change again before we start -- if I  
6 outline an outline and an educational component to what  
7 I bring to the table, it might be changed in a couple  
8 months. And that whole process is -- I'm just know  
9 learning where I can help out.

10

11 My main job is to help the subsistence  
12 user help, you know, sustain themselves and their  
13 families. So any of the issues and all issues come to  
14 my, you know, table, and it's good to be a part of the  
15 process. And with that I'll shut up. I have nothing  
16 else to report on other than the migratory bird and the  
17 moose and admin project which is a lot bigger than, you  
18 know, me.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Do you have  
21 anything to report on?

22

23 MS. GOMEZ: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.  
24 Chairman. Courtenay Carty Gomez for the record. I'm a  
25 subsistence fishery scientist through OSM's Partners  
26 for Fisheries Monitoring Program.

27

28 Just some updates on our program. We  
29 had eight summer interns this summer. All local  
30 residents of Bristol Bay coming everywhere from  
31 Iliamna, Nondalton, and working over in Togiak. One of  
32 them, Star, is still working for us this year. She's  
33 going to work for us through the fall semester learning  
34 more of the administrative side of the program, which  
35 is good experience for her.

36

37 Updates for the Partners Program, we've  
38 been -- you've heard about the two FRMP proposals that  
39 we submitted this year with Togiak and the Lake Clark  
40 whitefish and the outcomes of those.

41

42 We are also funded -- in December,  
43 during the last meeting, we were preparing our proposal  
44 for the 2010/2011 Partners Program. That was awarded  
45 at just under \$300,000.

46

47 Changes to our program through that  
48 proposal are instead of hiring an intern program  
49 coordinator over the summers to coordinate all our  
50 summer interns, we're starting a formal fisheries

1 education program to work in the schools, starting  
2 primarily in Dillingham and then working out into the  
3 other school districts in Bristol Bay. And so we're  
4 looking to start advertizing for that position, which  
5 will start in January.

6

7 And submitting an AYKSSI, Alaska  
8 Sustainable Salmon Fund proposal with the Division of  
9 Subsistence, ADF&G, for harvest monitoring in Kakhonak,  
10 very similar to the ethnography project that was done  
11 in the Iliamna -- or in the Kvichak watershed that Ted  
12 will talk about later.

13

14 And lastly, not so much the Partners  
15 Program, but other subsistence issues going on at BBNA,  
16 during the December meeting we had just submitted a  
17 proposal to the North Pacific Research Board for an  
18 Iliamna seals grant, and we were awarded that grant for  
19 \$100,000 to start a TEK and an aerial survey component.  
20 We're working with the Iliamna Seals, working with the  
21 communities of Kakhonak and Iliamna.

22

23 So that's all I have.

24

25 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any question. Dan.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Courtenay, who do  
30 you work for?

31

32 MS. GOMEZ: I work for BBNA. Molly's  
33 my boss.

34

35 MR. O'HARA: Oh, BBNA. And you were  
36 talking about the monitoring program that goes with  
37 BBNA?

38

39 MS. GOMEZ: Yeah. My position is  
40 funded through OSM, Partners for Fisheries Monitoring.

41

42 MR. O'HARA: And, Frank, it's  
43 interesting, you've got a pretty big job. That's 40  
44 percent of the lands on the Alaska Peninsula are State,  
45 40 percent on the Pacific side -- Bering Sea side is  
46 State, 40 percent on the Pacific side are Federal,  
47 which are your parks and refuges and all that stuff.  
48 And then 20 percent is privately owned, which is Native  
49 land claims. So that's what you've got to work with.  
50 Quite a big job to me.

1 MR. WOODS: Interesting process. I  
2 really appreciate you guys' efforts when this all  
3 formed, because when I hear people and their needs, and  
4 I fill -- you know, I help fill my family's freezers  
5 and I help feed my grandmother and some of my widowed  
6 aunts, then needs are greater than -- you know, we  
7 cannot -- I just came from the store for lunch. I  
8 cannot subsist out of Trading or AC. So with that I'll  
9 close.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: One more thing though,  
12 Frank. I mean, you know, it's a big thing we got a  
13 spring hunt. A number of years ago that did not exist  
14 on migratory type birds. And now we do it like we'd  
15 done it all of our life, so those are good things to  
16 keep track of.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We had done it all  
19 our life.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MS. MORRIS LYON: We just do it legally  
24 now.

25

26 MR. WOODS: We just do it legally now.  
27 And I think when Ralph Andersen was on this position,  
28 they formed the Alaska Migratory Co-Management Council  
29 that legalized the spring hunt. And Molly sits in that  
30 position now. And I've attended a few meetings, and  
31 I'm learning the whole process and how it works. But,  
32 you know, I still have a heartburn when I've got to get  
33 a sports hunting license to subsist. And that's kind  
34 of one of the broken issues, too. But at least we can  
35 do it, you're right. We can do it legally and it is a  
36 privilege.

37

38 MR. O'HARA: Go get yourself  
39 anesthetized (ph) (indiscernible).

40

41 MR. WOODS: There you go.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

44

45 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I just want to  
46 add that to Frank's report. So many of our community  
47 residents, they're in the process of adjusting to and  
48 trying to cope with the regulations. But so many of  
49 our community members have a hard time understanding  
50 all these agency I guess steps as to how these

1 regulations work. So what I've encouraged Frank to do  
2 eventually is develop a training component so that he  
3 will be able to walk through all these regulations and  
4 how these proposals work so that it would I guess  
5 minimize the misunderstandings and the heartburns that  
6 the hunters and the residents have in trying to  
7 understand the regulations and how all these different  
8 dual management proposals work for them. So that's --  
9 I think that's going to help with the understanding,  
10 and hopefully mitigate and diminish -- or not diminish  
11 100 percent, but have this education to them to --  
12 because we do, we encourage out 31 communities that we  
13 service in BBNA, that the regulations are there and  
14 they'll never go away. We just need to understand them  
15 and work with them.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank  
18 you, guys.

19

20 Next we have U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
21 Service.

22

23 MR. LIEDBERG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 Paul Liedberg, Refuge manager with the Togiak National  
25 Wildlife Refuge. Andy Aderman, our wildlife biologist  
26 normally addresses this group. He's busy today and  
27 tomorrow with the rest of the biological crew putting  
28 together plans for all of our projects for next year,  
29 so I didn't want to pull him off of him. And I'm not a  
30 very good substitute, but I'll answer what I can and  
31 help you out.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It's always best to  
34 have boss here.

35

36 MR. LIEDBERG: That's why I normally  
37 send him.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MR. LIEDBERG: I guess before I start  
42 off, I guess one thing I wanted to say, which I always  
43 forget about saying, but I guess I want to just mention  
44 to the group, the cooperation that we enjoy with not  
45 only BBNA and Molly's group, but also with Fish and  
46 Game. And some of the projects I'm going to talk  
47 about, I'm only going to address three of them that I  
48 think are of interest to this group. I can answer any  
49 questions, but just about everything that we are doing  
50 is a cooperative thing either the Alaska Department of

1 Fish and Game or in many cases with BBNA. And I guess  
2 I can't overstate how much I appreciate that  
3 cooperation from both of those groups as well as  
4 others. And I just want it to be recognized and want  
5 this group to know that. So it works out real well for  
6 us and makes my job a lot easier.

7  
8 I think the information bulletin that  
9 we normally produce, you have it or it was in your  
10 packet I believe, and that has a lot of the updates on  
11 many of the projects that we're doing. There's two or  
12 three that I just wanted to update you on or bring to  
13 your attention, and as always I'm happy to discuss any  
14 of them on there.

15  
16 One of them that we've briefed you on  
17 in the past, and I'll update you on is the Nushagak  
18 Peninsula Caribou Herd status. For those that may not  
19 be familiar with that, just briefly that herd on the  
20 Nushagak Peninsula was introduced in the mid 1980s. I  
21 think there was 150 animals or so that were brought  
22 over there from the Peninsula over here. The herd  
23 increased to 1300 and then by about five years ago it  
24 had declined again to under 600 animals.

25  
26 The management plan that we have, our  
27 guidance for managing that herd -- and I will say that  
28 it is a Federally-managed hunt under the Federal  
29 Subsistence Program. I'm the one that makes the  
30 decisions on harvest and seasons on that, but we have a  
31 working group including the local tribal entities,  
32 Togiak, Manokotak, Dillingham, Aleknagik, Clark's  
33 Point, as well as BBNA, Alaska Department of Fish and  
34 Game. That meet to make decisions on that, or at least  
35 to provide advice to me for making decisions on that.

36  
37 The herd had declined to under 600  
38 animals about three years ago, a point at which the  
39 management plan says that there will be no hunting. We  
40 did curtail the hunting. I did issue 10 permits to the  
41 Village of -- well, I guess 5 permits the first 2 years  
42 in '06 and '07, and then last year 10 permits to the  
43 Village of Manokotak for elders over there. They  
44 didn't take any animals the first two years. Last year  
45 they -- or last spring they harvested eight caribou  
46 from the 10 permits that we gave them.

47  
48 The reason we dropped back a little bit  
49 and reduced the hunting was just to see if that herd  
50 was going to stabilize where it was. It appears that



1 that is taking place. We're seeing that herd stabilize  
2 or slightly increasing. Calf production has been  
3 pretty good and recruitment has been good. After three  
4 years of this, I think we have a pretty good idea that  
5 the herd is stable and it's certainly my intent when we  
6 meet, and I just talked with Molly a little bit ago,  
7 we're going to meet with that working group again here  
8 probably in the next few weeks, and make some decisions  
9 on how many permits we'll issue for hunting that herd  
10 again for the winter hunt here. So it's certainly my  
11 intent to harvest more animals from there when we know  
12 the herd is stable and I think we're pretty much at  
13 that point right now.

14

15 MS. MORRIS LYON: Good news.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a question.  
18 Paul, it says here you're planning on doing photo  
19 census for caribou in Mulchatna in fall of 2009, in  
20 October and then also on Nushagak Peninsula caribou  
21 during October. Have you done that yet?

22

23 MR. LIEDBERG: For the Nushagak  
24 Peninsula Herd, we have done it. And this summer when  
25 we photographed them, we counted I think the number was  
26 640 animals, caribou in there. Of course that was  
27 shortly after the calving so there was -- we hadn't  
28 lost a bunch of them yet that we normally lose between  
29 the calving and fall. So it's good. You know, I think  
30 it's looking good for that.

31

32 As far as the Mulchatna Caribou Herd,  
33 that's always initiated and coordinated by -- and the  
34 lead is with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on  
35 that. They were not able to get a photo census done of  
36 that herd this past year. It either didn't group up or  
37 one thing or another. I mean, they don't always get  
38 one every year, but they didn't get one done this year.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

41

42 MR. O'HARA: Yes. Paul, have you  
43 collared any of these on the Nushagak Peninsula?

44

45 MR. LIEDBERG: Yeah. We've had caribou  
46 down there collared since the mid 80s when we  
47 introduced them, and there's normally about 30 cows  
48 that are collared down there.

49

50 MR. O'HARA: What do you find by the

1 collaring? Do they die normally or bears killed them  
2 or wolves killed them or people ate them or what?

3

4 MR. LIEDBERG: No, the biggest -- or  
5 the greatest information that we're collecting from  
6 having cows collared is understanding the calf  
7 recruitment. How many of them have calves and how many  
8 bring those calves into the herd by, you know, fall or  
9 winter.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: You don't have the same  
12 predation in Togiak and Manokotak, Twin Hills and  
13 Alaska -- the Nushagak Peninsula Herd, I don't believe,  
14 that we have in other parts of the Nushagak and Alaska  
15 Peninsula. What have you found on predation as far as  
16 these animals go?

17

18 MR. LIEDBERG: We haven't done any  
19 specific projects on that herd to understand predation.  
20 We assume there's some, but I can answer that partly by  
21 talking about the wolf study that I was going to talk  
22 about next.

23

24 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Along with that  
25 then, maybe you can tell us at that same time, you  
26 don't have to tell us now, why it went from 1200 down  
27 to 600. That's a huge drop in numbers.

28

29 MR. LIEDBERG: Right. Yeah. I'll  
30 answer that one right now. And I don't know if I can  
31 give you an exact answer, but, you know, it was a range  
32 that had not been occupied for, you know, tens or maybe  
33 100 years. I'm not sure how long. So it was excellent  
34 range for putting a new herd on, and that's why it was  
35 chosen really for herd re-introduction. So I think  
36 it's natural that we would see excellent production,  
37 excellent recruitment of calves on that new range like  
38 that, and I think that contributed to such a rapid  
39 increase up to that level.

40

41 MR. O'HARA: But why the rapid  
42 decrease?

43

44 MR. LIEDBERG: Well, I'm not a  
45 biologist or at least I would make a poor biologist. I  
46 was probably trained as one, but I haven't really  
47 practiced it very much. But I think it's also probably  
48 natural to assume that that herd after peaking like  
49 that is going to settle down at some level. And that's  
50 kind of what we were looking at, and that's why we

1 wanted to back off a little bit here rather than  
2 hitting them so hard for hunting.  
3  
4 MR. O'HARA: Sure. That's a good  
5 question, too.  
6  
7 MR. LIEDBERG: Yeah. And I'm just  
8 guessing, again I'm a layman when it comes to this  
9 really, but I'm just guessing that that herd is  
10 probably going to want to stabilize somewhere between  
11 400 and 700 animals.  
12  
13 MR. O'HARA: Well, if you can't make it  
14 next time, be sure and send Andy, okay?  
15  
16 MR. LIEDBERG: Okay.  
17  
18 MR. O'HARA: Only kidding. Only  
19 kidding.  
20  
21 MR. LIEDBERG: So I'll also talk about  
22 what we do know a little bit about, predation on there.  
23 And because of that decline that we were just talking  
24 about that herd, we wanted to try to understand a  
25 little bit about what the wolf predation was from that  
26 herd. So we collared, and I think Pat Walsh, our  
27 supervisory biologist addressed this group last year to  
28 talk about that project. We collared two packs of  
29 wolves that occupy the northern end of the Nushagak  
30 Peninsula. That was two and a half years ago now I  
31 guess we started that project. And so we put radio  
32 collars, some satellite, some conventional collars on  
33 two of those packs to understand how much time they  
34 were spending on the Peninsula to try to understand and  
35 get an idea of how many caribou they may be killing out  
36 of that herd, and if that was contributing to the  
37 decline of that Nushagak Peninsula Herd.  
38  
39 We probably don't have every answer  
40 that we could have, but what we found I think was a  
41 little surprising to us, too, and that was that the  
42 wolves that occupy the northern end of that Peninsula  
43 and spend time up in the mountains there as well, spend  
44 little or no time down on the Peninsula during the  
45 calving season. They're up eating salmon and we  
46 watched them do it, and documented that. And the  
47 caribou -- or the radio collars rather are clear that  
48 they are spending very, very little time down on the  
49 Peninsula during the calving season and into the  
50 summer. They spend more time down there in winter, but

1 still it's a lesser amount of time that they even spend  
2 down on the Peninsula. Surprising to us I guess, but  
3 that's what we're finding so far. Unless we see  
4 something different in the next year, we probably will  
5 end that study next spring or so. Next fall at the  
6 latest.

7

8                   The question you raise about not only  
9 wolves, but bears and we don't have good information on  
10 bear predation down there. There certainly are plenty  
11 of bears down on the Nushagak Peninsula. They have to  
12 be having -- you know, taking a toll down there. Hard  
13 to study. Hard to do that kind of work and we haven't  
14 done it yet.

15

16                   The last project I was going to address  
17 a little bit, which we talk about I think almost every  
18 time we've met is the moose population. There's a  
19 status of moose in Unit 17, which is -- 17A, which is  
20 mostly in the Togiak River Valley. And again for those  
21 of you that might be new to the Council, that's a herd  
22 that really started picking up 15 years ago or so,  
23 something like that. There's now approximately 1300  
24 moose in Unit 17A. We didn't get a survey done last  
25 winter. We try to do one every year and we're usually  
26 successful about two out of three years getting the  
27 survey done. What we do know is from again radio  
28 collaring of moose cows that calf recruitment is very  
29 good in there, probably just about as productive as any  
30 part of the State. This spring 55 percent of the cows  
31 that we had collared, and that's about 30 cows that we  
32 have collared. Fifty-five percent of them had twins,  
33 which is tremendous really. So we hope to get another  
34 survey done this winter.

35

36                   Everybody says they're seeing more  
37 wolves over there as well and I certainly would expect  
38 that they would with that increase in the moose  
39 population over there.

40

41                   And lastly, just sort of a footnote,  
42 this is just over on the other side of the Togiak  
43 Valley, and it's actually in Unit 18 and out of your  
44 area, but in the Goodnews River Valley we're seeing a  
45 real increase in the moose population over there as  
46 well. In fact we've worked very closely with the  
47 Village of Goodnews Bay and Platinum and we had their  
48 first -- well, they imposed their own moratorium  
49 basically over there several years ago, and after three  
50 years of not hunting moose, we opened it up, and in the

1 fall of '08 they harvested they harvested 13 moose and  
2 this past fall it looks like probably 11 moose from  
3 that herd over there. And we did get a survey done  
4 over there last year, and I think the population went  
5 up from, I think I've got it in here, 114 to 145 or  
6 something like that. 142 I believe it was. So that  
7 continues to grow, and we expect it to continue to grow  
8 and it's providing a great opportunity for those  
9 villages over there.

10

11 So I wasn't going to bring up anything  
12 else, but I'm certainly happy to answer any questions.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

15

16 MR. O'HARA: I think it ought to be  
17 noted that predation of the Nushagak Peninsula and the  
18 Kodiak Herd, and I don't know if Pete was on the  
19 Council when we had 110 animals and now we've got 1300.  
20 A huge success story. There just are not as many  
21 predators over there dealing with that as you have in  
22 Ugashik or at the end of Becharof Lake. I remember  
23 flying over one day and I looked down, and I thought I  
24 saw a herd of caribou. It was 25 wolves running. You  
25 just don't see that over there like that. It's just a  
26 fact of life. So you've got to contribute the fact  
27 that predators have a lot to do. And I know that, you  
28 know, predator control on Federal lands is kind of a --  
29 I want to take a few Alka-seltzers along that line, but  
30 that's just a real thing.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.

33

34 Is anybody on line. Teleconference.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 MR. O'HARA: Good report by the way.

39

40 MR. LIEDBERG: Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank  
43 you, Paul.

44

45 Okay. That will bring us to the  
46 Becharof National Wildlife Refuge team.

47

48 MR. SCHAFF: Yes, Mr. Chair. Council.  
49 Unlike Paul, I did bring a series of fellows just with  
50 me to assist, being the new guy in town. My name is

1 Bill Schaff. I'm the refuge manager at Alaska  
2 Peninsula/Becharof. Took over from Darrell Lons last  
3 fall.

4

5 I would also like to introduce Mike  
6 Brady, the new deputy manager at Alaska Peninsula, so  
7 we have kidn of a new management staff here.

8

9 A few things that I'd like to cover,  
10 just to come up with to speed. As far as Federal moose  
11 subsistence, we are responsible for issuing the Federal  
12 subsistence applications. And this last year we issued  
13 -- we had five applicants and no reports of any take to  
14 present.

15

16 For brown bear season, 2008/2009, this  
17 is all on the handout, so I'm not going to go into  
18 detail as you can read it. Again we issued -- we  
19 haven't issued any applicants -- or we haven't had any  
20 applicants to issue permits to date.

21

22 The Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou  
23 Herd comp count. Don Wats is here as well as I think  
24 Lem Butler is still around; I'm not sure if he is. But  
25 that's a cooperative project that's done by U.S. Fish  
26 and Wildlife Service and Alaska Department of Fish and  
27 Game. If we have any direct questions, I'll get one of  
28 those, one or both of those guys up here.

29

30 As with the moose trend surveys, again  
31 those are cooperative surveys conducted by both the  
32 Refuge and Fish and Game.

33

34 That's some of the things we do.  
35 There's a whole other array of things that we do on the  
36 Refuge. Thankfully we have Orville back and he was  
37 able to really help us out this year with the Becharof  
38 science camp. The 12th year. Again there's a little  
39 write-up of it. The 12th year that this camp was held  
40 out at Becharof Lake. It is a really good opportunity  
41 for all the young people as well as some of the elders  
42 to get out and share time together as well as  
43 experience and education.

44

45 Other projects that we've had conducted  
46 this year include swan capture and avian influenza  
47 detection work. We collared, I don't remember exactly  
48 how many swans we collared, but there was no avian  
49 influenza detected in the area, which is a good thing.

50

1                   We also have been given some money  
2 through the President's resource recovery act. And  
3 some of the things that we're going to do on our  
4 administrative area is install a few wind generators.  
5 And they'll be the vertical access wind generators that  
6 are, from what i understand, very wildlife friendly.  
7 They have no guy wires, they're not a propeller type  
8 generator. They look like a tube, vertical tube, so  
9 there's very little chance of wildlife flying into --  
10 or birds flying into the generators.

11  
12                   And that's about it. We have worked  
13 with any other agency, division within Fish and  
14 Wildlife Service. We've had increased meetings with  
15 Fisheries. We're trying to increase our presence,  
16 assisting the Fisheries office locally, conducting  
17 fisheries research on the Peninsula. And we're willing  
18 to work with just about any agency or entity available.  
19 I know I have worked with different corporations,  
20 Native corporations in Interior of Alaska. I came down  
21 from Innoko Refuge in Western Interior RAC area prior  
22 to coming to Alaska Peninsula.

23  
24                   So with that, I guess I'll open it up,  
25 and I'm sure there will be some questions.

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, Bill. Thanks  
28 for your report. I've got some questions here.  
29 Concerning North Peninsula Caribou, it says here you  
30 had a sample size of 1841 caribou. Did you come up  
31 with a population, a herd size estimate?

32  
33                   MR. SCHAFF: Let me get either Dom or  
34 -- I'll pull Dom or Lem up here, both of them can.....

35  
36                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And then  
37 also, you know, it says here that the herd composition  
38 surveys estimated ratios 10.3 calves per 100 cows, 19  
39 bulls per 100 cows. The estimated calf/cow ratio of  
40 10.3 per 100 during 2008 is considered very low for  
41 caribou in Alaska and would be expected to result in  
42 further declines in caribou abundance on Alaska  
43 Peninsula. So is that your -- what you think has  
44 happened, that the North Peninsula Caribou Herd has  
45 declined more than what it was before? Lem.

46  
47                   MR. BUTLER: I guess this is where I'll  
48 step in. Lem Butler, area wildlife biologist for Fish  
49 and Game, Game Management Units 9 and 10.  
50

1 I deal a lot with the Northern Alaska  
2 Peninsula Herd and work with Becharof Refuge on that  
3 caribou herd.

4  
5 We have more current information. That  
6 was the 2008 survey. And I guess to answer your  
7 question directly, based on that low calf ratio, I  
8 would expect the population to be in an declining  
9 phase, because simply there aren't enough calves coming  
10 into the population to offset the adult mortality.

11  
12 Things are looking better for the  
13 Northern Alaska Peninsula herd this year. We just got  
14 done with the comp surveys five days ago, four days  
15 ago. We actually counted 2,000 caribou, so laid eyes  
16 on 2,000 caribou.

17  
18 I think pretty much what we have going  
19 on is that it's been difficult to get a good population  
20 count. When Paul was up here, he talked about years in  
21 which they don't count the Mulchatna herd. With  
22 caribou, you like to have caribou aggregate into big  
23 groups so you can your radio collars. The radio  
24 collars lead to the animals. You get a good count.  
25 They didn't have that in the Mulchatna herd this year,  
26 so they didn't count them. We haven't had that  
27 condition in the Northern Alaska Peninsula herd sine  
28 I've been here, for the last five or six years. So  
29 getting a good head count on these animals has been  
30 really difficult.

31  
32 It looks like now we have between 2 and  
33 2,500 to answer your question directly. Based on the  
34 calf ratios I think it's declined to that point, but we  
35 don't really have a good population count from year to  
36 year to show that declining trend, but again with that  
37 low calf ratio, decline is what you'd expect.

38  
39 Calf ratios are improving for the  
40 Northern Alaska Peninsula herd. This year we had 16  
41 calves per 100 cows. Still below what I want to see  
42 for the population, so we're not by any means out of  
43 the problems that we've been experiencing, but things  
44 are getting better.

45  
46 We're seeing improvements in several  
47 indices. We did a pregnancy rate survey this spring.  
48 Had an 85 percent pregnancy rate. That's up from what  
49 we had in 2005 when we had a 54 percent pregnancy rate.  
50 2006 was 64. 2007 was 74. So it's slowly worked its



1 way up, as have the body weights of animals, body  
2 condition.

3

4 We're seeing more big bulls in the  
5 herd. That's also a good sign that nutritionally these  
6 animals are doing better. They have the genetic  
7 potential to grow big horns. Obviously that hasn't  
8 changed through time. What's changed is that they're  
9 increasingly getting the nutrients to actually build  
10 that larger horn mass, or antler mass.

11

12 So all of those things are good,  
13 positive signs that things are getting better for that  
14 population. You know, it's pretty recent change.  
15 Things can get better still. And obviously that hasn't  
16 completing produced the calf ratios that we'd like to  
17 see. But again we are seeing a progressive increase.

18

19 Between 2003 and 2007, the calf ratio  
20 averaged 10 calves per 100 cows. We had some lows in  
21 there, 7 calves per 100 cows. So the last two years  
22 have been a steady march in the right direction. But  
23 still again not quite what we want to see.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What do you  
26 attribute that to? You have a predator management plan  
27 going on down there, don't you, and also is there the  
28 less -- is the health of the herd better? A couple  
29 years ago or so, three or four years ago, you guys were  
30 monitoring the health of the herd. And they were  
31 having -- there was disease and some other things, that  
32 lung worm or whatever you call it. But anyway, is  
33 their health getting better, too?

34

35 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, you know, we haven't  
36 looked at disease directly since 2007. All those  
37 parasites and diseases are undoubtedly still in the  
38 population at some level. We don't know quite what  
39 level they are. In 2005 we actually had a veterinarian  
40 who did full body necropsies of the animals, found very  
41 high parasite loads. Bovine respiratory disease showed  
42 up in 2001 in the samples. Several stomach parasites  
43 that would inhibit digestion were again apparent in  
44 multiple animals at high levels. There's a suite of  
45 problems basically. Very high density of parasites in  
46 the body. A lot of disease, suppressed immune systems,  
47 chronic dehydration, poor body weights, no fat going on  
48 at that time.

49

50 Some of those things I think have

1 likely gotten better. Again, we haven't gone back to  
2 measure. But just based on the increases in pregnancy  
3 rates that we're seeing, increased calf rates, et  
4 cetera, it appears that the animals have more nutrition  
5 available for their body growth and development of  
6 fetuses to produce bigger calves that are healthy. We  
7 still have problems with calf recruitment obviously.

8

9 For the Northern Peninsula herd, it's  
10 kind of unique in the chronology of the calf mortality  
11 relative to other caribou populations. Typically if  
12 you just have a predator problem, you lose most of your  
13 calves during the first two weeks of life for caribou  
14 calves. They're not very savvy. They can't run very  
15 fast. They quickly get their legs under them, and they  
16 start outrunning brown bears very quickly. So places  
17 like the Togiak, it's probably not a brown bear  
18 situation that's driving that population, because by  
19 fall they have -- or in Nushagak Peninsula, they have a  
20 fair number of calves over there by fall.

21

22 Alaska Peninsula, Northern Alaska  
23 Peninsula specifically, the first two weeks of life we  
24 have low calf survival, but it's not abnormally low I  
25 guess in the big picture. Normally you'd expect 50 to  
26 60 percent calf survival during the first two weeks of  
27 life, and that gets you a stable increase in  
28 population. Northern Alaska Peninsula herd, is 40  
29 percent. Predation problems, yes. Obviously. We all  
30 know that that happens out here.

31

32 What was unusual is that usually after  
33 the first two weeks of life calf survival increases to  
34 80 percent. And that's kind of where you get your  
35 calves in the fall. Northern Alaska Peninsula, the  
36 calf survival dropped to 30 percent. So that was a  
37 problem. Again you wouldn't suspect it to be a brown  
38 bear problem. That just doesn't fit with any calf  
39 mortality study that we've done in the State. And it  
40 doesn't fit with the last five years of work that I've  
41 done certainly. That late survival issue could have a  
42 nutritional component associated with it. Basically if  
43 the cows lack the maternal investment to contribute to  
44 their calves, you see things -- even like, you know,  
45 the cow could be abandoning her calf early. She just  
46 gets to the point where she can't put any more  
47 resources into that calf and walks away from it and it  
48 dies.

49

50 The problem with late calf mortality

1 though is that it happens in the Northern Alaska  
2 Peninsula herd over a prolonged period of time. You  
3 lose, you know, one or two calves here and there from  
4 two weeks of age to four months of age, and we can't  
5 keep a helicopter on scene to access the calves  
6 immediately when they die to determine what caused  
7 their death.

8  
9 So my guess, predation's playing a  
10 role. Wolves are certainly still effective predators  
11 of caribou through all age classes. Brown bears, they  
12 take moose opportunistically. They take adult caribou  
13 opportunistically. They're probably getting a few  
14 calves, but they're not running them down. They're not  
15 the effective predator they were at two weeks. And  
16 again there may be some nutrition component.

17  
18 We are seeing an improvement in late  
19 calf survival, which may suggest that again along the  
20 lines of what I said earlier, nutrition may be getting  
21 better for this herd currently. And that may be  
22 helping things along.

23  
24 And, yeah, there's discussions amongst  
25 our agencies of potentially looking at the Northern  
26 Alaska Peninsula herd to some extent, although we  
27 haven't formalized any agreements at this point, where  
28 we may try to get a better understanding of that late  
29 calf mortality. But that's probably the big looming  
30 question for that herd at this point.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

33  
34 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Lem, I really  
35 appreciate that information. And so you've gone from  
36 what was 1600 a few years back to maybe 2500 now?

37  
38 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, well, it peaked at  
39 20,000 late 80s, early 90s, and, yeah, it's been.....

40  
41 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. But the lowest  
42 level we had with nutrition or building your calves or  
43 predation or whatever it is, way down to 1600. And you  
44 remember when we had -- we first brought this thing up  
45 here, we had panels and everything and we decided to go  
46 to work on it. So do you.....

47  
48 MR. BUTLER: Yeah. Well, it's never  
49 been down to 1,600 I guess is the point.

50

1                   MR. O'HARA: What was the lowest?  
2  
3                   MR. BUTLER: It's that it's lost about  
4 1,000 caribou per year since the early 90s.  
5  
6                   MR. O'HARA: What was the lowest count  
7 that we ever had on the Alaska Peninsula herd?  
8 Numbers?  
9  
10                  MR. BUTLER: Well, I mean again, you  
11 know, we haven't had a population count for several  
12 years. I think in 2004, the last time we attempted a  
13 population count, we got 3,500. So that again was a  
14 year where there were factors associated with the  
15 survey that I don't think that was a good solid number.  
16 But again in 2004 we had 3,500.  
17  
18                  Since then we've done composition  
19 counts in the fall. And the way I do a composition  
20 count is I just want to get a third of the population.  
21 I want to sample a large enough sample from that  
22 population to say something meaningful about it, but I  
23 have abort the -- or I terminate the survey as soon as  
24 I get some numbers.  
25  
26                  So like this report would suggest,  
27 there are years where we have sample sizes associated  
28 with compositions of 1400 caribou, but that's not by no  
29 means an attempt to assess population size.  
30  
31                  MR. O'HARA: That doesn't mean a  
32 population count. Okay. Yeah. I appreciate that. Do  
33 you think -- I noticed the huge horns. The animals may  
34 be few, but they have massive, massive horns. They  
35 look pretty healthy from the air. I mean, they look  
36 really like good animals. So I guess the ones that are  
37 strong enough to survive are going to survive, and  
38 that's going to be the bottom line.  
39  
40                  And I noticed like Dale and I both pack  
41 a lot of hunters out of the woods, and I think there's  
42 been a lot of wolf permits issued during the fall hunt,  
43 you know, and a lot of hunters will come out of those  
44 woods with some wolves. And so I think all of those  
45 things may be contributing to it at least.  
46  
47                  Interesting to find out that a bear  
48 doesn't in your estimation doesn't catch as many calves  
49 as maybe a wolf would. It's interesting.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem, the Board of  
2 Game authorized you guys to do a predator management  
3 plan in 9E or was it 9C last year. What have you guys  
4 been doing? What kind of plan did you come up with?

5  
6 MR. BUTLER: Where are we at currently  
7 on that plan? Basically, yeah, the Board adopted a  
8 proposal to draft a predator management plan for the  
9 Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd. So what that  
10 tasked Fish and Game to do is to go back to our  
11 offices, draft a plan, and come back to the Board with  
12 the draft plan that they can either adopt, in which  
13 case it would go into regulation, or reject.

14  
15 Mark Burch is actually with me from the  
16 Anchorage office. He's been working with me on the  
17 plan. The plan itself is in the final stages of being  
18 written currently. I have a few more edits to make to  
19 it. And it has to go through our headquarters, may  
20 have a few more changes. In a few weeks when the  
21 proposal book comes out for the spring Board of Game  
22 meeting in January, you'll see listed as one of the  
23 proposals the draft predator control plan I'm working  
24 on currently.

25  
26 Some of the aspects of it I guess is  
27 that it be a plan that at least in concept, unless this  
28 changes again, would be initiated by the public  
29 primarily with use of aircraft. We're talking about  
30 having a component of the plan which will allow the  
31 State to mop up areas. Basically if there isn't enough  
32 wolf removal from certain areas, we can go in and try  
33 to get the wolf population to the target levels.

34  
35 And it would require the access to  
36 Federal lands. This caribou herd calves on Federal  
37 lands primarily. Seventy percent of the caribou are  
38 calving on Federal lands. A lot of the caribou calves  
39 die on Federal lands basically. So to get a meaningful  
40 response from the population, we'd want to do it on  
41 Federal lands as well as State lands.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is that on U.S. Fish  
44 and Wildlife Service lands or Park Service?

45  
46 MR. BUTLER: That's Fish and Wildlife  
47 Service lands, yeah. Now, that's the plan itself.  
48 Again whether it's -- and that's what we had to produce  
49 for the Board is in our estimation what a predator  
50 control plan would look like for this population if we

1 were to go out doing it. Whether that ultimately gets  
2 the support of the Department, whether that gets  
3 adopted by the Board of Game has yet to be seen. Those  
4 decisions are still down the road. And they'll be  
5 probably made quickly over the next several weeks, at  
6 least in our organization. And again we'll see what  
7 happens at the Board of Game. But that's again the  
8 status of that particular piece of paper that we're  
9 referring to.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks,  
12 Lem. Any more questions.

13

14 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Lem, do you have any  
15 figures of that predator control that they did down  
16 there?

17

18 MR. BUTLER: Down there in the Southern  
19 Alaska Peninsula herd in Unit 9D, another plan that was  
20 put forward by the Department and adopted. That one's  
21 been active since 2008. For two years now we've  
22 removed wolves from calving grounds using helicopter  
23 and Department employees. Last year we removed 14  
24 adult wolves and 14 pups. This year we removed six  
25 adult wolves and one den. Basically that part of it  
26 played out as expected. We took out several large  
27 packs last year. What filled in behind it was a couple  
28 of pairs that were trying to establish new territories,  
29 and we removed those. And it appears that we removed  
30 them effectively.

31

32 To cut to the chase on it, I think the  
33 best measure currently going is the calf ratio of that  
34 population. 2006, before wolf control, we had 1 calf  
35 per 100 cow. In 2007, before wolf control, we had .5  
36 calves per 100 cow. Raised some alarms, got predator  
37 control initiated. 2008, we removed those 14 adults,  
38 and calf ratio came up to the high 30s. I want to say  
39 it was about 38 calves per 100 cow, but I haven't  
40 looked at that number recently. This year, second year  
41 of wolf control, it came up to about 43 calves per 100  
42 cows. So very marked improvement in early calf  
43 survival.

44

45 What's different in that population  
46 from the Northern Peninsula herd is that they don't  
47 have that big late mortality in their calves. If you  
48 can get them through their first two weeks of life, you  
49 know, they're doing pretty good. They quickly gain in  
50 their survival there. So that helps them

1 significantly.

2

3                   And again, you know, with that  
4 particular project, by removing all the wolves in that  
5 local area, we're essentially stopping all wolf  
6 predation. And the wolves aren't recolonizing very  
7 quickly.

8

9                   Between two weeks -- we stop the  
10 project at two weeks of life on this herd, because  
11 between two weeks and one month, we didn't lose a  
12 single caribou calf. One month to two months I think  
13 we lost one, you know. And the rest of the summer went  
14 like that. You know, we lost five calves late out of  
15 56. Ninety percent survival for those calves in their  
16 late stage. And again that's compared to the Northern  
17 Peninsula Herd which, you know, has had as low as 30  
18 percent survival in the late state. So it's a  
19 different herd, different scenario.

20

21                   That program is very effective though.

22

23                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan O'Hara.

24

25                   MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. Lem,  
26 hue and cry of the Bristol Bay Borough/Lake and Pen is  
27 we have not had a biologist here for a while. Are you  
28 here to stay now or what?

29

30                   MR. BUTLER: Yeah, I am actually. I'll  
31 be here for the next few years, and I'm going to hire  
32 an assistant area biologist. That is currently posted  
33 to be a six-month position. We're hoping to make it an  
34 11-month position, but it's kind of funding related.  
35 So, yeah, there might even be two of us at these  
36 meetings in the future.

37

38                   MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Well, good, that's  
39 really good. We really do want a biologist back in the  
40 area. I don't care if you live here or not, as long as  
41 we've got a biologist in the area.

42

43                   MR. BUTLER: I'll be living here most  
44 of the year, yeah.

45

46                   MR. O'HARA: Well, and that is  
47 irrelative though. You know, the biologist don't have  
48 to live here as far as I'm concerned. Of course, the  
49 school district would like you to, but not for single  
50 guys like you, however.

1                   Anyway, what was the other thought.  
2 Dog gone it, I hate it when that happens.

3  
4                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So you got your  
5 demands and came back then. Good.

6  
7                   MR. BUTLER: Yep.

8  
9                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks.  
10 We've got one more U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the  
11 Fisheries Office in Anchorage report.

12  
13                  MR. McBRIDE: Mr. Chairman. Members of  
14 the Council. My name is Doug McBride. I'm with the  
15 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service fisheries program.  
16 We're based out of Anchorage, but actually this office  
17 used to be based out of King Salmon, Mr. O'Hara, I  
18 guess proving your point, I guess you don't have to  
19 live in the area. But anyway we definitely provide  
20 fishery support to the refugees in Southwest Alaska.

21  
22                  The other connection I have to you is  
23 I'm also the Federal in-season fisheries manager for  
24 Bristol Bay and Chignik.

25  
26                  And the reason I wanted to just take a  
27 few minutes of your time and address the Council is the  
28 fisheries program is the principal investigator for the  
29 Togiak king salmon project that you discussed earlier  
30 today. It's funded through the Subsistence Fisheries  
31 Resource Monitoring Program. You have a handout that I  
32 believe Donald put in your packet that summarizes what  
33 that project has done since its inception. Excuse me?  
34 Oh, it's a green piece of paper. Okay. What the  
35 program has done since its inception two years ago in  
36 2008. I won't go through this in detail. I'll just  
37 try to hit just a couple of what I consider the  
38 highlights.

39  
40                  First of all, I'm sure it's no surprise  
41 to you, but obviously king salmon stocks around most of  
42 the State including this area and in Kodiak certainly  
43 have been in pretty tough shape in recent years. And  
44 so doing an assessment on king salmon that support  
45 subsistence fisheries you've identified as a high  
46 priority for this region and would likely be in other  
47 areas as well.

48  
49                  And in Togiak in particular, Togiak's a  
50 real good example of a place that's got, you know, a



1 significant stock of king salmon and certainly a  
2 significant subsistence fishery as well as significant  
3 commercial and sport fisheries, but it doesn't get  
4 assessed very well collectively. For instance, just in  
5 the two years we've operated this program, the aerial  
6 survey program that the State runs, they only got a  
7 partial survey in in 2008 and no survey in 2009.

8  
9 This program, what we've done so far is  
10 it's been radio tagging king salmon, and so we've been  
11 looking at the distribution of the spawning adults in  
12 the Togiak River. They're captured in the lower river  
13 and they're tracked throughout the river. There's a  
14 summary of results primarily on Page 4. Like I said, I  
15 won't go through this in a lot of detail, but we are  
16 finding there appears to be a lot of similarities to  
17 historical aerial survey data base, but some notable  
18 differences with the aerial survey data base. And as  
19 we continue to chase this issue, I think it's going to  
20 be very interesting and very telling to see how those  
21 come out.

22  
23 This program -- another I think real  
24 good aspect of this program is it's not just the  
25 fisheries Staff that's doing this project. There are  
26 several very significant co-investigators. In addition  
27 to my Staff, the fisheries Staff, the Togiak -- it's  
28 all occurring largely on Refuge lands and Togiak  
29 National Wildlife Refuge is a very significant co-  
30 investigator. In fact, they're flying all the aerial  
31 surveys that are helping track these fish. Alaska  
32 Department of Fish and Game has been assisting us with  
33 the methodology on this. Mr. Craig Schwanke, who  
34 addressed you earlier today, he's been out to the  
35 project several times, and so we've been working with  
36 them, getting their expertise. And Bristol Bay Native  
37 Association has been a real key co-investigator on  
38 this, and they're providing what we call local hire  
39 with some of the Staff that we use on our crew. And  
40 Ms. Sarah Evans who's sitting in the back of the room  
41 and she was one of the interns that Courtenay talked to  
42 you about earlier. And she was on our crew this year  
43 on part of the project. So it's been a real  
44 collaborative effort, and I'd say a very successful  
45 one.

46  
47 I guess I'll just summarize by saying  
48 that, yeah, you've already with your recommendation for  
49 next year. The last page of this is just a summary of  
50 the project that we proposed to continue this work.

1 And the significant addition to that project, in  
2 addition to continuing to measure the distribution, is  
3 what we proposed and what we intend to do for next  
4 year, assuming that we're funded by the Federal  
5 Subsistence Board, is to add a weir or a counting fence  
6 if you will on the Kvichak River, which is a tributary  
7 of Togiak, and then we'll look at the ratio of  
8 tagged/untagged fish that go through that weir and  
9 actually try to get an estimate of the total spawning  
10 escapement for kings in the Togiak River. And that's  
11 going to be a real I think key piece of information to  
12 look at how that compares to the indices that were  
13 historically generated from the aerial survey data.

14  
15 I guess the very last thing that I'd  
16 say is I guess I would just really encourage the  
17 Council to really wrestle with issues for information  
18 that we need for Federal subsistence fisheries. I  
19 think the Subsistence Fisheries Resource Monitoring  
20 Program provides is really key to looking at some of  
21 these things like king salmon in the Togiak River that  
22 support real significant subsistence effort, but just,  
23 you know, for largely funding reasons don't get picked  
24 up elsewhere in the broader assessment programs run by  
25 both the State and Federal agencies.

26  
27 Mr. Chairman. That concludes my  
28 comments. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any questions? Dan.

31  
32 MR. O'HARA: I didn't get your name.

33  
34 MR. McBRIDE: Doug McBride.

35  
36 MR. O'HARA: Doug. You're going to put  
37 a counting tower in over there on one of the  
38 tributaries?

39  
40 MR. McBRIDE: A weir.

41  
42 MR. O'HARA: I see.

43  
44 MR. McBRIDE: It's basically a fence if  
45 you will across the weir, and then the fish are counted  
46 through it. But the point of the weir is we're tagging  
47 fish down in the lower river, so what we want to look  
48 at is the ratio of the tagged/ untagged fish that go  
49 through that weir and then expand that to the total  
50 drainage.

1 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Yeah. That's a  
2 good thing.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.  
5  
6 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I just have a question.  
7 You know, when any study goes into the community, and I  
8 know that this has probably been going on for a while?  
9  
10 MR. McBRIDE: We've been doing this  
11 project for the last two years.  
12  
13 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Two years. My concern,  
14 and the contacts, because I go to these communities  
15 pretty regularly and my passion and concern has always  
16 been that -- it's not my passion. It's my concern that  
17 any research that goes into the communities, even  
18 though it's a continued research, is to always inform  
19 at least the Council of your presence, because for so  
20 many years Togiak has wrestled with sports fishermen  
21 playing with their fish, you know, the catch and  
22 release in Yup'ik when it's translated is playing with  
23 fish. And so it's so important for any research to  
24 make sure that at least the Council know that you're  
25 back doing the same project. Or are you going to be  
26 doing this project so that when the subsistence  
27 fishermen are going up river and seeing you folks  
28 working up there, they'll be able to come back to the  
29 community and when they start making comments about,  
30 well, you know, there are some people up there playing  
31 with our fish, the Council or anybody that has any  
32 information on your project will be able to back you  
33 up. And that usually deters, you know,  
34 miscommunication, misunderstanding. And for those of  
35 us that go into the communities to work with the  
36 village, it helps so that we won't be there as their  
37 punching bag, and to try to mend whatever is -- what  
38 their misunderstanding is.  
39  
40 Thanks.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Doug.  
43  
44 MR. McBRIDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.  
45 Molly, thank you for that. And one other thing that I  
46 can't -- hadn't said before, one of the other people we  
47 deal with a lot on this project is one of your own  
48 Council members, Pete, in Togiak. We try to check in  
49 with him now and again, and actually Pete has been  
50 very, very helpful to our crew in terms of just, you

1 know, staying in contact with the broader community  
2 there. And then obviously we also try to get that  
3 through our local hire program. I know in 2008 our  
4 local hire was from Togiak Village both for the Chinook  
5 work that we were doing and then also a smelt project  
6 that we were doing there, and that worked out very,  
7 very well.

8

9 Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you.

12

13 MR. ABRAHAM: As far as college crew,  
14 they had a nice catch, too.

15

16 MR. McBRIDE: We haven't lost anybody  
17 yet.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank  
22 you, Doug.

23

24 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

25

26 MR. PAPPAS: Mr. Chair. Members of the  
27 Council. George Pappas.

28

29 We have a very deep bench of Fish and  
30 Game folks here today so we'll start with wildlife  
31 folks. Whatever questions you want answered, whatever  
32 we can do here. We've got Boards, Subsistence,  
33 Sportfish, Wildlife, myself. It's actually fortunate  
34 to have everybody here. You must have called the right  
35 people to get us here. So we're here to help you and  
36 help you make educated informed decisions.

37

38 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Anybody, was  
41 there report or anything to have to us.

42

43 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Again, Lem  
44 Butler, area wildlife biologist for the Alaska  
45 Peninsula and Aleutians. And this is Mark Burch, and  
46 I'll let you introduced.

47

48 MR. BURCH: I'm Mark Burch with the  
49 Department of Fish and Game.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. We  
2 talked about North Peninsula caribou. How about  
3 Mulchatna Caribou Herd; do you have the latest  
4 population and recruitment numbers and bull ratio for  
5 that herd?

6  
7 MR. BUTLER: No, unfortunately I don't  
8 since I've been travelling around the State lately. I  
9 haven't been back with that population, so we don't  
10 have any new information. As Paul Liedberg mentioned,  
11 a population count wasn't done this summer, so no new  
12 population estimate. The email traffic I saw would  
13 suggest that, you know, things haven't changed  
14 dramatically in that populations, although bull and  
15 calf ratios appear to be better out in the west than  
16 they are in the eastern segment of the unit. Why that  
17 is, no one really knows at this point as far as we can  
18 tell. So that herd again, to give you the summary,  
19 looks like it's still struggling along. No sign that  
20 it's going to rebound next year, but nothing saying  
21 that it's in the precipitous decline it was a few years  
22 ago when it was dropping.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is Jim Wellington  
25 still in Dillingham?

26  
27 MR. BUTLER: He is.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any idea where the  
30 caribou are, what's left of them?

31  
32 MR. BUTLER: I just got back. No.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. When do you  
35 plan on doing moose surveys up around in 9B?

36  
37 MR. BUTLER: Well, we're going to see  
38 what the weather allows us to do as usual. Yeah. Last  
39 year I did composition surveys, and the bull ratio is  
40 pretty strong still. We didn't try to get population  
41 trend data out of it. The snow conditions weren't  
42 there. Several different things kind of prevented us  
43 from doing all the work that we want to do. So again  
44 this year we'll make our best effort. Again, at  
45 minimum what I want to come back with is again more of  
46 this composition data. Bull ratios are strong  
47 throughout the area. You know, as long as the bull  
48 ratio is strong, there's animals to be taken. It  
49 doesn't look like there's a biological crisis by that  
50 measure.

1                   And, of course, we want to look at calf  
2 production, make sure that we're still getting our  
3 calves. You know, average calf ratio out here for a  
4 long time has been about in the high teens, 18, 19. We  
5 get some lows, we get some highs. And it seems to be  
6 just enough to plod that population along at a stable  
7 density throughout the areas that we're monitoring,  
8 including the Alagnak, populations in 9E are the same.  
9 9B. You know, no big changes. They're all low density  
10 populations. You know, you search a lot of country,  
11 and, you know, you find moose, but it's not again a  
12 high density population, but that populations for now  
13 holding its own.

14  
15                   The one area that I want to hear more  
16 information about is up by Lake Clark. Buck Magnatain  
17 (ph) is a wildlife biologist with the Park Service. I  
18 really a lot of him. A great guy. Hopefully he'll get  
19 out and do some surveys up there, too, and give us some  
20 more feedback on what's happening in that area.

21  
22                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I think, you  
23 know, those population surveys are most important  
24 things, you know. How can we do any co-management or,  
25 you know, managing it without good accurate numbers of  
26 what's available. How can we decide what to do without  
27 good numbers.

28  
29                   And one thing I was concerned  
30 about.....

31  
32                   (Conference operator)

33  
34                   CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And what's -- you  
35 know, four of us got a couple bulls up Branch River,  
36 you know, so there's a few moose around, but one thing  
37 I haven't seen since this spring was any calves, you  
38 know. I've seen some, you know, after they -- when  
39 they were young, but after beginning of summer or fall,  
40 even hunting and even lately all the moose that I've  
41 seen, I haven't seen any calves. And we're seeing a  
42 few cows and some bulls, but I just haven't seen too  
43 many calves. So I'm concerned about that. You know,  
44 it doesn't look good for recruitment.

45  
46                   But like I say, you know, the main  
47 thing is we need good population numbers all the time.  
48 You know, things change because of predation. One of  
49 the big issues.

50

1                   You guys, anybody else has any comments  
2 for Fish and Game or questions.

3  
4                   MR. BUTLER: If I could just comment on  
5 that quickly. Yeah, you know, again calf ratios are up  
6 and down for moose. You know, I haven't looked at much  
7 of the Peninsula yet. Big Creek was I thought full of  
8 calves this year. We saw lots of calves in this area.  
9 But undoubtedly over the larger landscape you're going  
10 to see, you know, swings. Some areas are going to have  
11 a lot of calves, some areas are going to have low  
12 numbers of calves. And we'll try to figure that out as  
13 best we can.

14  
15                   One thing that we're hoping to do in  
16 cooperation with the Becharof Refuge is put collars on  
17 calf moose to get a better handle on that population,  
18 what productivity is looking like, age of first  
19 reproduction, some of those basic biological factors  
20 that will give us information. Because quite frankly  
21 moose surveys have always been problematic in this  
22 area. We just don't get consistent snow coverage for  
23 long enough periods of time, and we have to make  
24 decisions on where we go. You know, if surveys need to  
25 be done in 9B because people are concerned up there,  
26 and in 9E at the same time, you know, we're running in  
27 every direction possible. We're getting as much done  
28 as we can. So anyways, we are trying to incorporate  
29 more techniques to determine what the population's  
30 going to be doing by other methods that aren't going to  
31 produce quite the same measure, but they'll give us a  
32 feel for what's going on.

33  
34                   And again, you know, with this  
35 assistant area biologist, with any luck we'll have a  
36 plane that can go to 9B on the same day as one's going  
37 to 9E. And Becharof Refuge and Park Service again are  
38 out collecting data as well. We're definitely going to  
39 make our best effort to get you that information.

40  
41                   As a tangent to that particular topic,  
42 there's also been discussion about a moose working  
43 group, as you will recall from prior meetings. And I  
44 guess that's one of the reasons why Mark is here with  
45 me, just to give you an update on that particular  
46 endeavor with the State.

47  
48                   In summary of what's happened, and I'm  
49 kind of losing track of when this whole process got  
50 started, which Federal Board meeting, but this spring

1 it seemed like State and Federal agencies got together  
2 to review moose data. There was some discussion of  
3 wanting to see additional subsistence data. I think we  
4 pulled all of our data together and we're finally  
5 getting to a point where we can agree on at least what  
6 the factual matters are associated with the current  
7 situations. And now we're quickly getting to the point  
8 where we want to move towards actually holding a group  
9 meeting with stakeholders essentially in the process.

10

11 And, of course, my absence put the  
12 whole process on hold, too. You know, they wanted to  
13 have an area biologist in place in this unit to  
14 participate in these discussions.

15

16 So I think we're getting to the point  
17 where we can make forward progress on that. In my  
18 estimation, it's still going to take a little bit of  
19 time, you know. We've got moose surveys to do for the  
20 next few weeks, and that's part of the process, is we  
21 need to keep bringing data to the table. So we can't  
22 have a meeting right in the middle of that period,  
23 obviously. So I'm hoping, you know, sometime this  
24 winter again to talk to, you know, members of this  
25 Council, members of the AC, and some of the other  
26 players in the interest groups to try to coordinate a  
27 time when we can actually get together and have a  
28 conversation about moose in that subunit.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Lem,  
31 thanks. Okay.

32

33 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Can I.....

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly.

36

37 MS. CHYTHLOOK: The moose survey that  
38 you're -- or the moose working group that you're  
39 talking about, is that with certain units or.....

40

41 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, that was -- and  
42 again, I've got to admit some of the details are kind  
43 of escaping me. Basically it was in association with  
44 these proposals to close Federal lands to non-local  
45 users, and a discussion of what is going on. What  
46 areas are important to the locals for resource needs.  
47 What's the moose population doing. How much of a  
48 conflict there is, et cetera. And a lot of  
49 that has focused on Unit 9B.

50



1                   That issue went to the Federal  
2 Subsistence Board. I'm sure someone here can help me  
3 with the date. I was at the meeting that discussed it,  
4 but I just can't recall which meeting that was.

5  
6                   (Mr. Dunaway departs)

7  
8                   MS. WHEELER: May 2008.

9  
10                  MR. BUTLER: May 2008, thanks. And one  
11 of the outcomes of that discussion was, at least as  
12 best I recall, is that that proposal to close Federal  
13 lands was deferred essentially, pending discussions  
14 amongst working groups to try to resolve conflicts  
15 through non-regulatory means, and perhaps regulatory if  
16 that's kind of the outcome of that group discussion.  
17 But it was all part of trying to work through what  
18 we're dealing with with moose essentially in Unit 9.

19  
20                  MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Because I know  
21 that BBNA has a moose working group, and I was trying  
22 to see where we might have overlapping on that. But  
23 you're still in the planning stages of it?

24  
25                  MR. BUTLER: Yeah, this is something  
26 that the Federal Subsistence Board wanted us to work on  
27 with Federal agencies and with local user groups and  
28 this RAC, so, yeah, it's something we still intend to  
29 follow through on I guess is the.....

30  
31                  CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I guess I  
32 should comment on that. You know, we submitted a  
33 proposal, this Council, to close Federal lands to  
34 non-qualified users. And the Board wanted to do a  
35 working group. But anyway a couple years before that  
36 we'd submitted a proposal, or a year before that, to  
37 the same Board for corridors along rivers and streams  
38 for qualified users. And that's another, in my opinion  
39 probably a better, way to go about it. But the reason  
40 why we submitted the closed for non-residents is  
41 because they didn't anything about the corridors.

42  
43                  But the whole idea is to eliminate the  
44 conflict between the two user groups, you know, the  
45 non-residents or the non-qualified user groups and  
46 those people that live in the villages that utilize  
47 Federal land for moose hunting, because, you know, the  
48 amount of moose that are available, we wanted to  
49 eliminate the conflict, because the non-residents or  
50 even residents that come from other parts of the state

1 are mainly a fly-in where those people that are from  
2 villages typically use boats, skiffs. And if we could  
3 have corridors, it probably would allow both user  
4 groups to harvest, you know, moose.

5  
6 So that was the first option, but then  
7 they didn't do anything about it, so we submitted  
8 another proposal to close non-residents, and then they  
9 decided to do a working group, so that's kind of where  
10 it stands.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.

13  
14 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The  
15 proposal you were just discussing to the Council that  
16 was deferred by the Board a couple years ago, since  
17 there was no action taken on it, the deferred proposal  
18 automatically goes into the cycle, so it's going to be  
19 addressed in our winter meeting.

20  
21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Anything else  
24 for ADF&G?

25  
26 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)

27  
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Pete says  
29 good.

30  
31 We are down to National Park Service.

32  
33 MR. KRIEG: Wait a minute.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's take a break  
36 for five minutes as soon as Mr. Krieg gets done. Ted,  
37 go ahead.

38  
39 MR. KRIEG: Mr. Chairman. Council  
40 members. Yeah, my name is Ted Krieg. I work with  
41 Subsistence Division of Fish Game out of Dillingham.

42  
43 I guess like I usually do, wanted to  
44 update you on on-going project. I guess the one most  
45 pertinent to this group, because it's Office of  
46 Subsistence Management-funded, and that's the Kvichak  
47 watershed subsistence salmon ethnography project that  
48 Courtenay mentioned earlier. We're in the final stages  
49 of the final draft of the report. So that should be  
50 coming out pretty soon.

1                   That work was a collaboration with  
2 BBNA, National Park Service, Subsistence Division, and  
3 then local assistance. And this project was in --  
4 included the communities of Iliamna, Newhalen,  
5 Nondalton, and Port Alsworth. And we've given reports.  
6 I think we had a PowerPoint here a year or two ago,  
7 kind of giving you, you know, an overview of what was  
8 going on in the project, some of the things that we  
9 learned.

10  
11                   But it's called a participant  
12 observation type project where we actually went out  
13 there and worked with local people to help put up fish  
14 and learn what was going on, you know, documented  
15 important things that happened in those years. It was  
16 -- the main year was 2007. We did some follow-up work  
17 in 2008.

18  
19                   The other thing that went along with  
20 that was our subsistence salmon permit system. We did  
21 some updates on that with subsistence salmon harvest  
22 surveys in those communities to try to get, you know,  
23 accurate, really accurate counts of subsistence salmon  
24 that were harvested for those years.

25  
26                   Yeah, I guess that pretty much covers  
27 that one. But it was, you know, really -- it's the  
28 first time in a long time I think that Subsistence  
29 Division has done that type of work where they worked  
30 with local people, and it turned out to be a really  
31 good, you know, good collaborative thing with the  
32 communities. We learned a lot.

33  
34                   It will be a different kind of report,  
35 even though there's going to be harvest data included.  
36 There will also be case studies. We'll talk about, you  
37 know, what people were doing, how they put up fish.  
38 You know, things that happened in that years. So it  
39 should be interesting to read, at least, you know, most  
40 of it. And that should be -- like I said, you know,  
41 we're in the final stages of that, and it will be  
42 available.

43  
44                   I guess the next thing is we've been  
45 doing our baseline comprehensive subsistence surveys.  
46 Comprehensive, you know, means for all subsistence  
47 foods. They're usually -- it's a one-year snapshot of  
48 what happened in the community, household surveys.

49  
50                   The ones that we did, we did -- we've

1 gotten a little backlogged with having some community  
2 meetings. We did in -- let's see, I think February and  
3 March of 2008, we did these baseline surveys in the  
4 Bristol Bay communities of Naknek, King Salmon, South  
5 Naknek. Also Lime Village was included. But where  
6 we're at with those, we've got the data compiled, and  
7 we're planning, although we don't have dates set yet,  
8 we're planning to have meetings hopefully the third  
9 week in December. That's the window for people that I  
10 work with in the communities here, so that's a local  
11 thing here to follow up on that.

12

13                   With our baseline surveys, you know, we  
14 always work with the local tribal councils. Through  
15 them we hire local assistance. We have meetings to  
16 tell people, you know, what the project is going to be,  
17 and ask if they have questions. They can have input  
18 into what we're -- the data we're collecting and that  
19 sort of thing. And then we have these follow-up  
20 meetings. You know, before we release any of our data,  
21 we always have a meeting with the community at the end  
22 of the project.

23

24                   We did baseline surveys last year.  
25 February through April we were in Clark's Point,  
26 Aleknagik, and Manokotak doing the same type of  
27 baseline surveys.

28

29                   And then a project that I have  
30 mentioned before that goes along with the climate  
31 change that's been mentioned, is the Bering Sea  
32 integrated ecosystem research program. And it's too  
33 bad Pete isn't here, because that -- our participation  
34 -- my participation in that project was in Togiak. And  
35 it's North Pacific Research Board, and National Science  
36 Foundation. It's a multi-year project. Last year we  
37 did do the baseline surveys in Togiak, but it's also  
38 going to include a local and traditional knowledge  
39 component, and that's going to be coming up starting  
40 some this spring, but going into the next year, 2010.

41

42                   And like I said before, I think at this  
43 meeting that this was something that I thought was  
44 pretty special, that there's these scientists that are  
45 working out in the Bering Sea doing all this research.  
46 You know, they're mostly concerned about what's going  
47 on with the ice, on the ice edge. You know, they're  
48 looking at these little -- we were at a meeting  
49 recently and they talk about the little, you know, the  
50 little animals that -- they use names that I don't know

1 what they are. I mean, one of them was like this  
2 little shrimp thing that's important to the whole  
3 ecosystem out there. They're looking at murre,  
4 kittiwakes and, let's see -- well, those were the main  
5 -- some of the ones, the indicators that they wanted to  
6 know things about.

7  
8 But, you know, the special thing about  
9 that is that they're including local communities.  
10 There's five communities that are included. Togiak is  
11 one of them, Emmonak, Savoonga, St. Paul and Akutan.  
12 And we did baseline surveys -- or I did baseline  
13 surveys and helped in Togiak. Emmonak and Akutan were  
14 the other ones that Subsistence Division was involved  
15 in. And then like I said, there will be some follow-up  
16 LTK, local traditional knowledge or traditional  
17 ecological knowledge work along with that.

18  
19 The only other thing, the last thing I  
20 wanted to mention was just our on-going things that we  
21 have where we're documenting subsistence harvest.  
22 Subsistence salmon permit systems. You know, we always  
23 encourage everybody to get the permits. You know,  
24 under regulation it's required to have a subsistence  
25 salmon permit in Bristol Bay, and then to return those  
26 permits. And I always try to encourage people to put  
27 down their daily catches, where they were fishing.  
28 That can be important information. We can do follow-  
29 ups where people can put down a total number of catch.  
30 And that's okay, too. But the main thing is, you know,  
31 those numbers are important to have those, because it  
32 always comes up, you know, that, you know, that people  
33 want to know what the harvest were. So return those  
34 permits.

35  
36 The other two things that I wanted to  
37 mention, and Molly can correct me if I forget anything  
38 or miss anything, but these are things that BBNA does  
39 most of the work on, but Subsistence Division is  
40 involved compiling the data. And that's the migratory  
41 bird subsistence harvest surveys that Frank talked  
42 about, and marine mammal surveys, mainly harbor seals  
43 and sea lions that BBNA does, and then they send those  
44 in to Subsistence Division, you know, from other areas  
45 also. And that data is compiled in Subsistence  
46 Division.

47  
48 So that's it unless you've got any  
49 questions.  
50

1 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks. Okay. Now  
4 we'll take a five-minute break, then we'll have the  
5 Park Service.  
6  
7 (Off record)  
8  
9 (Ms. Morris Lyon departs)  
10  
11 (On record)  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: National Park  
14 Service and then we've got other business. So we  
15 should be done here in 45 minutes. All right.  
16  
17 MR. ABRAHAM: Half hour.  
18  
19 (Laughter)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Hey, you guys need  
22 to make him the Chairman next time.  
23  
24 All right. Sandy.  
25  
26 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you, Mr.  
27 Chairman. Sandy Rabinowitch with the National Park  
28 Service.  
29  
30 And in your booklet, I'm on Page 52.  
31 And the page has this big black stripe on it. It look  
32 like this. And what I'm going to do is just summarize.  
33 There's four pages here. I'm going to summarize them  
34 very briefly for you.  
35  
36 I don't remember actually if your  
37 Council's received a briefing on this like a year back  
38 or not. I just honestly don't remember. You may have.  
39 So this is meant to be a little bit of an update.  
40  
41 So the reason this is in your book is  
42 that two bodies came to the Park Service a couple of  
43 years ago making a request. The first was the Gates of  
44 the Arctic Subsistence Resource Commission, that's way  
45 up north. And then other was the Eastern Interior  
46 Regional Council, the Council like this, but for the  
47 eastern part of the State. And they asked similar, but  
48 a little bit different things, which are basically to  
49 liberalize a couple of Park Service regulations. So  
50 this whole discussion's about can we liberalize some

1 Park Service regulations.

2

3 And what they have to do with, the  
4 first one is about horns, antlers and bones. And the  
5 simple way to put it is that if you walk out into a  
6 national park area now, and if you just pick up, you  
7 know, horns, antlers and bones and take them home, it's  
8 technically illegally. You shouldn't do that. Some  
9 people know that. A lot of people don't know that.

10

11 The other part of this is about plants,  
12 collecting certain plants. And it's actually okay to  
13 collect certain plants, but what's not okay is then to  
14 turn around and make them into handicrafts and sell  
15 them.

16

17 And that's where both of these  
18 requests, which again I'm just trying to summarize,  
19 kind of lump them together. What people are asking is,  
20 if we can make it legal to collect and then -- you  
21 know, take home, and then make and sell handicrafts  
22 from the things you collect. That's what this is all  
23 about.

24

25 And so, you know, earlier in the day  
26 when Neal Labrie was talking about redbfish, he held up  
27 this book. This is just the Park Service regulation  
28 book. And the point is that everything I'm talking  
29 about would change in here, not in the Federal  
30 Subsistence Board regs. So this is Park Service, not  
31 Federal Subsistence Board.

32

33 So that's really the summary of the  
34 first page is simply what they're asking for, what's  
35 allowed, what isn't allowed currently. And what we're  
36 doing is we've actually put together a large team of  
37 people in the Park Service, because this request is for  
38 the whole State, for all National Park Service areas.

39

40 And in your area here, Mary's going to  
41 help point at the map, so we're talking about  
42 Aniakchak, the Katmai Preserve, but not Katmai Park.  
43 So I'll repeat that, not Katmai Park. And then again  
44 Lake Clark, both Park and Preserve. So for Katmai  
45 Park, nothing would change. For the others, it would  
46 change. Okay. And that's because subsistence uses  
47 were not allowed in Katmai Park in ANILCA. It's not  
48 something we have any option about. It's what the law  
49 says.

50

1                   So, so far we've come up with three  
2 alternatives where you've all heard about about EIS's  
3 and environmental assessments before I'm sure many  
4 times. We're working to put together an environmental  
5 assessment. That's a smaller document. It's kind of  
6 shorter, easier kind of document.

7  
8                   And we've come up with three options.  
9 And I'm on Page 53. And they're the no action, one  
10 we've called unlimited collection, and one we've called  
11 managed collection. And I'll very quickly tell you  
12 what those are.

13  
14                   So no action would just be not to  
15 change anything, leave it the way it is.

16  
17                   Unlimited collection would be just sort  
18 of the opposite. Go from you can't do it to you can do  
19 it. Just, you know, go do it, whatever you want. No  
20 seasons, no limits, just go collect, make handicrafts,  
21 and, you know, and that's it.

22  
23                   And then managed collection is an  
24 attempt to kind of find a middle ground for allowing  
25 this, where on a park-by-park basis around the State,  
26 because, as everybody knows, this is a big State and  
27 things are real different way up north and way down  
28 south. And so that you might want to have the  
29 opportunity to have some different regulations in your  
30 area, so it may be different than Gates of the Arctic.  
31 And so that's the idea of the third one, managed  
32 collection.

33  
34                   And what we would try to do is have the  
35 local superintendent, so in a case like here it would  
36 be Ralph Moore and Joel Hard who most of you know, they  
37 would work with local people. And like Lake Clark,  
38 they would work with the Lake Clark Subsistence  
39 Resource Commission and try to come up with what the  
40 rules ought to be for Lake Clark.

41  
42                   We are currently -- we've been going  
43 around for about a year and a half getting input from  
44 primarily our Subsistence Resource Commissions, and  
45 we've got a lot of good input from them. And we're at  
46 the state where we're trying to finalize these  
47 alternatives, and we're struggling a little bit to  
48 whether we have this quite sorted out right or not.  
49 And we're just right in the middle of trying to think  
50 through that. And I don't know if we do have these



1 quite organized correctly or not. And I'm hoping in  
2 the next four or six weeks we'll figure that out and  
3 we'll kind of firm up what these options will be.

4  
5 So that's where we're at. If I would  
6 have been here a month ago, I would have told you that  
7 we'd be trying to have the environmental assessment,  
8 the whole thing, in a nice package back to you at your  
9 winter meeting. I'm starting to change what I'm saying  
10 and I'm thinking it might be not this winter, but your  
11 next fall primarily because we're trying to rethink  
12 these options. We're trying to listen to what we've  
13 heard, and trying to craft these sort of better I guess  
14 would be the way to put it.

15  
16 Then to keep moving on, because I know  
17 you want to get done, on Page 54 there's a sheet with a  
18 bunch of boxes and little X's in them. That's simply  
19 trying to illustrate which animals with horns and  
20 antlers are in which NPS units. And I always just say,  
21 if you notice something that's in here that's wrong,  
22 please let us know. If there's something missing,  
23 please let us know. But it gives you an idea of which  
24 animals are, you know, in which units, and what we'd be  
25 talking about in terms of the horns and antlers portion  
26 of it.

27  
28 And then on the last page, you  
29 basically have my name and Mary's name, so it's all the  
30 local contact information. So if you want to follow up  
31 on this at all, you can find, you know, either Mary or  
32 myself and ask questions and follow up as we go along.

33  
34 So that's it, Mr. Chairman. I'd be  
35 happy to answer questions if anyone has any.

36  
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Sandy,  
38 you mean it's been illegal to, say, just pick up shed  
39 antlers in Alagnak National Wild River or Katmai  
40 National Preserve all this time?

41  
42 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes.

43  
44 MR. O'HARA: That's short answer.

45  
46 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yeah. I thought  
47 that's what he wanted.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Well, that's  
50 what I was -- that's the best answer, you know, the

1 simplest.

2

3 MR. O'HARA: That's the answer.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, it's been  
6 illegal to pick up shed antlers up Branch River in the  
7 wild -- in the.....

8

9 MR. O'HARA: Preserve.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The corridor or  
12 Katmai National Preserve.

13

14 MR. RABINOWITCH: Right. I would add  
15 that on the Alagnak there's both I believe BLM land and  
16 Park Service lands, so my answer is only for the Park  
17 Service part. I think, and I'll turn to Dan, would the  
18 rules be different for BLM?

19

20 MR. SHARP: Yeah.

21

22 MR. RABINOWITCH: Okay. So my answer  
23 is only for the National Park Service part.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. And I had  
26 another question. Up in the National Park, Katmai, up  
27 at the lake, what's the policy for cutting firewood for  
28 camping?

29

30 MR. RABINOWITCH: I do not know the  
31 answer to that. And I don't know -- if you give me a  
32 few minutes, I could look this book and see if I can  
33 find an answer to that. And I don't know, Mary, if you  
34 know the answer to that question off the top of your  
35 head?

36

37 MS. MCBURNEY: Not off the top of my  
38 head.

39

40 MR. RABINOWITCH: But we can certainly  
41 follow up.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Somebody back  
44 here is raising his hand.

45

46 MR. PAVEY: Was the question in Katmai  
47 National Park? What's the policy on wood?

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For cutting  
50 firewood.

1 MR. PAVEY: Yeah, it's dead and down.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For camping.  
4  
5 MR. PAVEY: Dead and down.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What's that?  
8  
9 MR. PAVEY: So the tree's got to be  
10 dead and -- oh.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It can't be dead and  
13 standing?  
14  
15 MR. PAVEY: Yeah. I'm Scott Pavey.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What's your name?  
18  
19 MR. PAVEY: Scott Pavey. I'm the fish  
20 biologist for Katmai National Park.  
21  
22 And my understanding is that it's dead  
23 and down wood you can collect for firewood within the  
24 park.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It can't be standing  
27 dead?  
28  
29 MR. PAVEY: Correct. Correct.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Can you use a  
32 chainsaw?  
33  
34 MR. PAVEY: I don't know the answer to  
35 that question.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Does the Park  
38 Service use a chainsaw for cutting their firewood?  
39  
40 MR. PAVEY: Do we use a chainsaw for  
41 cutting our firewood. I believe the maintenance  
42 division cuts firewood for the campground at Brooks.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: With a chainsaw.  
45 Okay.  
46  
47 MR. PAVEY: Yeah. I don't really know.  
48  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

1 MR. ABRAHAM: Bring a propane tank.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Do it the Native way.  
4  
5 MR. RABINOWITCH: I would be happy to,  
6 you know, look in here when I sit back down, and if I  
7 find anything I can.....  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure. You know,  
10 because it's something that's always been -- people  
11 have always been camping up in Naknek Lake, especially  
12 at Bay of Islands, and there's always been campfires,  
13 so we need to know what the regulations, policy is so  
14 that -- because it's still going to happen. So, you  
15 know, we just -- and if it's illegal for us, for the  
16 people that go up there camping to cut firewood and  
17 bring a chainsaw, then it needs to change so that they  
18 can. Because I'm sure the Park Service uses a chainsaw  
19 to cut their firewood for the Trefon's cabin or Brooks  
20 Camp. Why should it be any different for locals, the  
21 people that go up there camping, you know, as long as  
22 they're not making a big mess and cutting live trees or  
23 clearing land just for a camper, you know.  
24  
25 MR. RABINOWITCH: Understand.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody. Any more  
28 questions? Dan.  
29  
30 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Has there been a  
31 request for anything out of any of these Federal lands  
32 at all for these three or four items out of Bristol Bay  
33 at all?  
34  
35 MR. RABINOWITCH: Not specifically, but  
36 we made the decision a little more than a year ago --  
37 well, no, probably about a year ago that because of  
38 these requests coming in from the, you know, very  
39 different areas, and after talking with our Subsistence  
40 Resource Commissions -- we went to all seven of our  
41 Subsistence Resource Commissions and kind of aired this  
42 out. And so we decided to take this on, not just for  
43 the two areas where they asked for it, but for the  
44 whole State, you know, at one time. We just sort of --  
45 we knew it would take a little longer, but we thought  
46 it might make more sense in the long run, and, you  
47 know, if we can make some headway, then it will be for  
48 all of it, the whole State.  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: But the two, the bluest

1 areas up there, what's the definition of Katmai  
2 National Park and Lake Clark Park?  
3  
4 MR. RABINOWITCH: I think Mary could  
5 probably point at Katmai Park, which I think is the  
6 darker blue.  
7  
8 MR. O'HARA: Okay. That's the  
9 wilderness area. I mean, nothing can be touched there.  
10  
11 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, this is actually  
12 -- on this particular map, this is the entire park.  
13 But it doesn't designate which is -- you know, it  
14 doesn't designate wilderness at all. And so this is  
15 all Lake Clark National Park up here.  
16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Sandy mentioned that that  
18 would not be a consideration in those areas, period,  
19 these three items.  
20  
21 MR. RABINOWITCH: No, I believe all I  
22 -- and if I misspoke, somebody correct me, please, but  
23 I believe what I said was that in the Katmai Park, the  
24 darker purple that Mary was just talking about that  
25 everything I'm talking about here today, it would not  
26 apply, because this is for where subsistence uses are  
27 allowed. And ANILCA simply did not allow subsistence  
28 uses inside Katmai Park as it's shown on that map. And  
29 so we can't allow something that the law doesn't allow.  
30  
31 MR. O'HARA: These three things are  
32 considered subsistence?  
33  
34 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes.  
35  
36 MR. O'HARA: Okay. So Lake Clark up  
37 there either, I mean, that's the same as Katmai, right,  
38 as far as regulations go?  
39  
40 MR. RABINOWITCH: Well, in regards to  
41 subsistence it's very different.  
42  
43 MR. O'HARA: Oh, okay. That's like  
44 Sam's (ph) showing me, I'm not sure.  
45  
46 MR. RABINOWITCH: Very different,  
47 because all the subsistence uses are allowed up in Lake  
48 Clark.  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, by the five

1 villages. Uh-huh. Okay. That's interesting, because  
2 there's no sense putting in a request for bones and  
3 antlers and plants up here in Katmai National Park.  
4 It's not going to happen.

5  
6 MR. RABINOWITCH: Not without changing  
7 the law.

8  
9 MR. O'HARA: Without ANILCA. Yeah.  
10 Okay. And that's.....

11  
12 MS. MCBURNEY: But it would be allowed  
13 in the Preserve area.

14  
15 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Sure. It would be  
16 allowed in the Preserve should you do one of the three  
17 things mentioned on Page 53.

18  
19 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yes, it would be  
20 allowed. If the Park Service liberalizes these  
21 regulations, however that might come out, they would be  
22 liberalized in the Katmai Preserve, yes.

23  
24 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. You know,  
25 coming back from AFN and seeing a floor level of the  
26 Dena'ina Center with just arts and crafts of Native  
27 people, and there's a lot of horns and there's a lot of  
28 ivory and there's a lot of beads. So, you know, it  
29 might reach down to us one day with our artists and  
30 people in the area. It's interesting.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sandy, without  
33 changing ANILCA, how could I harvest redbfish in Naknek  
34 Lake without calling it subsistence? I could go up  
35 there and use a rod and reel, right?

36  
37 MR. RABINOWITCH: You know, I am not  
38 the expert on redbfish by any means, but if I understand  
39 it right, my answer would be is if your name is on that  
40 list of descendants that Neal was talking about  
41 earlier, and I don't know if it is or not, I don't  
42 believe I've ever seen the list for that matter, then  
43 all you would have to do is follow the State Fish and  
44 Game regulations. So that would be my answer if I've  
45 got this right.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You can go up there  
48 and catch rainbow trout, lake trout, grayling. You  
49 don't need to be on a list, right? Can you get  
50 redbfish?

1 MR. RABINOWITCH: Well, are you --  
2 again, I'm talking about something that I'm not  
3 familiar with. Are you talking about sport fishing now  
4 or subsistence?

5  
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, I don't call  
7 it either one of them, just catching fish.

8  
9 MR. RABINOWITCH: The only way I know  
10 how to answer is to put it in one of those two boxes,  
11 you know, with a name. Either the redfish law, the  
12 stand-alone law that allowed it, that Bristol Bay  
13 submitted and got passed through the Congress a bunch  
14 of years ago, or through -- which is implemented  
15 through the State fishing regulations, or by having a  
16 state sport fish license and following those  
17 regulations. That's my understanding.

18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So if you've got a  
20 sports fish license, you can catch all the redfish you  
21 want. There's probably no limit on the amount of  
22 redfish you can catch, right? Well, I just bring this  
23 up. The committee that we're going to put together  
24 here in a little while, this needs -- probably it's  
25 going to be the way to -- one of the questions they're  
26 going to be asking, because they're not going to be  
27 able to change ANILCA. They just need to figure out  
28 some way to get around it within trying to get Congress  
29 to change it, which the Native community in Alaska is  
30 not going to let them open up ANILCA to change one  
31 little thing like this.

32  
33 MR. RABINOWITCH: Right. Well, you  
34 know, if I understood Neal Labrie this morning, it  
35 sounded to me like he thought what he referred to as  
36 the compendium, it's the National Park Service  
37 compendium. It's essentially a body of regulations a  
38 local superintendent can implement. It's kind of a  
39 delegated down set of regulations. Again we call it  
40 the compendium. And that that comes around once a year  
41 for changes to be made to it, and apparently the timing  
42 right now is very good. I believe it's coming around  
43 very soon. And I believe that he thinks there is some  
44 avenue through that compendium to do what you're  
45 talking about. And personally I think a committee from  
46 your Council is a good idea.

47  
48 MR. O'HARA: A committee of the Council  
49 and some local people.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.  
2  
3 MR. RABINOWITCH: Yeah. Whatever --  
4 whoever you want.  
5  
6 MR. O'HARA: Who has some first-hand  
7 experience at it.  
8  
9 MR. RABINOWITCH: Whoever you would  
10 like to put on it, you know, with local knowledge. I  
11 think that's a good idea.  
12  
13 MR. O'HARA: With their names and  
14 social security number, yeah, that would be great.  
15  
16 (Laughter)  
17  
18 MR. RABINOWITCH: No social security  
19 numbers.  
20  
21 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. The boss is  
24 ready to move on again. Anybody. Nothing else for  
25 Sandy or Mary.  
26  
27 MR. O'HARA: Well, no, Mary has a  
28 report I'm sure.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mary.  
31  
32 MS. MCBURNEY: I'll make it really  
33 quick.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Aniakchak  
36 National Monument.  
37  
38 MR. O'HARA: I live here. Mary, I live  
39 here. You can take as long as you want, okay. You can  
40 take all night long. There's no hurry. The rest of  
41 these guys, just too bad.  
42  
43 (Laughter)  
44  
45 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Dan. For the  
46 record, my name is Mary McBurney. I'm the subsistence  
47 program manager for the Aniakchak National Monument and  
48 Preserve and for Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.  
49  
50



1                   And to start off with for Lake Clark,  
2 since that was the first park on the list, I wanted to  
3 be sure that the RAC was aware that Lake Clark is set  
4 to receive a permanent funding increase starting this  
5 year for the specific purpose of creating a subsistence  
6 liaison program similar to what the Fish and Wildlife  
7 Service has for their RIT program. And this is  
8 something that is brand new for the Park Service. In  
9 fact there are only two parks that are scheduled to  
10 receive these types of increases. Lake Clark is one  
11 and Gates of the Arctic is the other.

12  
13                   So we would appreciate any input you  
14 might have to offer us on how you might like to see  
15 this program structured, put together, to be user  
16 friendly for the folks that we'll be working with. And  
17 again we would be working specifically with those  
18 resident zone communities of Lake Clark National Park,  
19 namely Port Alsworth, Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen,  
20 Pedro Bay, and Lime Village.

21  
22                   Karen Stickman wanted me to mention  
23 that the Dena'ina place names book is going to be  
24 completed and coming off the presses sometime around  
25 February. And this is a project that the park has been  
26 working on for a number of years as a collaboration  
27 with Jim Carey from the University of Alaska,  
28 Fairbanks, and Dena'ina elder Andrew Balluta. It's  
29 going to include place names from a very wide area,  
30 everywhere from Tyonek down to Pedro Bay and then up  
31 north toward the Stoney River Country. So that entire  
32 area that the Dena'ina people have used traditionally.

33  
34  
35                   And Karen has been heading up the  
36 project, and she said that one of the other outcomes of  
37 this particular initiative is that all of the place  
38 names that have been collected over time, she said over  
39 the past 35 years, have now been compiled and  
40 catalogued are available in a searchable database that  
41 the National Park Service now maintains. So this is  
42 information that is now available publicly as well for  
43 people that might be interested in researching  
44 particular places and place names in the Lake Clark  
45 country.

46  
47                   About this time of year it's time for  
48 us to tell you about how we did with our Lake Clark  
49 sockeye salmon, so we chatted with Dan Young the other  
50 day. And the volcano kind of created a few unusual

1 issues that the fish crew has not had to deal with in  
2 recent years; namely that there appeared to have been  
3 so much ash that had fallen in the area that it really  
4 affected the clarity of the water. And that combined  
5 with some high winds in July basically forced a lot of  
6 this very, very turbid water, very murky water down  
7 toward where the counting tower is on Mile 22 on the  
8 Newhalan River. And so they didn't get a complete  
9 counter this summer. By the time the visibility was  
10 reduced to next to nothing, they'd counted about  
11 140,000 fish that had passed the tower. Dan estimates  
12 that probably somewhere around 200,000 fish probably  
13 made it into the Lake Clark system. And he's basing  
14 that now on spawning ground surveys. So that 200,000  
15 fish is what we had at the end of our summer counting  
16 season.

17

18                   And Paige Spencer asked me to mention  
19 her on-going wolf study. And this is a study that was  
20 initiated last winter, and eight wolves were trapped  
21 and collared. And of those eight collared wolves, they  
22 represent about four packs, which isn't necessarily all  
23 the packs that are in Lake Clark, but for the wolves  
24 that they were able to capture, they have four packs  
25 that are represented.

26

27                   Right now the information that is  
28 coming from those collars is really rather interesting.  
29 She was basically interested in just the size of some  
30 of the territories that some of these packs have. But  
31 then she mentioned that two of the packs are rather  
32 unusual in that they seem to have smaller territories  
33 than two of the other packs. And on closer  
34 observation, doing an analysis of hair samples that  
35 have been taken from various individuals, the collared  
36 individuals, they've found that the wolves in the two  
37 packs with the smaller territories appearing to be  
38 utilizing fish more heavily. And this is really a  
39 rather interesting finding. And she's kind of  
40 interested to see, you know, what it is that the other  
41 wolves are taking advantage of as well.

42

43                   So the analysis was done by taking a  
44 look at the hair, and taking a look at the amount of  
45 heavy carbon and heavy nitrogen in the hair, which  
46 indicates nutrients that are coming from the ocean, and  
47 presumably in salmon.

48

49                   Finally there is one young female in  
50 particularly that we're still tracking, but she's

1 decided that Lake Clark doesn't seem to be the one  
2 place where she wants to be hanging. In fact, she's  
3 headed towards Bethel as far as we can figure at this  
4 point. Since about I would say the end of September or  
5 so, she's travelled more than 100 miles and she's still  
6 heading west. So who knows where she's going to end  
7 up. Right now she's somewhere in Game Unit 17.

8

9 And there's funding for another year of  
10 this study, and I'll be working with Paige to find  
11 additional funding to keep it going. This is our first  
12 step in being able to understand some of this  
13 predator/prey relationships we do have in Lake Clark.  
14 And so far it's really interesting to see what they're  
15 learning.

16

17 And if there is interest on the part of  
18 the RAC, we can certainly arrange to have Paige or one  
19 of her staff people to give a presentation at the next  
20 RAC meeting to give you an update on what they're  
21 finding out about the wolves in Lake Clark.

22

23 And that concludes my report.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Mary.

26 Dan.

27

28 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Let's go over the  
29 names again of the communities that this young lady is  
30 -- I guess it's going to be something that's going to  
31 be sealed and maintained. You said it was Pedro Bay?

32

33 MS. MCBURNEY: Pedro Bay. You're  
34 looking for the resident zone communities?

35

36 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

37

38 MS. MCBURNEY: Okay. It's Pedro Bay,  
39 Port Alsworth, Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen and Lime  
40 Village.

41

42 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Those are all just  
43 -- you didn't have all those names mentioned when you  
44 first made your presentation. And those are all  
45 Dena'ina anotypes.

46

47 MS. MCBURNEY: Oh, were you talking  
48 about the place names project?

49

50 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

1 MS. MCBURNEY: Okay. It was from  
2 Tyonek down to Pedro Bay and then up towards the Stoney  
3 River country.  
4  
5 MR. O'HARA: Including Iliamna?  
6  
7 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes.  
8  
9 MR. O'HARA: Okay. And Nondalton.  
10 Yeah.  
11  
12 MS. MCBURNEY: I believe so.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They left you out.  
15 No Power (ph) Bay.  
16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. We'll reside in  
18 Pedro Bay.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.  
21 Thank you, Mary.  
22  
23 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Now that brings  
26 us.....  
27  
28 MS. MCBURNEY: I have just one more  
29 just for the Aniakchak SRC. I just wanted to let you  
30 know, for those of you who may not have heard is that  
31 we lost Afone Takak a couple of weeks ago. He passed  
32 away.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I heard that.  
35  
36 MS. MCBURNEY: Which leaves the SRC  
37 with a very big pair of shoes to fill, and we're going  
38 to miss him very deeply.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I never met him  
41 until I went to that SRC meeting with you guys that one  
42 time. He's quite a character.  
43  
44 MS. MCBURNEY: Yep. They're just not  
45 going to be as interesting.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: He's got quite a  
48 name. Anyway, thanks. Dan.  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: Tell us about your

1 recreational users or your people who come into  
2 Aniakchak and float the Aniakchak River down to the  
3 Pacific side. Do you have any information on that?  
4  
5 MS. MCBURNEY: No, I don't. But I  
6 could  
7  
8 MR. O'HARA: You don't. These  
9 recreational users? Who keeps track of that.  
10  
11 MS. MCBURNEY: Well, I know it's not  
12 me, so I'd have to check into that and find out for  
13 you.  
14  
15 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. They're packing in  
16 there on a regular basis, the float planes and the  
17 kayak and go down the river, to be picked up on the  
18 Pacific -- we pick them up on the Pacific side.  
19  
20 MS. MCBURNEY: Right. But I can check  
21 with Roy Hood who would probably be -- keeps track of  
22 some of the visitor numbers and get back to you on  
23 that.  
24  
25 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. That's a beautiful  
26 crater. Have you ever been in it? Ever been in it?  
27  
28 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, I have picking up  
29 sockeye carcasses. But I did float the entire length  
30 of the river. It's pretty special.  
31  
32 MR. O'HARA: You did. Yeah, it's a  
33 beautiful river.  
34  
35 MS. MCBURNEY: Nice carcasses, too.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is that it on the  
38 Aniakchak National Monument then? That was it on the  
39 Aniakchak National Monument report?  
40  
41 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes. That is. That  
42 concludes.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay-doke. That  
45 concludes the Park Service. Nobody else has anything.  
46  
47 (No comments)  
48  
49 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)  
50

1 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Mr. Chair. I'd like  
2 put it to the Council if we can give a some kind of  
3 recognition of Afone Takak. He did serve on that board  
4 for a long time.  
5  
6 MR. O'HARA: Let's at our next meeting  
7 get a resolution signed by the RAC. Or have it done  
8 now and have this RAC sign it.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, we can send a  
11 letter.  
12  
13 MR. O'HARA: Mary could probably help  
14 us.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mary.  
17  
18 MR. O'HARA: Mary, come back up here  
19 just a minute. Go ahead and tell her what we want  
20 done.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We would like to  
23 send a letter to Afone's wife and family for  
24 recognition for his service to the SRC and his work,  
25 and our gratitude.  
26  
27 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. Could I  
28 address that a little bit, too?  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure.  
31  
32 MR. O'HARA: Mary, it would be good if  
33 we, under future dates and stuff, winter 2010, fall  
34 2010, could see a resolution for Afone. And have a  
35 resolution dated like from this meeting. And then have  
36 it sent around to each RAC member, have each RAC member  
37 sign resolution, and then have it framed and sent down  
38 to his family I think would be a really good thing to  
39 do.  
40  
41 MS. MCBURNEY: I'd be happy to do that.  
42  
43 MR. O'HARA: You'd be happy? Okay.  
44  
45 MS. MCBURNEY: I'd be happy to do that.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks.  
48  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: We can do that for later,

1 would be good.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Other business. A,  
4 identify topics for 2009 Annual Report, which we have  
5 to send every year to the Federal Subsistence Board,  
6 concerns or issues or whatever you happen to have in  
7 mind that we want them to know about.

8

9 Dan.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: Chum and chinook by-catch.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I've just got  
14 that on my list right here. The impact of the pollock  
15 bycatches starting to -- is impacting us more this last  
16 year than it ever has I think anyway. And so does  
17 Nanci. Because, for instance, the kind run into the  
18 Naknek River is getting to be less and less than ever  
19 before for the amount of -- by the amount of fish that  
20 are being harvested. Kings, Chinooks being harvested,  
21 or caught by the sports fishermen are a lot less than  
22 recent years. So the only reason I can see is --  
23 probably the main reason is of the bycatch.

24

25 And also we need to let them know that  
26 our moose and caribou populations are still not good.  
27 Recruitment is still poor, low, and some -- you know,  
28 it's just -- some places was looking a little better  
29 for North Peninsula, but then you know, we're still  
30 faced -- the outlook is still pretty bleak in some  
31 areas. So anyway that's one of our concerns. Mine  
32 anyway.

33

34 Anybody else. Molly.

35

36 MS. CHYTHLOOK: More of non-salmon  
37 research.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: More what?

40

41 MS. CHYTHLOOK: The research on  
42 non-salmon.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, non-salmon  
45 species?

46

47 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We want more -- I  
50 think next year we need to have that whitefish

1 fisheries monitoring program on there. You know, we  
2 need to -- hopefully that the Park Service will have  
3 time. The reason why they said they didn't want to do  
4 it is they didn't have time this year, so hopefully  
5 they'll have it on their outlook for the next year.

6

7 Anybody.

8

9 MS. CHYTHLOOK: And implementing climate change  
10 concerns on all research.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald, got that?

13

14 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair, I do. And  
15 earlier today the Council discussed the importance of  
16 getting a liaison with the Park Service, and you  
17 mentioned about the corresponding.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I wanted to  
20 direct Staff, your or Staff to write a letter to the  
21 Park Service that they -- you know, they're getting one  
22 for Lake Clark and Gates of the Arctic. We need to get  
23 one for Katmai and for the same reason. You know, for  
24 more interaction between the Park Service and the  
25 communities, because right now there's not much -- you  
26 know, there's no talking between, you know, all the  
27 entities that's how things are -- people don't really  
28 know the regulations or what's going on. And I think  
29 that's the main reason why you have like Mr. Wilson  
30 said, liaisons and RITs. Like at this RIT right here,  
31 he's been doing it for 50 years.

32

33 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair, do you want this  
34 part of the 2009 annual report, and we can do that.  
35 And the other option, too, is that the Council can go  
36 ahead and forward that concern to the Board and they  
37 can forward it on to the Park Service.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Frank, you have a  
40 comment?

41

42 MR. WOODS: Yeah. You're taking  
43 recommendations to bring to the full Subsistence Board.  
44 A better management plan. You know, we don't need to  
45 develop -- we'd like this Board to address it on  
46 Federal lands. Or they've put in a request that it be  
47 looked at with their low population densities, and  
48 especially low on the lower peninsula in 9B, E and C,  
49 to focus on a coordinated effort to increase the moose,  
50 and that's the project I'm in charge of. Predator



1 management is a big part of it. You know, it's not the  
2 full picture, but it is a big part of it. So they can  
3 include that in the recommendations.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that should  
6 be, you know, because along with our low populations.  
7 But like I said, you know, they can't do anything about  
8 it, but their managing agencies are in charge of that.  
9 But that's part of it. Anyway.

10

11 MR. WOODS: That would be good, yeah,  
12 it might take an act of God, but miracles happen.  
13 Thanks.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Anything else  
16 for that topic.

17

18 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. B.

21

22 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Chairman. I would  
23 like you to consider making an appointment of a  
24 committee to deal with the redbfish issue in the Katmai  
25 National Park of Nanci, Dale.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Pete, Richard and myself.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And Richard Wilson  
32 and Pete Hill. That's five along with Park Service.

33

34 MR. O'HARA: Whoever they might be,  
35 yeah.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't want to  
38 designate anybody, but as long as the Park Service reps  
39 are talking with, you know.....

40

41 MR. O'HARA: Are you on B?

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. One thing on  
44 thing on B is identify the Council topics for January  
45 '10 Board meeting. We still have that proposal to the  
46 Federal Subsistence Board that got tabled. And the  
47 only thing that came out of it was that working group  
48 to work with -- like Lem Butler was talking about a  
49 little earlier with the moose. I guess that's going to  
50 have to be -- since it's tabled by the Federal

1 Subsistence Board, it has to be one of the topics again  
2 until either they throw it out or resole it or  
3 whatever. But it's only tabled.

4  
5 And what is the next Board meeting; is  
6 it game or fish?

7  
8 MR. MIKE: The board will be in January  
9 2010 and they will be acting on the Fisheries Resource  
10 Monitoring Program. And that's the only item I  
11 believe.

12  
13 And the issue you were just talking  
14 about that was tabled on the working group, I discussed  
15 earlier about those proposals that was deferred by the  
16 Board a couple years ago for moose, the corridors you  
17 were discussing on that particular proposal. When the  
18 State and the Board agreed to form a working group to  
19 address moose in Unit 9, and the working group didn't  
20 happen, and as a result the deferred proposals as I  
21 mentioned earlier will be go forward to be in this next  
22 wildlife cycle, so the proposal that the Bristol Bay  
23 Regional Advisory Council submitted and deferred by the  
24 Board will forward in the 2010 wildlife cycle.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any other topics?

27  
28 (No comments)

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We did C with  
31 the committee.

32 Future meeting dates and locations.  
33 Donald, where would that be.

34  
35 MR. O'HARA: Hawaii.

36  
37 MR. ABRAHAM: If I say Togiak, they  
38 will say too expensive.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Molly wanted to have  
41 it in Togiak.

42  
43 MR. ABRAHAM: Of course. Yeah. But  
44 then he will say too expensive.

45  
46 MR. O'HARA: We've had it there before.

47  
48  
49 MR. HEDLUND: Have you?  
50

1 MR. O'HARA: Oh, yeah.  
2  
3 MR. ABRAHAM: I know, yeah.  
4  
5 MR. HEDLUND: No kidding.  
6  
7 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. They had a nice  
8 potluck for us.  
9  
10 MR. HEDLUND: I think we ought to go  
11 there then.  
12  
13 MR. O'HARA: Farmed out to bed and  
14 breakfast places.  
15  
16 MR. ABRAHAM: We have two bed and  
17 breakfast, plus city has a bunkhouse type place over  
18 there. We've got deli and a store. And then where we  
19 have a meeting, we have a kitchen area there. I have a  
20 20-foot long steam bath where we can have tournament.  
21  
22 MR. O'HARA: Eskimo Olympics.  
23  
24 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah. See who goes home  
25 speaking Yup'ik.  
26  
27 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Well, I can make a  
28 motion to hold the next -- or the January 2010 Council  
29 meeting in Togiak.  
30  
31 MR. O'HARA: No, March.  
32  
33 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Or in March.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Donald.  
36  
37 MR. MIKE: Before you go any further,  
38 in your yellow folder I provided a meeting calendar.  
39 The meeting window for winter 2010 and fall 2010. I  
40 also coordinate the Southcentral Regional Advisory  
41 Council meeting, so the Bristol Bay cannot conflict  
42 with the Southcentral Region.  
43  
44 And as far as meeting location, our  
45 program is trying to encourage the Council to have a  
46 meeting in a centralized location and I believe Polly  
47 can address this further.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Polly.  
50

1 MS. WHEELER: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Thank  
2 you. I mean, typically what we've done is, as you  
3 know, in the past couple years, because we have had  
4 budget cuts, we have asked the Councils to meet in more  
5 centralized locations. But if the Councils persist in  
6 saying they want to have it in a different place, the  
7 coordinator can do a cost assessment and see what it  
8 will cost to have it in this one location versus  
9 another location.

10  
11 And I don't know what the costs would  
12 be in Togiak. It sounds like there may be facilities.  
13 So my recommendation would be come up with your  
14 preferred location, and then if that doesn't work out  
15 for whatever reasons, costs or whatever else, then you  
16 have a secondary location that we can default to.

17  
18 MR. ABRAHAM: See.

19  
20 MS. WHEELER: I didn't say no.

21  
22 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I'll make a  
23 motion that the first choice would be Togiak and then  
24 the second choice would be Dillingham.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion.

27  
28 MR. ABRAHAM: I second the motion.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Pete  
31 Abraham. Any more questions. Comments.

32  
33 (No comments)

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

37  
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

41  
42 (No opposing votes)

43  
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay-dokey.

45  
46 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair. You need to pick  
47 a date.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That would be next  
50 spring. We need to look at the calendar right here.

1 Everybody else has a spot already. All the spots  
2 taken.  
3  
4 MR. O'HARA: What about the ones in the  
5 back of the book.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Right here, yeah.  
8 That's it right there, isn't it?  
9  
10 MR. O'HARA: March. Well, I don't  
11 know.  
12  
13 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
14  
15 MR. O'HARA: Oh, is this the same  
16 thing? In the back of the book you've got open spots.  
17 That's not this?  
18  
19 MR. MIKE: That's the old calendar.  
20 All the Councils met and this is the most recent  
21 calendar we have, that all the Regional Advisory  
22 Councils selected on those dates. This is the most  
23 recent calendar we have. And the one in the back is  
24 outdated.  
25  
26 MR. HEDLUND: How come they give it to  
27 us then.  
28  
29 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. What's the purpose  
30 of it being here if it's outdated. You know, we're the  
31 last Council to meet, so we're kind of the.....  
32  
33 MR. HEDLUND: We get what they give us.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We need to pick two  
36 dates, winter meeting and a fall meeting.  
37  
38 MR. O'HARA: Well, we never had a  
39 winter meeting in Dillingham, because they don't have  
40 any restaurants open.  
41  
42 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. We tried that,  
43 remember.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So you need to pick  
46 a date though. It's going to be one in Dillingham or  
47 Togiak, and one in Naknek or some place. King Salmon.  
48  
49 MR. O'HARA: It doesn't matter to me.  
50

1 MS. CHYTHLOOK: Winter meeting in  
2 Dillingham is not good, because we don't have  
3 restaurant open.  
4  
5 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah, that's kind of --  
6 the last time we had a meeting there, it was kind of  
7 rugged. Yeah, they couldn't cook for us.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You guys got to pick  
10 a date. We need to come up with a date now.  
11  
12 MS. CHYTHLOOK: March 24.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: March 24. Right  
15 before the window closes. You can double up with  
16 somebody on one week, right? You can have two meetings  
17 in one week. So we can't have any more than two. Like  
18 on March 10th you can't have a meeting.  
19  
20 MS. CHYTHLOOK: There's March 15th's  
21 open.  
22  
23 MR. ABRAHAM: March 15th. Ptarmigan  
24 window.  
25  
26 MR. HEDLUND: Wolf hunting.  
27  
28 MR. BOSKOFISKY: It would have be  
29 probably the 16th or.....  
30  
31 MR. MYERS: Yeah, it cuts into that.  
32  
33 MR. BOSKOFISKY: 16th and 17th, because  
34 I usually have to travel on a Monday. Sundays they  
35 don't fly in.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, these guys,  
38 all the Staff comes in Monday, too.  
39  
40 MR. O'HARA: What, you're going to have  
41 a meeting on St. Patrick's Day? You can't do that.  
42  
43 MR. HEDLUND: Only the Irishmen can't.  
44  
45 MS. CHYTHLOOK: March 5.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Friday.  
48  
49 MR. O'HARA: Right now, let's see.  
50 Friday. The Federal people need to come in on a Monday

1 and have a meeting on a Tuesday or come in on a  
2 Wednesday and have a meeting on a Thursday, go home on  
3 a Friday. I don't think it's fair unless we really  
4 have to do it to have the people from out of town be  
5 gone over the weekend. And I think that's just a  
6 complimentary type of thing to the Staff and people who  
7 spend a lot of time coming out here away from families  
8 and all.

9

10 MR. ABRAHAM: Dan. March 5. This size  
11 smelt waiting for you.

12

13 MR. HEDLUND: March 5.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: You're talking about  
16 humpies. You're not talking about smelts. March 5.

17

18 MR. ABRAHAM: That's king salmon. I'm  
19 trying to bribe you guys to going to Togiak. Man  
20 alive, no buyers here.

21

22 MR. BOSKOFISKY: What does would be.....

23

24 MR. HEDLUND: Here's a buyer, I'm ready  
25 to go.

26

27 MS. CHYTHLOOK: I'm ready to go.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Does anybody have  
30 any conflict that can't have a meeting on one of these  
31 dates?

32

33 MR. HEDLUND: I don't have a conflict.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So then it doesn't  
36 -- one day is as good as the next then.

37

38 MR. HEDLUND: Nobody has a conflict. I  
39 just polled the Board, nobody had a conflict.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. What about  
42 the next fall meeting, a year from now.

43

44 MR. O'HARA: We haven't settled the  
45 winter meeting yet.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, March 3rd,  
48 4th. How about next winter, next fall.

49

50 MS. CHYTHLOOK: March 2 and 3? Or 3

1 and 4?  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 3 and 4.  
4  
5 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Next fall meeting.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Next fall would be  
8 September or October.  
9  
10 MR. HEDLUND: Got to be in October.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Got to be in  
13 October.  
14  
15 MR. O'HARA: Way toward the end.  
16  
17 MR. HEDLUND: Moose hunting in  
18 September.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boy, we -- the  
21 window closes October 15th.  
22  
23 MR. HEDLUND: It does?  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.  
26  
27 MR. HEDLUND: Well, moose season is  
28 over by then so no problem.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, but look at  
31 your schedule right here. We can't have it. All  
32 booked. There's three already committees on that last  
33 week.  
34  
35 MR. HEDLUND: Well, it would depend on  
36 where you have it during moose season. If it's in  
37 Igiugig, it's no problem. We'll just take our boat.  
38  
39 MR. O'HARA: But we're going to have it  
40 where we have a restaurant.  
41  
42 MR. HEDLUND: Well, we've got Randy's.  
43  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You can have it end  
46 of August.  
47  
48 MR. BOSKOFISKY: What about 21st and  
49 22nd of September.  
50



1 MR. ABRAHAM: You could have it on  
2 second week of August, but not after that. Moose  
3 season starts.  
4  
5 MR. HEDLUND: That's what I was just  
6 telling him. Moose season.  
7  
8 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When are you done  
11 with moose?  
12  
13 MR. HEDLUND: Whenever I get one.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 22nd?  
16  
17 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah, that's done.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.  
20  
21 MR. O'HARA: So the 22nd -- 23rd and  
22 24th.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 23rd.  
25  
26 MR. HEDLUND: I think ours ends at the  
27 15th, ain't it?  
28  
29 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 22nd and 23rd.  
32  
33 MR. HEDLUND: Anytime after the 15th is  
34 fine.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Wednesday and  
37 Thursday.  
38  
39 MR. O'HARA: Okay. That's even better.  
40  
41 MS. CHYTHLOOK: This is the fall.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.  
44  
45 MR. O'HARA: Dillingham or here?  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Here. The next  
48 one's -- this spring is in Dillingham, Togiak.  
49  
50 MR. O'HARA: In September. Let's see,

1 they have restaurants open in September. Dillingham.  
2  
3 MR. HEDLUND: Dillingham should have.  
4  
5 MR. ABRAHAM: I make a motion we  
6 adjourn the meeting.  
7  
8 MR. HEDLUND: I'll second that.  
9  
10 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Takes care of that.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We're adjourned.  
13  
14 (Off record)  
15  
16 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA                    )  
  )ss.  
STATE OF ALASKA                                )

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the  
state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court  
Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 162  
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THAT the transcript is a true and correct  
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THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party  
interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 4th day of  
November 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Salena A. Hile  
Notary Public, State of Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 09/16/10