

1 BRISTOL BAY ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
3
4 PUBLIC MEETING
5

6
7 VOLUME I
8
9

10 Bristol Bay Native Association
11 Dillingham, Alaska
12 October 28, 2014
13
14
15

16 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:
17

18 Nanci Ann Morris Lyon, Acting Chair
19 Peter Abraham
20 Dan Dunaway
21 Thomas Hedlund
22 Daniel O'Hara
23 Richard Wilson
24
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26
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28 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike
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37 Recorded and transcribed by:
38

39 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
40 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
41 Anchorage, AK 99501
42 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Dillingham, Alaska - 10/28/2014)
4
5 (On record)
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Welcome
8 to our fall meeting 2014. I'd like to call the meeting
9 to order to begin with and, Donald, when you get a
10 chance you want to do roll call.
11
12 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
13 Donald Mike, OSM. Our roll call of the Bristol Bay
14 Council.
15
16 Mr. Peter Abraham.
17
18 MR. ABRAHAM: Here.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan O'Hara.
21
22 MR. O'HARA: Here.
23
24 MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Here.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Ms. Molly Chythlook.
29
30 MS. CHYTHLOOK: (No response)
31
32 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, Ms. Chythlook
33 couldn't make this meeting, she was at the hospital
34 being treated and she sends her best to this Council.
35
36 Mr. Alvin Boskofsky.
37
38 MR. BOSKOFSKY: (No response)
39
40 MR. MIKE: Madam, Chair, Mr.
41 Boskofsky's still recovering from his treatment over
42 the year so I requested that he not take any time to
43 come to this meeting and concentrate on getting well.
44
45 Mr. John Jones.
46
47 MR. JONES: (No response)
48
49 MR. MIKE: Mr. Jones was unable to
50 travel to this meeting and he stated he may be

1 participating via teleconference.
2
3 Mr. Dan Dunaway.
4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Mr. Larry Hill.
8
9 MR. HILL: (No response)
10
11 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, Mr. Hill
12 contacted me and stated that he will not be able to
13 attend this meeting, he had prior commitments for
14 medical appointments and I said that's fine with me.
15
16 Mr. Thomas Hedlund.
17
18 MR. HEDLUND: Here.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Mr. Richard Wilson.
21
22 MR. WILSON: Here.
23
24 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, you have six
25 members present, you have a quorum.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: At this time
28 could I ask Mr. O'Hara to lead in an invocation.
29
30 MR. O'HARA: (Invocation)
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'd
33 like to echo Dan's thanks as well and typical with most
34 of our meetings I would like everybody to go ahead and
35 go around the room and introduce yourselves and let
36 everybody know who you are and where you're from and I
37 thank you for being here. So, Andy, you want to start
38 us off.
39
40 MS. LARSON: We can't hear.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Hold on,
43 please.
44
45 MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, Wildlife
46 Biologist with Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.
47
48 MR. HAMON: And Troy Hamon, Resource
49 Manager for Katmai, Aniakchak and Alagnak with the
50 National Park Service in King Salmon.

1 MS. CHUNG: Hi, Diane Chung,
2 Superintendent for Katmai, Aniakchak and Alagnak out of
3 King Salmon.
4
5 MS. ALEXANDER: Good morning. Susan
6 Alexander, Refuge Manager, Alaska Peninsula and
7 Becharof National Wildlife Refuges in King Salmon.
8
9 MS. HENRY: Susanna Henry, I'm the
10 Refuge Manager at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.
11
12 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Good morning. I'm
13 Courtenay Gomez, Director of Natural Resources, Bristol
14 Bay Native Association in Dillingham.
15
16 MR. WALSH: I'm Pat Walsh, I'm a Lead
17 Biologist at Togiak Refuge.
18
19 DR. BROOKS: Good morning, everyone.
20 My name is Jeff Brooks, I'm here from the Office of
21 Subsistence Management where I work in Anchorage for
22 the program as a Social Scientist. I'm glad to be here
23 again. Thank you for asking us, thank the people in
24 Dillingham for inviting us. Looking forward to working
25 with you today.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 MS. HYER: Good morning. I'm Karen
30 Hyer, and I'm a Fish Biologist in the Office of
31 Subsistence Management.
32
33 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Subsistence
34 Division, Fish and Game, Dillingham.
35
36 MR. CHEN: Aloha, Council members. My
37 name is Glenn Chen, I'm a Subsistence Branch Chief for
38 the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: And there's
41 our birthday girl.
42
43 (Applause)
44
45 REPORTER: Can we have a break, please.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, let's
48 take a five minute break, see if we can get things
49 sorted out.
50

1 (Off record)
2
3 (On record)
4
5 MR. MIKE:Council members.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Thank
8 you, Donald. And I too would like to thank the folks
9 online who are participating. I appreciate you taking
10 the time to participate and that's one of the reasons
11 we're willing to wait and hold off here so you can be a
12 part of this meeting. It's really important that we
13 get as many people involved as possible and I know how
14 frustrating it can be being on teleconference, I've had
15 to do it a few times myself.
16
17 So you have my thanks as well.
18
19 Okay. I'd like -- we've had some other
20 people join us here in the audience and before we ask
21 those who are online with us to introduce themselves
22 could I have the folks who didn't previously introduce
23 yourselves in the audience please go ahead and stand up
24 and tell us your name and who you're with.
25
26 Thank you.
27
28 MS. CRAVER: And I'm Amy Craver with
29 Lake Clark Park.
30
31 MS. EVANS: I'm Sarah Evans with Fish
32 and Game Subsistence, Dillingham.
33
34 MR. SUMMERS: Clarence Summers with
35 National Park Service, Anchorage Regional Office.
36
37 MR. MUNSONOF: Craig Munsonof, public.
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
40 you.
41
42 MR. JOHNSON: Carl Johnson, Office of
43 Subsistence Management.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Is that
46 it?
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Could

1 we have the folks that are online with us please let us
2 know who you are and where you're from.

3
4 MS. LARSON: This is Dorothy Larson,
5 Administrator for the Curyung Tribal Council in
6 Dillingham.

7
8 MR. CRAWFORD: This is Drew Crawford
9 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
10 Anchorage.

11
12 MR. ANDERSON: This is Todd Anderson,
13 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. I'm the Chignik
14 Manager, but based in Kodiak.

15
16 MS. THOMASON: This is Heather Thomason
17 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Anchorage
18 Regional Office.

19
20 MS. LA VINE: Robin La Vine with the
21 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
24 you. Would you mind introducing yourself as well as
25 our recorder.

26
27 REPORTER: I'm Lynn from Computer
28 Matrix.

29
30 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
31 you. And I just want to recognize real quickly too our
32 Council members who aren't here and I certainly wish
33 they were, I wish Molly and Alvin and Larry all the
34 very best in their health and hopefully we'll be able
35 to have some of them being able to join us later on and
36 I appreciate everybody's patience with myself and
37 trying to run this meeting as efficiently as Molly
38 does. So thank you for that everyone as well.

39
40 Okay. So let's move on to the review
41 and adopt -- adoption of the agenda. Anybody -- would
42 anybody care to either make a motion or have some
43 discussion on additions that they would like to see on
44 the agenda?

45
46 Yes, Mr. O'Hara.

47
48 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair, I'd like to
49 add -- I make a motion that we approve the agenda with
50 adding under Regional, under new business, and it's FP

1 15-08 authorizing a seine on Chignik River and below
2 that I would like to ask -- add a bycatch of the
3 chinook in the Bering Sea and the Gulf for review in
4 the winter meeting. So you have a motion and an
5 amendment.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.

8

9 MR. O'HARA: Got to have a second yes.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, I'd
12 entertain a second.

13

14 MR. WILSON: Second that, Madam Chair.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr.
17 Wilson. Any other additions, changes, corrections,
18 amendments.

19

20 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. It's a little hard
21 to hear. So you added just one item, Dan, the review
22 of chinook bycatch?

23

24 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair, Dan speaking.
25 Yes. We're not looking for numbers or anything, but
26 it's -- the chinook and bycatch just Western Alaska all
27 the way through Southwest Alaska, even into the Gulf.
28 And you had two parts, you know, on the north side of
29 the Bering -- of the Alaska Peninsula all the way to
30 the Bering Sea and from Kodiak on down to southeast is
31 your Gulf fishery and both of them have bycatch. And I
32 think we're seeing some improvement on that, but I
33 guess the motion, Madam Chair, would be so that when we
34 come back in the winter meeting we'd have some input
35 from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the
36 North Pacific Fisheries Management Council on what the
37 bycatch is doing because it's a very important issue
38 that we've got to keep in front of us. So no -- we're
39 not asking for anybody for information on this meeting
40 because it would be unfair because they're just not
41 here, but if we could have that as a future agenda item
42 that would be very good.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

47

48 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you, Madam Chair.
49 Susan Alexander, U.S. Fish and Wildlife. I just wanted
50 to request adding two items under Agency Reports for

1 Fish and Wildlife. One being to talk briefly about the
2 proposed statewide rule.
3
4 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
5 other one?
6
7 MS. ALEXANDER: And the other to -- an
8 agency report for Alaska Peninsula and Becharof
9 National Wildlife Refuge.
10
11 Thank you.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you. Do
14 I have any objections to those.
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
21 Also under agency reports there's the LCC Program, the
22 Landscape Conservation folks would like to do a brief
23 report for this Council and give an update on their
24 program. So that would be under agency reports. We'd
25 probably title it LCC Landscape Conservation.
26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: It's on there.
28
29 MR. MIKE: Oh, it is. Okay. I'm
30 sorry, it is.
31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: It's under U.S Fish and
33 Wildlife.
34
35 MR. MIKE: I take that back, Madam
36 Chair, it's on the agenda. I'm sorry.
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Okay.
39 What are the wishes of the Council?
40
41 MR. O'HARA: Question.
42
43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: The question's
44 been called. All in favor signify by saying aye.
45
46 IN UNISON: Aye.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Opposed, same
49 sign.
50

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Hearing none
4 we pass as amended.
5
6 Okay. Let's go on to our meeting
7 minutes. Would anybody care to put those on the table
8 for review.
9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Move to adopt.
11
12 MR. O'HARA: I'll second it.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I have
15 a motion and second. Any discussion?
16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Madam Chair, I read over
18 these yesterday and they seemed pretty complete to me,
19 I didn't find any errors or omissions.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.
26
27 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Question's
30 been called. All in favor of approving the minutes
31 signify by saying aye.
32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Opposed, same
36 sign.
37
38 (No opposing votes)
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. We'll
41 pass that one as well.
42
43 Okay. We'll go on to reports. Donald,
44 do you want to launch this one.
45
46 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
47 Under reports this is an opportunity for any Council
48 members that wish to report to the Council and public
49 in their respective communities and then we have agency
50 reports -- I'm sorry, 805(c) report, that would be on

1 page 11 in your meeting book materials and the Federal
2 Subsistence Board annual report reply, also in your
3 meeting materials page 15, and the Chair's report.
4 Since Nanci attended the last Federal Subsistence Board
5 meeting back in April and the Board met on Resource --
6 I think it was Fisheries Monitoring Program, right, the
7 Partners Program so I think that's the meet -- meeting
8 that we -- you attended. So if any other members have
9 a report from their respective community or region,
10 this is an opportunity to give a report.

11

12 Thank you, Madam Chair.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

15

16 MR. O'HARA: As a member of the
17 Council, Dan, the minutes were good, I looked at them.
18 There's one area of the minutes that pertains to what
19 we need to do as Council members and that would be in
20 our last meeting at the Meshik River which is Chignik
21 -- I mean, Port Heiden area, the Council discussed the
22 need for a weir or counting process for salmon in the
23 Meshik River. Port Heiden residents expressed that
24 they are not meeting their subsistence needs.
25 Commercial fishing has affected the run outside of Port
26 Heiden. And so I think since that request has come to
27 this Council we need to look at that. When the area M
28 goes 13 miles above the mouth of the Meshik River
29 they're intercepting everything that goes on. And the
30 guides up in the Meshik I know have had a big reduction
31 on the use of recreational fish because they're just
32 declining. So it's something that we need to deal with
33 as a Council and of course, you know, the Meshik -- the
34 river at Levelock there when they put a counting tower
35 in they found that they had way more fish than they'd
36 plan, but they don't have the counting station at
37 Meshik and I think that would be a Federal thing. So
38 it's just something we should keep in mind for the
39 subsistence user and several people from the
40 Chignik/Port Heiden area has commented on that.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
43 you, Mr. O'Hara.

44

45 Mr. Dunaway.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madam Chair and Mr.
48 O'Hara. Yeah, I remember we talked about it, that
49 Meshik issue and I was down there and was real
50 concerned. Some years ago -- now after our meeting

1 spring I dug up some stuff because we'd made a pretty
2 hard push to try to get the State of Alaska involved.
3 And I went back -- I couldn't remember what we'd found.
4 The State of Alaska was pretty reluctant to -- they
5 felt there wasn't a particularly good weir site. Other
6 folks I've talked to thought there's probably something
7 workable. So I continue to be concerned about it and
8 it would be nice to continue to push to find some way
9 of looking into that issue because, yeah, I was hearing
10 complaints they weren't getting their kings and such.
11 And there's been some regulatory changes to the
12 commercial fishery much to my consternation and so I
13 continue to be concerned.

14

15 Madam, if I may I'll just continue with
16 the brief items that I had from my area here or is
17 there.....

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Please
20 continue.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. I just wanted to
23 -- a couple things. Frank Woods introduced himself
24 earlier, he's the Chair of the Advisory Committee for
25 the Nushagak. We haven't had a meeting yet this fall.
26 We submitted four draft proposals for game. There's
27 one about beaver trapping and allowing firearms and bow
28 and arrow to take beaver through the whole season
29 instead of just in the spring. We haven't met or we --
30 some of these we draft them up and then we think about
31 them and we may change our position before we go and we
32 haven't met to do that, but just to let people know
33 what we're doing in the area.

34

35 Also we have the proposal about buying
36 and selling of brown bear parts, skulls and claws, is
37 in the book.

38

39 Another one, probably a greater issue,
40 is Mulchatna caribou. There's a -- typically and this
41 is real subsistence oriented, the folks up in the
42 Nushagak River often request an extended season in late
43 March for caribou and it's rather controversial because
44 the herd is pretty low and there's concerns that it
45 could be excessive harvest so it goes back and forth
46 between what Stuyahok wants and what the game
47 biologists think is necessary, but we have a proposal
48 in there to discuss that.

49

50 And the last one we had is winter moose

1 hunt in GMU 17B and C with weather problems. And we
2 were looking to how it was -- the moose hunt was
3 handled in Game Unit 17A this last winter where frankly
4 I think the State and Federal and system worked really
5 well. They looked at the conditions, they extended the
6 season through the Federal system which facilitated a
7 hunt for those who needed it most without it getting
8 out of control. So now they're looking at a policy for
9 some flex on the season for 17B and C.

10

11 And I just wanted to bring those to
12 everybody's attention of what we're doing. I try to go
13 both ways since I'm on the Advisory Committee for the
14 State and this, keep everybody informed and
15 coordinated.

16

17 Thank you, Madam.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
20 Dan, I appreciate those efforts too as well.

21

22 Anybody else have any reports or
23 concerns they'd like to share with us.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well, I'll go
28 ahead then. And I did -- I went to the April meeting
29 in Anchorage, it was actually extended, it was -- it
30 was very involved, it was very eye-opening. And some
31 of the concerns that were addressed are ones that will
32 be ongoing and I think as a Council we should be aware
33 of and stay on top of as well including review of
34 criteria for subsistence areas. I think that's a
35 crucial one and critical as we've all recognized at our
36 last meeting dynamics change and they can change
37 rapidly in areas. And it doesn't necessarily mean that
38 our subsistence rights should be taken away from us and
39 how those are recognized vary from person to person and
40 area to area. And we'll hear further reports on that,
41 but it was a very good meeting, I felt like all areas
42 were well represented and well engaged and fully
43 prepared to bring their arguments to the table. So I
44 thank you for allowing me to go to that meeting and
45 just feel like there was -- I kind of wish everybody
46 could go to a meeting like that to get a sense of how
47 things are handled and as well as the frustrations that
48 our Chairs have to go through when they're there for
49 running up against brick walls or having to do end runs
50 around walls in order to get their goals accomplished.

1 But I thank you for that and hope that we'll all be
2 interested in staying up on top of some of these issues
3 until they're settled as well.

4

5 Okay. Anybody else have anything that
6 they'd like to add or, Donald, did I miss anything on
7 any of those reports?

8

9 MR. MIKE: No, Madam Chair.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
12 Everybody had a chance to read the replies, is there
13 any need for us to go over that any further to the
14 things that were submitted, I assume everybody read
15 that in their packet when they got it. Comments on
16 that?

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Okay.
21 Public and Tribal comments on non-agenda items. That's
22 going to be something that's open to the public every
23 day and do we -- are we going to have cards for people
24 to fill out, Donald, or is it going to be just on a
25 request basis?

26

27 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair, we have
28 blue testimony cards on the back table so if you wish
29 to testify on a fishery proposal or any other subject
30 matter we have the cards available for them to fill
31 out.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Great.
36 And that's -- and just to let the public know we're
37 glad you're here and we are looking forward to your
38 participation. But please remember we do have people
39 online so if you have something to add to our meeting
40 we welcome you to do that, but please do so at the mics
41 here so that the folks that are online with us can hear
42 it as well and will be able to know what's going on and
43 respond if they feel the need.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
48 right now we don't seem to have anybody that would like
49 to make any statements or bring anything forward.
50 Let's move on to our administrative business, old

1 business, CT update. Jeff, would you like to lead us
2 on that?

3

4 DR. BROOKS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
5 My name is Jeff Brooks for the record, Office of
6 Subsistence Management. I will be providing your
7 update today on the customary and traditional use
8 determination review process. Right now I'm going to
9 hand a handout to you. There's actually two. The
10 first one I'm going to review with you, that's the
11 briefing basically. The second one is information to
12 share with you. The second handout shows a bit of a
13 comparison between the 804 process from ANILCA and the
14 customary and traditional use determination process
15 which is also in Federal regulations, but is not in
16 ANILCA. That's for your information, it's not from
17 your region, it's an example from the North Slope, but
18 it shows the difference between the two processes. And
19 while I'm on that and this is more -- additional
20 information that I shared with you at your last meeting
21 in Naknek. On page 18 of the RAC handbook -- meeting
22 materials, there is also a comparison of 804 analysis
23 and customary and traditional use determination.

24

25 Again I'd like to thank you for having
26 the meeting and for -- the folks in Dillingham for
27 having us here and the folks at BBNA for having us at
28 their facility. My name is Jeff Brooks, I'm coming to
29 you from Anchorage where I live with my family, two
30 children and my wife, and I've been with the U.S. Fish
31 and Wildlife Service in Anchorage since March of 2008.
32 I started with Refuges in their Planning Division and
33 recently about 20 months ago or so I was reassigned to
34 the Office of Subsistence Management.

35

36 This briefing on customary and
37 traditional use determinations is not an action item,
38 it's an update. And the presentation is to tell you
39 where the Federal Subsistence Management Program is in
40 its review of the customary and traditional use
41 determination process.

42

43 In 2010 the Secretary of the Interior
44 asked the Federal Subsistence Board to review with
45 Regional Advisory Council input the customary and
46 traditional use determination process and to present
47 recommendations for regulatory changes. In 2011 all 10
48 Regional Advisory Councils reviewed the process. Nine
49 of the Councils recommended no change to the process.
50 The Southeast Council asked the other nine Councils to

1 review this customary and traditional use determination
2 process again which they did in 2013 and '14. There
3 are three Councils that are still in the review
4 process, collecting more information from Tribal
5 Councils and their communities. These Councils have
6 asked the Office of Subsistence Management and their
7 Tribal Councils for assistance in the review process.
8 So it's still in the process. And the three Councils
9 that are working yet are yours, the Bristol Bay, the
10 North Slope Regional Advisory Council and the Northwest
11 Arctic Regional Advisory Council.

12

13 At the winter meeting in 2014 the
14 Southeast Council submitted a formal proposal to the
15 Federal Subsistence Board to make changes to the
16 customary and traditional use determination process.
17 The rhetoric begins on page 19 of the Council book.
18 And for those of you here as members and online and in
19 the audience, if you have the book in front of you if
20 you would turn to page 19, the last full paragraph at
21 the bottom that starts with enclosed is the Council's
22 background paper. That paragraph summarizes in four
23 points the Southeast Council's proposal. One, Councils
24 would have the autonomy to recommend customary and
25 traditional use determinations specific to their
26 region; two, any restrictions for the taking of fish
27 and wildlife shall be implemented using the criteria
28 established in ANILCA 804; three, deference on
29 customary and traditional use determination
30 recommendations would be given to the applicable
31 Regional Advisory Council; four, the current eight
32 factors considered for making customary and traditional
33 use determinations would be eliminated. That sums up
34 the proposal and later on in the letter you can read
35 actually the regulatory language that is being
36 proposed, it's on page 23.

37

38 So where are we right now. In the --
39 in winter of 2005 the staff at OSM is planning to
40 develop and present and analysis of the Southeast
41 Council's proposal for all 10 Councils for their review
42 and recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board.
43 The Federal Subsistence Board may then decide to make a
44 recommendation to the Secretary of Interior and the
45 Secretary of Agriculture. The first handout that I
46 provided you has a very abbreviated timeline in that
47 table. Basically this coming spring, February through
48 March, the Regional Advisory Councils will meet and
49 make recommendations on the Southeast Alaska Council's
50 proposal to change customary and traditional use

1 determination process. And then on a date to be
2 determined the Federal Subsistence Board will meet and
3 may make a recommendation on the proposal to the
4 Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture.

5
6 That's my update for you on this topic.

7
8 Thank you.

9
10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
11 you, Jeff. Any questions from the Council.

12
13 Go ahead, Donald. Oh, Dan, go ahead.

14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I feel like I'm
16 beginning to wake up from the summer and fall
17 activities of -- I'm like how -- where were we. But
18 were -- we were trying to -- weren't we trying to make
19 an effort to find out more from villages, Village
20 Councils, Tribal Councils, in the area and did anything
21 come out of soliciting that information?

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Donald.

24
25 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. If
26 you recall at the last winter meeting the Council
27 requested that we draft a letter to the communities
28 surrounding Bristol Bay and request their input on the
29 C&T use determination and we work with BBNA in trying
30 to solicit comments. And that's still an ongoing
31 effort, but I'll request that Courtenay Carty do a
32 presentation on that, give an update on that issue.
33 And the Lake Clark Subsistence Resource Commission I
34 requested they put this agenda item on their agenda and
35 they discussed the C&T use determination and they did
36 not take any formal action and it was basically status
37 quo on the C&T use determination. And I don't know if
38 the Aniak's I guess AC has met on this issue so, but
39 that's -- and I've been working with the State of
40 Alaska, the State Board's second support and they
41 currently do not have a coordinator for the ACs in
42 Bristol Bay and they had not -- did not have a chance
43 to meet and I requested they put this C&T use
44 determination on their agenda. But they're still
45 waiting on hiring a coordinator position. And I worked
46 with the Chair for Nushagak AC in trying to get this
47 issue on their agenda.

48
49 And that's my update, Madam Chair.
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you, Donald. It sounds like you've reached out and
3 made some serious efforts.

4
5 Courtenay, could you share with us what
6 your results have been?

7
8 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Sure, Madam Chairman.
9 For the record my name is still Courtenay Gomez, but
10 I'm in the process of changing it back to Courtenay
11 Carty.

12
13 Dated October 1st before the RAC is a
14 copy of a letter in response to the letter that you
15 guys sent us in April. I'll just open with the third
16 paragraph of that letter for the people that don't have
17 the information in front of them. In reviewing the
18 information provided and working to understand this
19 issue more in depth over the past few months it is
20 obvious that the current criteria used for CT
21 determinations is much more restrictive than the
22 language in section 804 of ANILCA. As such we in BBNA
23 agree with the Southeast Subsistence Regional Advisory
24 Council statement that the current process quote,
25 unnecessarily restricts subsistence users, end quote.
26 BBNA agrees with the Bristol Bay RAC statement that the
27 Federal Subsistence Board should give deference to the
28 Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory Council when
29 identifying priorities for subsistence users in Bristol
30 Bay. As section 804 criteria is only applied in times
31 of shortage we feel it is necessary to adhere to the
32 original language of ANILCA when making -- needing to
33 make such determination.

34
35 And in summary in regards to the
36 outreach efforts that we've been taking on, trying to
37 work with our Tribal communities on the CT
38 determination process, basically long story short we
39 are hoping to get most of this work done for you prior
40 to the fall RAC meeting, but as everyone here in this
41 room knows we were thrown into the EPA 404(c)
42 regulatory process. Thankfully we were able to work
43 that issue very well within our region and thank you
44 for all of your support in that in your communities
45 also. As such we've only met with two Tribal Councils
46 to date in regards to CT, Kokhanok Tribal Council and
47 the Curyung Tribal Council in Dillingham. I believe,
48 Dorothy, their administrator is on the line and may
49 want to provide some input. Basically where we're at
50 with working with those two communities is that

1 Kokhanok will provide written testimony in regards to
2 this proposal and I believe that Curyung will also.
3 And January 15 we have a work session that we're
4 scheduling to work with them. In regards to the other
5 29 Federally recognized Tribes in the Bristol Bay
6 region, we're going to be working with them throughout
7 this fall season and hopefully have public comments for
8 the winter meeting and hopefully able to get a lot of
9 our Tribal Council members or at least presidents to
10 come in and speak to the record either telephonically
11 or in person regarding the determination process.

12

13 That's my update. Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Any
16 questions for Courtenay.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
21 Courtenay. Okay. I would ask if Dorothy had a brief
22 report she might want to share with us if she's still
23 online to feel free to do so.

24

25 MS. LARSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
26 Our Council just started looking at both the needs
27 assessment that was provided by Bristol Bay. There's
28 several issues that we were concerned that -- we felt
29 that of course our Tribes and our regional nonprofit
30 agencies need to work diligently in co-management of
31 all of our renewable resources. We also felt that
32 there should be conservation forms for subsistence use.
33 And we need to do several studies, for instance,
34 whitefish, how they're used, what their population is,
35 where they travel to and from and look at plants and
36 berries and how they're used. And, I mean, a lot of
37 times people from Dillingham end up going to Bethel to
38 pick salmon berries because we don't get many of them
39 here. And so there is that and is there something we
40 can do to help those renewable resources to be more
41 populated in our area. And they're also concerned
42 about invasive plants. We see -- we have been seeing
43 more and more of that all over our region. And also
44 want to put a definite stop to wanton waste and maybe
45 work with the local guide shops while they're out here
46 to make sure the limit gets to people who can use it if
47 they're not going to and are going to set up a date
48 with BBNA Natural Resources Department to further work
49 in these areas.

50

1 Thank you very much.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
4 Dorothy. Anybody have any questions for Dorothy.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you
9 again. That was a very thorough and timing was
10 appreciated on that.
11
12 MS. LARSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. So
15 anybody -- this -- again this isn't an action item,
16 correct, is that what you said, Jeff?
17
18 DR. BROOKS: Madam Chair, Jeff Brooks
19 for the record. It's not an action item.
20
21 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. And we
22 spent a lot of time discussing this in April and I
23 think it was all very valuable discussion and I think
24 it's going to be ongoing for a while it looks like.
25 I'm glad to see it doesn't appear to be rushed on your
26 timeline and I'm glad to see that because I think it
27 deserves a lot of thoughtful consideration and input
28 from as many people as we can get.
29
30 Does anybody here have any thoughts or
31 comments? Please.
32
33 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair, just a
34 thought. You know, we have a liaison person that's
35 supposed to connect us to the communities, to -- you
36 know, to the Federal side of stuff and that's Jean
37 Gamache, I believe. Is this something that fits in her
38 category, I mean, helping to try to align communities
39 or get information, you know, compiled for us for our
40 spring meeting, you know, we got what, 29 other
41 communities that could be -- but, I don't know what --
42 you know, I haven't heard anything from her lately and
43 I just -- it would be nice to see where she's connected
44 with all this if at all.
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Donald, can I
47 defer to you for that?
48
49 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. To
50 answer Mr. Wilson's questions, I mean, I'll -- OSM can

1 provide that information with the assistance of our
2 staff in our office. And we probably can work with the
3 other agencies and try to answer your request and to
4 get that information together for this Council.

5

6 Got anything to add, Jeff.

7

8 DR. BROOKS: Thank you for your
9 question, Richard. Jeff Brooks for the record. Yeah,
10 the -- you know, that is the job of the staff at OSM.
11 Now you do have a liaison with the Park Service and I'm
12 sure that they could speak to that very well.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Courtenay, go
17 ahead.

18

19 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Just for the record I
20 wanted to state that that was one of the concerns of
21 BBNA as well in taking on -- working on this issue.
22 Although BBNA is very thankful for the RAC giving us
23 that recognition that you are confident in us and our
24 abilities to provide these services, we also didn't
25 want to I guess take away from the responsibility of
26 the Federal government for providing Tribal
27 consultation on a government to government relationship
28 with our Tribal communities. And we would definitely
29 like to see the liaison position filled and this be
30 taken quite seriously with all the Tribal communities
31 that OSM is working with and done properly through
32 consultation. We would of course like to work side by
33 side with OSM as we do on so many different issues in
34 providing these services and making sure that the
35 communities have the right level of involvement that
36 they should in this process.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
41 you again, Courtenay. I just would make a comment too
42 that I -- from what I have seen it seems to be like the
43 Tribal communities within our area tend to work more
44 freely and willingly with -- through BBNA I guess I
45 should say instead of with, but in association with the
46 OSM. And I think it would be important to maintain
47 that position in order to keep those channels of
48 communication as open as possible so they don't have to
49 be newly established for -- through another
50 organization whenever possible. And I suppose if some

1 of the entities feel more comfortable going directly to
2 them that would be another thing, but I certainly
3 appreciate your efforts and encourage you to continue
4 with them.

5

6 Any other thoughts from anybody?

7

8 (No comments)

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: This -- you
11 know, I just -- having been fortunate enough to be the
12 one at the April meeting this is incredibly important
13 and we are getting from the other Councils around the
14 state incredibly important and valid information
15 including, you know, the input that I carried forth
16 from our Council. And I just think all of us need to
17 stay really up to date on this and involved to make
18 sure that it's done right this time or as close to
19 right as we can make it.

20

21 Mr. Dunaway.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madam Chair and I
24 can maybe direct this to a number of folks. When I was
25 reading through this yesterday one thing popped into my
26 mind that I'm wondering if you're kind of keeping on --
27 a view of is -- especially when I was reading the part
28 about each region having autonomy to recommend C&T use
29 determinations specific to that region. And from my
30 time of sitting in on some of those joint
31 Southeast/Southcentral meetings I'm aware that we're --
32 we -- I feel like we're more of an island out here,
33 don't -- border issues aren't too critical, but I'm
34 aware of some of those other places how if you have --
35 one region has one system and the adjoining one has a
36 different, is there going to be -- keep in mind a way
37 to avoid conflicts, competition, so some system of
38 resolving if we have differences because there's
39 overlap or very near overlap and that's one thing that
40 I hope we keep in mind as we move forward.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, and I'm
45 going to even take a jab at this just having been at
46 the statewide meeting. I think it's really important
47 that we have that on record and I -- and that it's
48 brought to the table. It wasn't necessarily noted in
49 the final notes although it -- we did touch on the
50 fringes of that and we recognized the fact that there

1 were going to be times that we were going to have to
2 come together to make decisions as Councils in area.
3 But it seemed to me like the final consensus was that
4 each of us know our regions best and that we are the
5 most qualified to be able to speak for our regions and
6 to look out for the needs of our regions. We have so
7 few things in common with Southcentral or Southeast
8 that for us to feel their impact or be burdened by some
9 of the regulatory language that's probably going to be
10 necessary for them really probably isn't and should be
11 a part of our region. So it was recognized, it wasn't
12 noted so much in the notes so I appreciate you bringing
13 that forward. But I do -- and it is something that I
14 think needs to be addressed because we want a complete
15 package, not a partial package.

16

17 Did you have anything else that you'd
18 like to add? Go ahead.

19

20 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
21 I wanted to respond to what Council member Dunaway was
22 saying. The regulations currently.....

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Please
25 identify yourself, Mr. Johnson.

26

27 MR. JOHNSON: Carl Johnson for the
28 record, Office of Subsistence Management. The
29 regulations currently recognize the opportunity for the
30 Federal Subsistence Board to issue region by region
31 regulations. A good example of how that currently
32 works is customary trade. We do have some areas that
33 had instituted a dollar cap on the amount of cash that
34 can be exchanged for fish or other parts in the process
35 of customary trade. And I think what the Southeast is
36 trying to reach for here is a situation where we don't
37 have one statewide model that is forced on all the
38 regions especially in parts where it's not going to
39 work. And I would think that in the situation
40 discussed there, the scenario where you have bordering
41 regions like Southeast and Southcentral, those Council
42 members are pretty in tune to what might conflict
43 between the two regions and as long as we keep
44 providing opportunities for these Councils to
45 communicate with each other through the staff and
46 sometimes even jointly in session, then I imagine that
47 they'll be cognizant of those potential conflicts and,
48 you know, come up with a system that will work side by
49 side, regional basis whereas other regions that are
50 really off on their own as you were saying for

1 yourselves, you know, that may not be as much of an
2 issue.

3

4 Thank you, Madam Chair.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

7 Please, Mr. O'Hara.

8

9 MR. O'HARA: Yes, ma'am. Donald, what
10 was -- can you give us a summary of what we have for
11 our C&T, we're not on record -- we're not like
12 Southeast where we come out with the statement saying,
13 you know, certain things so could you refresh our
14 memory of where we're at with this particular
15 information right now?

16

17 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. O'Hara.
18 Thank you, Madam Chair. I apologize, Madam Chair. At
19 our last meeting the Council discussed the CT use
20 determination and the Council wanted a -- stated in
21 some -- they stated that they'd rather have a C&T just
22 for Bristol Bay and not a blanket C&T use
23 determination. And that's the most I can recall, but
24 at our winter meeting I can provide a more in depth
25 summary for what the Council discussed at this last
26 winter meeting and at this Council meeting. So I'll
27 have a narrative for you to consider at our winter
28 meeting.

29

30 Thank you, Madam Chair.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Does that
33 answer your question?

34

35 MR. O'HARA: Well, not very well
36 because couldn't hear him, but in other words I think
37 what we were looking at is we would like to deal with
38 our issues region by region within our region and,
39 yeah. And so I'll give an example of flying for Penair
40 and the lady from Dillingham went down to Pilot Point
41 and spent five days down there and she -- and I picked
42 her up and two other passengers and the back end of
43 that airplane was completely loaded with berries
44 because that's the only place that had berries and
45 nobody complained about the fact that she came down
46 there for five days and came back to Dillingham with a
47 half of Cherokee full of berries. Go to Illiamna years
48 ago before this Council and Title VIII was ever heard
49 of which is not a bad thing, people came to Illiamna
50 with berry picking type stuff, you know, in the handle.

1 And the people in Illiamna said, no, you can't do that
2 anymore because as they picked the berries it
3 dislocated the roots and, you know, berries died off.
4 So everything has to be dealt with I think on a region
5 by region basis and, you know, we overlook the fact
6 that we had 30 percent more fish this year than we had
7 planned on and everybody went away pretty happy.
8 That's not a bad thing to happen, we're not going to
9 complain about that, but I think on a -- probably on a
10 subsistence issue is going to be dealing with the
11 Federal people and various departments that they have,
12 whether it's the Refuge or the Park Reserve and I think
13 our determination that C&T at that level as we engage
14 with this conversation is going to be I think a very,
15 very important part of what this Council is going to do
16 defining our C&T.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, and I
21 also remember, Dan, just from my memory of our last
22 winter meeting to refresh it a little bit in your mind
23 as well is we also had discussions about the numbers
24 and how the numbers didn't always reflect because, you
25 know, we have -- we have fluctuations in villages where
26 they're coming into the hub villages when things get
27 expensive out in the outer villages and how that should
28 not restrict subsistence uses so that set, hard numbers
29 aren't always a good telltale sign of whether or not
30 qualification should be determined for an area. I
31 remember having that discussion as well. And I also
32 had brought up at the statewide meeting the fact that I
33 still feel that I -- I think that the burden should
34 actually be put on the government to tell us why we
35 shouldn't any longer be allowed to subsist if we've
36 been determined a subsistence area then it's up to them
37 to justify why it should be taken away from us rather
38 than us having to justify our determination all the
39 time.

40

41 So those were some of the other things
42 I remembered from our winter meeting. I'm sure there's
43 several others.

44

45 Donald, go ahead.

46

47 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. At
48 our winter meeting in Naknek the Council sent a letter
49 out to solicit comments from the Tribes and other
50 agencies and in the letter the Council stated that we

1 have agreed that whatever process is used the Bristol
2 Bay Council should be given deference by the Federal
3 Subsistence Board for the Bristol Bay region when
4 identifying priorities for subsistence users.

5

6 Thank you, Madam Chair.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.

9 So go ahead.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: You know, we said this in
12 meetings before, but we're not wearing the same suit of
13 clothes we wore 10 years ago and things are going to be
14 changing. For instance one particular guide on the
15 Cinder and all the way down to Moore (ph), Cinder River
16 and places like that harvested 14 moose and not one of
17 those animals were taken by the people who got their
18 moose. And when he took -- he took his single engine
19 Otter or Beaver and flew to every village with moose
20 meat, good moose meat. I came in there one day with
21 Penair and the guy said hey, we had eight moose, we got
22 still one hanging in the -- out there in the shed, do
23 you want it. I said I'll be back here with my Cherokee
24 tonight. I went back and got eight or 900 pounds of
25 good meat. And nobody had killed very many moose in
26 Anchor, we took it back there and distributed it to
27 everyone. And this year some of the villages and this
28 is how you're going to change the C&T, did not even
29 have to go out hunting because the guides brought so
30 much meat in out there. Is that a turnaround on C&T
31 that you ever saw in your life. Yeah, and then of
32 course, you know -- yeah, that -- that's probably good
33 enough. But so I think, Donald, thank you for that
34 summary because that -- it's a changing situation and I
35 think maybe Southeast has it in black and white, but I
36 think we're going to go on as -- as things come up in
37 our region this Council is going to have to be up to
38 date on making our changes with the BBNA and other
39 entities.

40

41 Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No, thank you,
44 Mr. O'Hara. I think that those are items well noted.
45 I think, you know, it is going to be continuing flux
46 for each area and I don't think a one size fits all is
47 going to work because we're going to have, you know,
48 different operations and acceptance and rules of
49 engagement than other areas are. So I do think it's
50 very important that as Advisory Councils for our areas

1 that we are current and listened to and that we work
2 very closely with our BBNA and other Tribal governments
3 in the area to get it right for us and that that needs
4 to be recognized.

5
6 Anybody else want to jump in on this
7 discussion or thoughts that they'd like to put on the
8 table or throw out there?

9
10 MS. LARSON: Madam Chair.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, go ahead.

13
14 MS. LARSON: This is Dorothy Larson at
15 the Curyung Tribal Council. You know, traditionally
16 people like for instance in Dillingham on the river
17 system would have a lot of fish and we would share and
18 trade with people in Togiak who have a lot of seal. So
19 when you're planning these things and trying to put
20 limits on our subsistence activities for conservation
21 purposes we need to keep in mind that we can still --
22 we still need to be able to have the opportunity to
23 share and trade with other communities and move our
24 resources that are very dominant in one area to another
25 area and vice versa.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
30 you, Dorothy. I think that that is very important.

31
32 Anybody else?

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you much
37 for that discussion I think that was worthwhile and
38 well noted and we will look forward to having on the
39 agenda at our winter meeting if it's the Council's
40 agreement and update again on the consultation with the
41 Tribes in the area as well as anything that we've heard
42 from other Councils across the state. Is that okay to
43 request that and, Donald, can you.....

44
45 MR. MIKE: Yeah, that's fine.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Great.
48 Thank you. And I believe you're next on the agenda
49 too, Jeff, do you want to continue?
50

1 DR. BROOKS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
2 Jeff Brooks for the record. The next item is the rural
3 determination process. And this is an update as well,
4 I'm not asking you to take action.

5
6 Basically and since you were at the
7 meeting in Anchorage, Madam Chair, you will remember
8 that we presented a lot of information to the Board
9 about what we heard from the public. I believe it was
10 in January of 2013 the public was started -- was asked
11 to provide input. And if you turn to in your RAC books
12 the rural reconstruction on page 26, it's rather long,
13 but if you look at pages 37 through 40 you'll see a
14 summary of the input in a narrative form that we've
15 wrote up in summary fashion from the various groups and
16 that includes both formal government to government
17 consultation and the public process and that includes
18 some summaries from the Regional Advisory Councils.
19 And then on page 42 there's a full synthesis that went
20 with that briefing, it's called Appendix A, that shows
21 what we heard from the public, during the public
22 process. And that basically -- there was a Federal
23 Register notice put out that asked the public to
24 respond to several points that the Federal Subsistence
25 Board was interested in learning about, that they used
26 to make rural determinations.

27
28 At that meeting the Board decided that
29 they would recommend some language to the Secretaries
30 and the -- where the briefing actually starts -- I told
31 you page 26 and that -- that is correct, but there's a
32 letter sent to the Secretaries I believe in August,
33 August 15th, and it is putting forth a proposal from
34 the Board which is found in summary fashion on page 27.
35 So basically this is what they put before the
36 Secretaries right now. It says the Board will be
37 recommending to the Secretaries to make the following
38 change in Secretary regulations. The Board shall
39 determine which areas or communities in Alaska are non-
40 rural, all other communities and areas are therefore
41 rural. A lot of the -- what they heard from the public
42 were things like the population thresholds don't work,
43 there are certain rural characteristics that you're
44 using that don't work, we'd like to see others, the
45 rural characteristics of a community are more important
46 than the population, we do not like the 10 year review
47 process. So based on these things the Board is putting
48 forth this proposal or this recommendation and also it
49 would eliminate from Secretary regulation some specific
50 criteria which have been previously relied upon by the

1 Board in making these rural determinations, for example
2 population thresholds, certain rural characteristics
3 and community aggregation. The aggregation of
4 communities or lumping them together based on certain
5 criteria and characteristics was frowned upon by the
6 public and many others. That is one thing that will
7 have to be reconsidered. But after that summary
8 there's a list of next steps and the one at the bottom
9 I'll draw your attention to at the bottom of page 27.
10 It says that if no new rule making is completed by
11 March 1st, 2017 specifying rule/non-rural
12 determinations then the 2007 rule will become
13 enforceable.

14

15 So basically right now we're at the
16 stage of a recommendation has been put forward to the
17 Secretaries and there is going to have to be another
18 rule -- a full-blown rule making process, a Federal
19 rule making process which will involve more rounds of
20 public involvement and of course meetings with the
21 Regional Advisory Councils.

22

23 That's the update that I have for you
24 now on rural. Thank you.

25

26 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
29 you, Mr. Brooks. And I apologize for my fuzzy memory,
30 I was combining that with our C&T use when I was
31 reviewing for your benefit.

32

33 Mr. O'Hara, did you have a comment?

34

35 MR. O'HARA: Yes. So March of 2015 is
36 the deadline, that last -- yeah, 2017, I'm sorry. So I
37 guess, Madam Chair, our Coordinator over there, we're
38 going to have a meeting before that; is that right?

39

40 DR. BROOKS: Mr. O'Hara, this is Jeff
41 Brooks for the record. Thank you for your question.
42 Yes, there will be probably more than one meeting
43 between now and March, 2017. Right now the regulations
44 are on the books, the 2007 rule, and that will be
45 enforceable by March 1, 2017 if a new rule is not made
46 and completed. So we have -- it takes times to do
47 these and there'll be a full-blown round of rule making
48 process which involves public involvement, Federal
49 Register notice or two and your regular Regional
50 Advisory Council meetings will have this on the agenda.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Donald.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair. Yeah, the
4 Bristol Bay Council will be meeting in the winter in
5 Naknek on February 24 and 25 and this will be on our
6 agenda also.
7
8 Thank you, Madam Chair.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
11 Any other comments?
12
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Madam Chair.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Dan.
16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Madam
18 Chair. I want to commend the folks that organized all
19 this stuff because there's an awful lot here and
20 frankly I don't think I've fully digested it yet, but
21 this was really helpful. And, yeah, I'm still -- my
22 thinking's evolving on it. Does this go -- our
23 discussion go all the way to these alternatives on page
24 51 or are we not there yet in this discussion?
25
26 DR. BROOKS: Thank you, Dan, for the
27 question. This is Jeff Brooks for the record. Through
28 the Chair. Those alternatives were part of the
29 briefing to the Board. I'll explain to you a little
30 bit more about the process. I was actually the lead
31 analyst on the public comment synthesis and I presented
32 that at three separate meetings. We put together a
33 large data base of comments and then I summarized them
34 and I worked with some folks at the office to put
35 together the synthesis particularly those pie charts
36 that you see, I worked on those with Ms. Karen Hyer.
37 And I presented this three time to the Inter-Agency
38 Staff Committee in Anchorage and at their final meeting
39 they decided to put together these four alternatives --
40 there's actually six, it continues to page 51 and 52,
41 those were put together by the Inter-Agency Staff
42 Committee after hearing the results of the public
43 comments analysis. Those were put forth to the Board
44 at the meeting in April and the Board did not
45 specifically choose one of those six alternatives, they
46 came up with a new one, sort of their own alternative.
47 But that was there just for basically discussion and to
48 give the Board something to work with. So that part of
49 it I believe -- I don't believe you will be seeing
50 these presented again as full alternatives to be chosen

1 amongst, but parts of them could play into the --
2 whatever the final rule is, whatever the final
3 regulations are.

4

5 Does that answer your question?

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: Madam Chair.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, go ahead,
10 Mr. Dunaway.

11

12 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, okay. That helps
13 me understand because looking through some of the
14 comments and summaries and stuff I'm still trying to
15 sort out what I think about it and as a trained
16 biologist I still think of carrying capacities and
17 population levels and consumption levels. And there's
18 a point where regardless of what labels and divisions
19 and everything else you do there's only so many fish,
20 berries, game and typically too many people and
21 figuring out how to sort it out is a trick. So I'm
22 still going to try to look at it more. There were
23 things that -- I mean, there's times where regardless
24 whether you have a single community of X population or
25 seven or eight or nine or two communities close by that
26 the net harvesting power comes into affect. And so
27 somehow that's got to be recognized or maybe it can be
28 done on an area by area basis depending on how they use
29 stuff and so on.

30

31 There's requests in different wordings
32 for like rural determination for all Tribal members.
33 Another one requested Native preference. Some of this
34 stuff gets pretty darn awkward when there's other folks
35 who are not Tribal members and yet have had a long
36 family history of subsistence use. Or as I -- my sons
37 finally are enrolled in their Tribe, but what if I all
38 of a sudden show up in their village with our family,
39 kapow, there's all kinds of repercussions. Plus as I
40 track some of the politics nationwide I'm discovering
41 that while there's controversies I know in the Lower 48
42 where Tribal members can be -- you can be a Tribe -- in
43 the Tribe one day and out the next and some of this can
44 get very dicey, I've heard it in terms of casinos in
45 the Lower 48 where one family basically excommunicates
46 the rest of the Tribe or at least that's what it sounds
47 like when I listen to the radio programs. So some of
48 this stuff I really want to approach very cautiously.
49 I would hate to see legitimate subsistence users be
50 really vulnerable to rather whimsical regulation. And

1 that -- and I wanted to say that on the record here.

2

3 And I recognize that different places
4 in like Bethel say has allowed subsistence use and they
5 seem to be able to support a lot though we're facing
6 problems with salmon over there. But I think the fact
7 remains places, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Bethel, at some
8 point are going to have to recognize there's again only
9 so many resources and they can only go around so far.
10 It looks to me like and that's why I asked about these
11 alternatives, when I read through those it seemed like
12 it took those concerns into consideration and I hope
13 that remains the case.

14

15 Another comment about spiritual.
16 You're getting into the dicey area there to say that
17 who's to -- who's to judge each individual out there
18 taking the resource, what their spiritual connection
19 is. And yet when I see this word pop up it sounds like
20 they want to make a -- draw a line somewhere. And
21 again I caution that what -- I don't want to presume
22 what somebody else's spiritual connection to the
23 resource is.

24

25 Those are the main points I want to
26 make. I found it helpful to see this alternative
27 format again maybe because I've grown up with it
28 through my bureaucratic connections in the past. And
29 again thanks for all the hard work and I'll be hear to
30 track this.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, Dan,
35 just one point after having been to that statewide
36 meeting. I -- I'm a little bit disappointed, I should
37 -- I wish we would have had maybe some notes from the
38 statewide meeting because we as Council members and the
39 Board itself, the statewide Board, literally picked
40 from four different of these proposals and kind of put
41 one preferred alternative together, but didn't actually
42 include any one of these as Jeff represented already
43 and I kind of wish we had that here because I actually
44 thought it was a fairly good one. I'm not sure what
45 happened to it, I'm sure it's in the notes, but I'm
46 sorry it's not here for your review.

47

48 Jeff or Carl, go ahead please, add.....

49

50 DR. BROOKS: Okay. Thank you, Madam

1 Chair. Jeff Brooks. I think that their -- the
2 alternative that they came up with at least that went
3 to the Secretary, the recommendation, is as I had
4 showed you and read to you in the book. And it's -- in
5 a nutshell they are going to make non-rural
6 determinations and then by default everybody else is
7 going to be rural.

8

9 I'm going to touch on one of Mr.
10 Dunaway's concerns and that is the need to, you know,
11 limit subsistence take in certain situations and that
12 there's only so many resources to go around. We have
13 these different layers of regulations that determine
14 who has a subsistence priority and the first one is
15 whether you're a rural resident of the state or not.
16 And then there's also the customary and traditional use
17 determinations. And then in times of conservation
18 concern, shortages issues, we have the 804 criteria in
19 ANILCA that are used to make a determination among --
20 of all the qualified subsistence harvesters for a
21 certain resource in a certain place in times of
22 conservation concern or shortage or something else the
23 804 process is used to determine whom among those
24 qualified can still harvest from that population. So
25 that -- your concerns would be addressed that way.

26

27 Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
30 Jeff. Carl, did you have something to add?

31

32 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Madam Chair. Thank
33 you. Carl Johnson, Office of Subsistence Management.
34 Couple of points. First I think what Madam Chair was
35 remembering was when the Board adopted this proposed
36 regulatory language they also had a statement on the
37 record of what their intent would be implementing that
38 going forward if the Secretaries agreed. And so the
39 Board talked a little bit about some of the things that
40 they had intent -- they would intend to do in the
41 future, one of which would be eliminating the 10 year
42 review, providing a strong role for the Regional
43 Advisory Councils to either initiate or process
44 recommendations for changes to non-rural or rural
45 status. So that may be the other component in your
46 memory.

47

48 And then also for Council member
49 Dunaway's concern about some things that were
50 suggested, the spirituality or the preference for

1 Tribal members, you know, one of the things we did is
2 we took every comment that came in regardless of what
3 it was, you know, across the board and everything and
4 we do actually have on a website if anybody ever wanted
5 to take the time, we have the full data base of actual
6 public comments as they came in available on our
7 website. But even with those things said there's still
8 certain things that could never be implemented. And,
9 you know, the language in ANILCA's very clear that the
10 subsistence priorities for both Native and non-Native
11 rural residents. So it would take an act of Congress
12 to eliminate that non-Native equality with Native
13 residents in the rural areas. So just wanted to make a
14 note of that.

15

16 Thank you, Madam Chair.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, thank
19 you. And I appreciate both of you that that brings my
20 memory much back to clarity from the April meeting.
21 And I'm -- yeah, that was what I had recalled too was
22 that we had totally simplified with clarification to
23 what our intent was because obviously intentions from
24 Alaska to Washington can get blurred. I don't know
25 why, but, you know, I've noted that in the past.
26 There's somebody very wise that added that to make sure
27 we had clarification on intent. And that was a
28 collusion of several different choices.

29

30 Jeff, go ahead.

31

32 DR. BROOKS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
33 Jeff Brooks. You're -- I think part of the problem
34 with the communication between Alaska and D.C. is that
35 we no longer have the passenger pigeon. Just making
36 light there.

37

38 For your more serious comment I found
39 on page 32, the middle paragraph, it talks about some
40 of the things that the Board intended to do to
41 implement a new regulation. It also summarizes a
42 little bit of what the public said that made -- that
43 they used as a rationale. So I believe what you were
44 looking for, at least part of it, is on page 32.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
47 you. Other Council member questions or comments.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Again very,
2 very important stuff coming up and, you know, the one
3 question I would have, Jeff, before you left is you
4 stated that if changes were not made by 2017 which I
5 truly hope they are that we would have the 2007 rule
6 put in place. My question is for how long and will
7 that be changeable, will we have to start the process
8 over, what is the quote, unquote, sentencing going to
9 be if that happens?

10

11 DR. BROOKS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
12 Jeff Brooks. Well, the 2007 rule is basically what is
13 on the books now and includes a 10 year review. So I
14 believe that it would be up for review again in 10
15 years. I don't know if they would consider that since
16 it's a 2007 rule if they would do it in 2017 or if they
17 would start in 2017 and go 10 years. I'm not sure
18 about that. But that current regulation has the
19 requirement of a 10 year review so, yes, it would be
20 reviewed again.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
23 you. I just -- I didn't know if there was going to be
24 a possibility that if our deliberations -- although I
25 will say, I mean, this is personal comment, I felt like
26 we had fairly consensus statewide with what we crafted
27 at that meeting by putting those pieces of the puzzle
28 -- proverbial puzzle together so I think we've got
29 pretty strong support. I guess my feeling is that we
30 just have to wait and see what comes back from
31 Washington on how they feel with what we've put
32 forward. So that is my two cents.

33

34 Go ahead, Mr. O'Hara.

35

36 MR. O'HARA: Yes. I thought it
37 interesting that in the Norton -- in Western Alaska
38 when the late Senator Ted Stevens and John Walsh
39 crafted the CDQ program and you could have maybe \$200
40 million coming into a region and if you're a local
41 resident you get the benefit of that. We do here in
42 BBNC. You find that in Western Alaska all of a sudden
43 there -- when the plane -- and I do work from Nome all
44 the way down to Chignik in my surveying business as a
45 marine surveyor, there are no new faces coming into
46 Unalakleet from Monterey or Chicago or Seattle,
47 everything is done locally. And therefore it has
48 increased the population back into those villages,
49 they're coming back. They're not the C&T people that
50 are coming back, they're the kid -- people who were

1 born, now they come back with their parents or their
2 grandparents. And I'm sure it has nothing to do with
3 what you're talking about here today, but as the
4 population increases and you start putting pressure on
5 the resource it's going to become a very big issue just
6 like Mr. Dunaway said.

7

8 Now you take Southwest Alaska has gone
9 the other way. Dillingham could be a 2A school and
10 Bristol Bay could be a 1A school, you know. We have
11 315 students, we have 117 now. And of the schools
12 maybe almost every school district has nine -- 10
13 students or 11 students and one or two less you won't
14 have a school. So the population's gone away there.
15 And then you take the extreme in Naknek where we used
16 to have 10,000 people coming from we don't know where,
17 mainly Seattle, now we got 12,000 people coming. So
18 this balance changes kind of critically. And so I
19 think it's, you know, one of these times it'll come
20 back to bite us and we will have to say who's going to
21 get it and who's not going to get it. And so those are
22 I think interesting trends that we will probably work
23 into this system I think rather well.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well noted,
26 Mr. O'Hara. Thank you.

27

28 Okay. Anybody have anything else?

29

30 MS. LARSON: Madam Chair.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, please go
33 ahead.

34

35 MS. LARSON: This is Dorothy Larson for
36 Curyung Tribal Council. Maybe one possible look would
37 be how the Alaska Department of Fish and Game provides
38 a rural preference in moose hunting by having an
39 earlier hunt for rural -- people who live in rural
40 areas before they open it up statewide.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'm not
43 sure that we can deal -- I mean, I think that we can
44 implement it into our Federal rules as this Board, but
45 we have to be careful to stick to the Federal end of
46 things from this podium and hopefully influence
47 statewide things from that podium. So I'm not sure if
48 I'm on the right line with that.

49

50 Donald, can you help out?

1 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, yes. This
2 program will manage Federal subsistence management
3 lands in Alaska. It's -- you know, anybody can submit
4 a proposal to have an early season as opposed to a
5 state season. So it would be up to the public and this
6 Council if they want to have like our testimony --
7 testifier stated that, you know, we can have an early
8 season like the state does. So you -- we'd just have
9 to go through the proposal process.

10

11 Thank you, Madam Chair.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Yeah,
14 thank you. And I think -- I don't think that that's a
15 bad idea actually, Dorothy, and, you know, we encourage
16 perhaps Curyung to, you know, craft a proposal for us
17 to take a look at and we can as a Council talk about it
18 and see if we can support it.

19

20 Go ahead, Donald.

21

22 MR. MIKE: Yeah, some Federal
23 management organization in Alaska have -- do have an
24 earlier season than the state general hunting
25 regulations.

26

27 Thank you, Madam Chair.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
30 you. Dorothy, did you have anything you'd like to add
31 to that?

32

33 MS. LARSON: No, thank you. And it was
34 just a suggestion that we need to look at that to
35 prioritize a rural preference.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, I find
38 that a very favorable idea and would like to see
39 something in a proposal form.

40

41 Okay. Anything else?

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
46 move on to new business, priority information needs.

47

48 Karen, are you going to present on
49 that?

50

1 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
2 members. What I've passed out to you is in your books,
3 it's just reorganized to have the priorities for this
4 area on the top of the list.

5
6 So for the record my name is Karen Hyer
7 and I'm going to talk to you briefly about the
8 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and then about
9 our priority information needs. And the priority
10 information needs document starts on page 56 in your
11 book and the specific priorities for this region are on
12 62. And this list is the same as what I passed you --
13 passed out to you. The one that you have is just a
14 little bit easier to work with.

15
16 So I was just going to remind you first
17 about the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program that we
18 have at OSM. And it's every other year we have a
19 notice of funding opportunity where we ask for
20 investigation plans for projects that will provide
21 information to help us regulate the Federal Subsistence
22 Management Program. And we used to call this a call
23 for proposals, but through contracting some of our
24 requirements are changing and now we call it a notice
25 of funding opportunity. So the last one that went out
26 was called a notice of funding, but before that we just
27 called it a call for proposals. And so -- and we
28 changed it a little bit, we used to call for proposals
29 and we used to have investigators submit a two page
30 proposal and then we'd review that, it was -- we being
31 the Technical Review Committee and other staff and then
32 we'd call for an investigation plan. And we've had
33 some requirements change through contracting so now we
34 just call for an investigation plan which is a
35 description of the projects and those are what are
36 reviewed first. And before we make the announcement
37 for funding we meet with the Regional Advisory Councils
38 and then we talk to State and Federal managers and we
39 get an idea of what the priorities for information are
40 in the regions. And so then when we put out the notice
41 for funding we can help guide the investigator. So
42 that's what we're going to talk about in a few minutes,
43 but I just wanted to briefly go through the whole
44 process and just remind you of the steps along the way.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Can I ask you
47 a quick question?

48
49 MS. HYER: Absolutely.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: How come you
2 switched it?

3
4 MS. HYER: Switched -- oh. We are in
5 the process as an agency of switching how we do
6 agreements and it's coming from Washington, D.C.
7 basically and it has to do with the way we are tracking
8 our money. And I guess there's been a review at that
9 level about the way we do things and so it's trickling
10 down from up above. So it doesn't really have much to
11 do with the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, it's
12 what Budget and Finance officers are telling us we have
13 to do to implement the -- and it's the funding
14 agreements that are changing and that's the vehicle we
15 use to pass the money on, it's not the Monitoring
16 Program per se.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I just
19 wondered if there was a rationale behind it and that
20 answers that question.

21
22 MS. HYER: There is a rationale behind
23 it, but it comes from somebody outside of our agency.

24
25 So we have -- we put out the notice of
26 funding and then we identify what priorities are and
27 then also we do accept proposals on other issues
28 besides our priorities, but the investigator just has
29 to justify why it is also a priority for the region.
30 So we'll put out the call this fall for the -- which is
31 the notice of funding and then we'll get investigation
32 plans back from all the investigators. And then the
33 first step is we have a Technical Review Committee
34 which is made up of the Federal agencies and State
35 agencies and they review the investigation plans for
36 the technical abilities of the investigation plan
37 basically and if they're technically sound they forward
38 them on. And the investigation plans then that are
39 technically sound come before the RACs and if you
40 remember you give us input on what you view as the most
41 important projects. And then we take that input and it
42 goes to our Inter-Agency Staff Committee and they are
43 the support and the personnel for the Board and they
44 put together a recommendation and all of that goes to
45 the Federal Subsistence Board. And then the Federal
46 Subsistence Board makes the final decision on what to
47 approve for funding. And then based on the funding the
48 Office of Subsistence Management has we fund those
49 projects. So last year was the first year we had more
50 projects, good projects to fund than we had money to

1 fund them. And so we funded as many as we could and
2 then there were some projects that if we'd had more
3 money we would have funded, but we didn't fund them
4 because we actually didn't have enough money.

5
6 So that's kind of an overview of the
7 whole program. And so the -- we're right now at the
8 point where we're meeting with you to ask you about
9 what you view as important research issues for your
10 area.

11
12 So if you refer to that page I passed
13 out for Western Alaska we have five priority
14 information listed and then because Kodiak Aleutians,
15 that RAC also falls under Western Alaska, they're
16 Southwest Alaska, their priorities are listed here too,
17 but that's more for your information. So I'm just
18 going to go down the list and read what has been added
19 to the list so far. Reliable estimates of salmon
20 escapement in the Lake Clark watershed, for example
21 projects utilizing weir, sonar or mark-recapture
22 methods. Historical salmon escapement to Lake Clark
23 watershed using isotopic analysis of lake sediment
24 cores. Size and age structure of sockeye salmon
25 spawners representative of the diversity among
26 populations within Lake Clark National Park and
27 Preserve. Rearing habitat capacity for juvenile salmon
28 in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve. Description
29 and analysis of the social network under -- the social
30 network underlying the distribution of fish harvested
31 for subsistence by residents of Bristol Bay area and
32 Chignik area.

33
34 And so now I'll pretty much turn the
35 discussion over too, but what I'd like to hear about is
36 if there are things on this list you don't think are
37 important, that we could remove or if there are things
38 lacking from this list that you think should be added
39 to the list. And with that, Madam Chairman, Council
40 members, I will -- that ends my presentation and I'm
41 looking forward to your input.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
44 you, Karen. And, Donald, a question for you. Does
45 this have to be an action item or is just
46 conversational and input?

47
48 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, I'll defer to
49 Ms. Karen Hyer.
50

1 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
2 members. It's an action item in that I need your
3 input, but it doesn't have to be a formal motion so it
4 is just a conversation.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
7 you for that clarification.
8
9 Council members, anybody care to start
10 on their thoughts, additions, corrections, support?
11
12 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.
15
16 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I appreciate that
17 report and apparently you're going to be looking for
18 some projects that you think you should be doing in the
19 Lake Clark area and I notice you threw the name Chignik
20 in there. Where does that Chignik fall in with Lake
21 Clark? And then I have another question or comment for
22 you too.
23
24 MS. HYER: This Council's actually also
25 responsible for the Chignik area so if there are things
26 you'd like to see happen in that area now is the time
27 to let me know.
28
29 MR. O'HARA: Yes. So last year we were
30 given a list, you know, and like you said there was
31 more projects than money so we had to determine what
32 there was that was going to be happening there. It's
33 interesting to note that in the '96 -- 1996 to about
34 2004 everyone was pulled back into the river systems
35 and no one fished the Kvichak because it was off cycle
36 and we don't know why. And then we never decided to
37 find out why either which is unfortunate in scientific
38 research. But every year Lake Clark got their
39 escapement beyond everything else and so did Naknek get
40 their escapement, but the Kvichak barely had one point
41 -- 2.5 million or something or we finally, you know,
42 skimmed by. But every year Lake Clark came in as if
43 there was never a problem with the cycle and I think
44 that's pretty fascinating that they would do that. And
45 that's because area M didn't open and they went by.
46 And then I've got thousands and thousands of hours of
47 flying by Lake Illiamna and you can see the early run
48 coming out of Kvichak and go right along the shore
49 line, right up past Talarik and right up in -- right up
50 in Newhalen, straight into your -- you know. And so

1 Lake Clark had a -- and in down years we were 2000 --
2 1988 we got 2.40 a pound, in 1998 we got .40 cents a
3 pound and then 2001 we got .30 cents a pound and there
4 wasn't much fish. And it was just really an
5 interesting time, but Lake Clark never suffered that,
6 they always had their escapement because they came
7 early. And so I was kind of wondering on the top para
8 -- reliable estimates of escapement in Lake Clark
9 watershed, what is your sonar or a mark-recapture
10 method, what -- is that something you're putting on the
11 fish to identify the return?

12

13 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
14 members. Currently Lake Clark actually has a tower and
15 we have funded that in the past. Right now it's not
16 one of our projects, but that's how they monitor that
17 segment of escapement. But other places in Alaska they
18 use sonar technology and they've got this distance
19 sonar now that they use in combination with some other
20 systems that actually help identify the specifics
21 because they can actually see them. It's actually
22 quite fascinating. I have a history in sonar and
23 having watched it changed over time has been
24 fascinating, but there are places like on the Copper
25 where they monitor the sockeye escapement simply by
26 sonar, that's the only escapement method on that river.
27 Mark-recapture techniques we use a lot in Southeast and
28 some other places where we wait until the fish are on
29 the spawning grounds and then we actually mark them and
30 then recapture to estimate populations there. So
31 depending on the system they use different techniques.
32 So it really is system dependent and it also somewhat
33 depends on what they're trying to accomplish with the
34 project.

35

36 MR. O'HARA: Are you familiar with the
37 scale sampling down in the Moeller area where DNA has
38 been tested and shows fish returning to the river of
39 origin and perhaps the numbers of fish returning to
40 that, are you familiar with that?

41

42 MS. HYER: No, I'm not familiar with
43 that project.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madam Chair.
48 I'm supportive of these -- this list. One question
49 though I think we discussed this at our last meeting.
50 That last bullet in that first section about

1 description and analysis of social network underlying
2 distribution of fish harvested from subsistence by
3 residents. In here it says of the Bristol Bay area or
4 Chignik and I always thought it was Bristol Bay and
5 Chignik and I'm wondering if with this little tweak of
6 that word could it shift the whole nature of the study
7 or because I think a main interest was that we wanted
8 to know how the Chignik and maybe lower Bristol Bay
9 shared fish I think was our original interest.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,
12 Karen.

13

14 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
15 members. We could change the reading to say of
16 interest and list both those areas because it would be
17 up to the investigator actually to determine what they
18 were capable of doing. But we can just simply put an
19 and in there because it could be either area. It
20 wasn't meant to be one or the other.

21

22 So thank you for that.

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thank you. That
25 would be good because I think in my mind it might --
26 originally I think it was proposed for the Chignik area
27 and that would be really important, but like we -- I
28 think at one point this almost dropped off the map and
29 we don't want to see that because knowing how these
30 distribution worked would really affect how -- at some
31 point how regulations or actions we take will be
32 affected. So I hope that stays in there. We also
33 earlier just today mentioned we're still concerned
34 about enumeration of salmon into the Port Heiden area
35 and availability for subsistence. I'm frustrated at
36 this point because I tried real hard personally to try
37 to find a way to make that happen and was not at all
38 encouraged by some of the folks who have maybe more
39 power to make it happen, but I don't really want to
40 give up that easy.

41

42 And then I got into another discussion
43 just last night with some friends over in the Kvichak
44 area online and this is -- I don't know of any problem
45 here, but it was more a curiosity thing is friends of
46 mine are subsistence fishing, spike fishing in Kvichak
47 right now or they were yesterday or day before and
48 we're like where do they come from, where do they go.
49 They took about 60 fish. We've studied whitefish up in
50 Lake Clark and what if any connections do they have. I

1 don't know about the Federal nexus right there, but I'm
2 also -- I advocate studying any subsistence resource in
3 our area to know use and population.

4

5 And one last -- I guess are we going to
6 touch the Kodiak Aleutians a little bit later?

7

8 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
9 members. I wasn't planning on it because that's a
10 different RAC, but certainly if you have input for that
11 area please, I'd love to hear it.

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Just a question there on
14 that middle bullet, distribution and timing of sockeye
15 salmon in the major watersheds of Katmai National Park.
16 Does that -- that sounds like within our area, but are
17 you speaking of the Pacific drainages or the Bristol
18 Bay drainages?

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Just about to
23 ask for that representation. Troy, thanks for coming
24 forward.

25

26 MR. HAMON: Madam Chairman, members of
27 the Council. My name is Troy Hamon with the National
28 Park Service in King Salmon. I don't have any extra
29 information about this, but it does appear to represent
30 Bristol Bay drainages, those are the major sockeye
31 drainages in our Park and Preserve, all flow to Bristol
32 Bay. So my expectation is it's probably a priority
33 that's better addressed by this Council.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I'm highly
38 supportive of that one too then and then I think I'm
39 done.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
44 you, Mr. Dunaway. Anybody else?

45

46 Mr. Wilson.

47

48 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair, I believe
49 last session we were still looking for some results or
50 some info on our chinook and I don't see in your list

1 here of -- I know it's been a priority of ours, looking
2 into our chinook population and why so low. So to me
3 it's still a priority in this whole region, you know.
4 Nushagak here is fortunate enough to be one of the only
5 systems that, you know, has good chinook return. And a
6 lot of other systems are suffering. And to me that
7 would be a priority.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
10 Richard. I am glad you brought that forward because I
11 was going to if nobody else did, but I do agree with
12 that. And I do -- I would -- if I may add to your
13 comments I would also add to the fact that I think the
14 Nushagak I think is suffering in its own right. They
15 may be getting numbers, but the quality of the fishery
16 has changed drastically over my 30 years experience
17 with it. And we are no longer seeing the numbers of
18 sizeable fish that we once saw there. And I call that
19 the quality of the fishery changing because certainly
20 the numbers can be justified by Fish and Game and
21 methods like that, but I think that that bears
22 investigation and possible study in the future also as
23 well.

24

25 So I see Karen and Jeff both have
26 comments to make. Please go ahead.

27

28 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, I just would
29 like some clarification. When you say the quality of
30 the size of the fish are you talking about chinook or
31 are you talking about all fish?

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No, I'm
34 specifically speaking to Richard's comment about
35 chinook.

36

37 Jeff, did you have something to add?

38

39 DR. BROOKS: Yes. Thank you, Madam
40 Chair. Jeff Brooks. We've been working with -- having
41 discussions with Courtenay at BBNA in, you know,
42 helping -- and others to help us put together these
43 lists of priorities. And one of the things that has
44 come up is chinook salmon escapement and harvest
45 monitoring and I believe specifically on the Togiak
46 River, but that could apply to other parts of the
47 region. And more spec -- the language in the first
48 bullet doesn't say what kind of salmon, but I've also
49 heard that a priority here would be reliable estimates
50 of chinook salmon escapement as well, more specifically

1 the -- focusing on chinook.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
4 you. Yeah, I would like to see chinook specifically
5 included in that list as well. Again this is just
6 discussion, but I think that it is important, as
7 Richard remembers so do I, the comments that we made
8 prior too about our chinook escapements all around the
9 bay in full everywhere from Chignik up through Egegik,
10 Naknek, Alagnak and over here down in through Togiak.
11 So I think that we do need it there. We're always
12 interested in the high sea spy patch, but I think it
13 would behoove us to do some studies as well on our own
14 watersheds to see if we could learn a little bit more
15 about how we could maintain or increase numbers and/or
16 quality of escapement. With chinook it's a little bit
17 different than it is with the other species because you
18 have such a large number of years you're covering and I
19 think we're probably overdue for figuring out how we
20 can improve on that.

21

22 Anybody else have anything for the list
23 or comments about the list as it is?

24

25 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Karen, we got a long ways
30 from your -- we've gone a long ways from your opening
31 statements on you're looking to find funding is one of
32 the things for these research projects and we've gone
33 from there all the way to Chignik, to the bycatch or
34 the mid water trawl. So these are projects that you
35 feel should be on Lake Clark. I guess the question I
36 have is we understand clearly the Lake Clark thing, but
37 is this going to be duplicated on the Chigniks and what
38 kind of money are we talking about or maybe you could
39 help a little bit on that?

40

41 MS. HYER: Yeah, Madam Chair, Council
42 members. One thing I want to be clear about is we put
43 this list out and this is what we're asking for
44 projects on. We don't always receive projects on all
45 of these items. And that's up to the investigators to
46 develop good, technically sound projects. So I like a
47 long list because that allows investigators a lot of
48 opportunity. And then once we get the proposals in we
49 will -- we will first -- the first cut is to review
50 them and make sure they're good projects and then once

1 they're good projects that's when we come back out and
2 we ask for a prioritization from you and then we'll
3 fund that way. So we can't really tell until we have
4 the projects then and we know what our budget is what
5 we'll be able to fund and what we won't be able to
6 fund. But it's really good to hear what you consider
7 important and it's really valuable for you to keep
8 bringing them up so if we don't have a good project
9 that doesn't mean the priority information need has
10 gone away. And so it's very valuable for you to
11 continue to revisit those.

12

13 MR. O'HARA: Well, answer the question
14 on the Chigniks then, is that a separate project or is
15 this tied into Lake Clark?

16

17 MS. HYER: Currently we do not fund
18 anything on the Chigniks at the moment. We have funded
19 a chinook project on Togiak, but that would be an area
20 where we have not done much research. And so -- and we
21 do have a proposal for that area right now and the
22 State does have a weir there for escapement. But if
23 there's other things you'd like to see in that region
24 I'd love to hear about them because that is an area we
25 haven't -- we don't have a project currently.

26

27 MR. O'HARA: I just was confused on why
28 Lake Clark was -- rather than Chigniks was tied into
29 that and that's a Reserve not a State Park and nothing
30 to do with I guess.....

31

32 MS. HYER: Oh, I'm sorry, I think I
33 misunderstood your question. I think the reason Lake
34 Clark shows up on this list and not Chignik is it's
35 just been brought to our attention because we do talk
36 to the area managers too, but there's Federal land, we
37 have a regulatory proposal over there, there's Federal
38 land we're responsible for over there also.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: So also,
41 Karen, I would just ask maybe for clarification for the
42 Council that our main partner out here is BBNA, is that
43 not correct, who does the partnership share program.
44 So really we also need to be making sure that they
45 know, you know, what our importance is so they can
46 figure out how to author research and where we would
47 like them to put the most effort I think. I'm assuming
48 that that direction would be something that a person
49 could look at as well.

50

1 MS. HYER: Oh, yeah, absolutely. And
2 this is not a comprehensive list and that's why we're
3 here. We want to find out where our holes are and
4 clearly you're pointing out some of our gaps. So that
5 is the purpose of meeting with you.

6
7 MR. O'HARA: Donald, would the list --
8 I would imagine by the winter meeting this list is
9 going to be probably brought up a little more in detail
10 and so instead of just letting it fall through the
11 cracks it's going to show up somewhere later on for us
12 to deal with; is that right?

13
14 MS. HYER: Actually, Madam Chair,
15 Council members. What I'm going to do is take this
16 list and take your input and I'm going to change the
17 list and come back to you before the meeting's over
18 because our call is actually going to go out this fall.
19 So and certainly we have some time before the call goes
20 out so if other things occur to you feel free to
21 contact me or our office or actually Donald Mike and
22 he'll put you in contact with me. But the list is
23 going to go out soon so it won't be revisited at your
24 next meeting. So that's why it's important that we
25 hear everything you have to say right now.

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: So to make
28 sure I've got it clear in my mind, so this list will go
29 out and then what we will see at the winter meeting
30 will actually be proposals coming back that stem from
31 the items that were on this list for our consideration
32 to continue forward; is that correct?

33
34 MS. HYER: That is correct in function,
35 the timing isn't correct because the call will go out
36 and we won't get proposals in until spring so you won't
37 see the proposals again probably until next year
38 because just of the time we give the investigators to
39 develop the proposals and submit them. But you will
40 see the results of this list.

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
43 you. So it's just -- it's very important that any of
44 us if we have concerns about anything else that we'd
45 like investigated we get them said and out there on the
46 table now so that the proposals that come back could
47 potentially address them at this -- in this next round.

48
49 Anybody else?
50

1 MR. O'HARA: Yes.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Mr.
4 O'Hara.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: Oh, go ahead.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Richard.
9
10 MR. WILSON: This is just on the fish;
11 is that correct?
12
13 MS. HYER: Yes, it is just on fish.
14
15 MR. O'HARA: When you say it needs to
16 be dealt with now, I mean, this was just given to us
17 and we're looking at it so does that mean as the
18 meeting continues throughout today and tomorrow we can
19 revisit this and, you know, I don't like to have
20 something thrown on the table to me and then 10 minutes
21 later I've got to make a decision on it. So, but this
22 is a -- this is a good, productive conversation on the
23 timing of this issue and if we need to have some input
24 on it I'm sure between now and when we finish I would
25 imagine Wednesday we should have some creative ideas or
26 something that we can say that this is a goal.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I would
29 encourage that as we go along if we think of things as
30 we go through our proposals and the rest of our meeting
31 we lay them on the table and if an opportunity doesn't
32 come up that perhaps during Council comments when
33 everybody has an opportunity to speak at the end of the
34 meeting you bring them forward even at that time. So
35 that would be a.....
36
37 Mr. O'Hara.
38
39 MR. O'HARA: And even if you have to
40 assign between now and Wednesday a small committee of
41 the Council members to sit down with you and determine
42 something, it's hard in a formal Board meeting like
43 this to say, you know, we're going to determine to do
44 this. If you can -- if you can do it in the committee
45 at a break time or something then maybe that's a
46 possibility.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I like
49 that suggestion too.
50

1 Karen, go ahead.
2
3 MS. HYER: Yeah, Madam Chair, Council
4 members. I just wanted to be clear that I will be here
5 and please if you have ideas come, let's talk. And
6 then I will get them down and have something written
7 before you again before we all break so you have
8 something to look at and we can assess where we are.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well, and I
11 would ask the Council too their input on perhaps even
12 if we convene a small group of people such as Mr.
13 O'Hara suggested if maybe we shouldn't also include a
14 representative from BBNA for input on, you know, what
15 is more readily available and/or potentially on the
16 horizon. If so then maybe we can talk about that or
17 put something together real quick before lunch break.
18
19 Anybody got any ideas or suggestions on
20 that, sound like a plan?
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. We'll
25 work on that before break then.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 Okay. Karen, are you next here too,
30 can we get that done?
31
32 MS. HYER: Yes, Madam Chair. I think
33 you're going to be dealing with me for a little while
34 here.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Hold on
37 one second please, I think we got some testimony that
38 we got a request for. If you don't mind, Karen.....
39
40 MS. HYER: Oh, absolutely not.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:hang on
43 to your next step and, Courtenay, please come.
44
45 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Thank you, Madam
46 Chairman, members of the Council. Courtenay Gomez for
47 the record. I believe that Port Heiden Tribal Council
48 will be calling in with public testimony regarding the
49 priority information needs either today they might be
50 on the line or in the morning.

1 I just wanted to follow-up on some of
2 the things that you of the Council have discussed and
3 I'm trying to think of where to start so I guess I'll
4 just start with the list. So Lake Clark -- and I've
5 had some conversations in the back about how this list
6 has been developed. But Lake Clark -- you know, as
7 Karen just said they've been working directly with
8 myself and other members, staff of the agencies if it's
9 a Refuge or a Park and so those came directly from Lake
10 Clark, but BBNA is a cooperator on the Newhalen River
11 counting tower and this year as funding states right
12 now it is our last year of funding for that project.
13 There is no funding for the project to be operational
14 in 2015 field season. So I'm assuming that's part of
15 the reason that this got on there is that this has been
16 a long going data set for the Federal Subsistence
17 Management Program for quite some time. Regardless of
18 where the money comes from, as Karen mentioned at one
19 point it was funded out of the FRMP program and is no
20 longer, it's been funded through directed Park Service
21 subsistence dollars for a while and now that funding is
22 being eliminated so we're definitely going to need to
23 work on some proposals to continue monitoring
24 escapement in the Newhalen River.

25
26 In regards to the whitefish comments,
27 just a quick update. Lake Clark whitefish was funded
28 through the 2012 FRMP call. That study has wrapped up
29 and the report is being written as we speak. Fish and
30 Game is working on a draft of that right now and we'll
31 be meeting on that next week to go over some language
32 on the draft report.

33
34 In regards to the -- but I guess while
35 we're still on whitefish, you know, it's not just Lake
36 Clark National Park and those communities that subsist
37 off whitefish, it is other residents throughout the
38 Bristol Bay watershed. And so if that is a priority
39 information need for other Federal land units then that
40 potentially could be incorporated into this as well to
41 try to address that research need if needed.

42
43 Another freshwater fish that's not on
44 here that is heavily harvested at least in this region
45 and I know also in the Naknek area is smelt, rainbow
46 smelt. Here in the Nushagak area last year we had some
47 really unusual smelt activity in regards to Alaska
48 river ice here on the Nushagak and all of the smelt
49 going up to Lake Aleknagik to spawn under lake ice
50 there which made them more readily available for

1 harvest by people that normally would not necessarily
2 have the opportunity to harvest as you were able to
3 literally drive your truck onto the ice and fish as
4 much as you wanted.

5
6 So obviously the Nushagak and Lake
7 Aleknagik are not part of the Federal Subsistence
8 Management Program, but we might be seeing those
9 changes in ice dynamics and fishery harvest
10 availability opportunities in other communities that
11 could be happening in our Federal land units. So that
12 might be something to consider for you.

13
14 As noted Togiak chinook is not listed
15 here. Karen mentioned earlier that just because a
16 project has not received funding through the FRMP call
17 that necessarily -- that the priority information need
18 does not necessarily go away. So Togiak chinook we
19 were monitoring escapement for a while through the FRMP
20 call and haven't for a while and there's no longer an
21 escapement goal for chinook in the Togiak River nor any
22 real escapement monitoring other than an aerial survey
23 or two a year.

24
25 BBNA with ADF&G Division of Subsistence
26 submitted a research proposal this summer to the Alaska
27 Sustainable Salmon Fund. The project title is Harvest
28 Monitoring of Chinook Salmon in the Togiak District.
29 Basically what it's looking at is for objectives to
30 gather all of the harvest mortality information from
31 the sport, subsistence and commercial harvests of
32 chinook in the Togiak District to try to analyze
33 changes in the fishery, who's using the fish. One
34 piece of data that we included in the justification for
35 that proposal was that although there is no directed
36 chinook openings in the Togiak commercial fish, the
37 commercial harvest of Togiak chinook in the -- in that
38 district is five times greater than the community
39 subsistence harvest. So it's definitely essential not
40 only to the commercial industry, but also the needs of
41 the people of Togiak, Twin Hills that harvest from this
42 river for chinook salmon to understand what's happening
43 with that population so that we can maintain that
44 subsistence opportunity.

45
46 In regards to the social network
47 analysis. As you know we all have that demon of a
48 proposal, 14-451 a couple -- last cycle. We don't need
49 to get into that too much, but in regards to I guess
50 the comments on Bristol Bay or Chignik area and some of

1 the conversations that I've been having with either
2 past researchers in working on 14-451 proposal or
3 potential new partners for this new priority
4 information need is maybe if we were able to scale it
5 back a little bit and look at it focused by land
6 management unit, per Refuge or per Park and try to
7 understand what's going on with the social networks in
8 a smaller scale per Refuge or Park, then that could be
9 expanded throughout the Bristol Bay region, but it
10 might be a lot more fundable if we took it one piece at
11 a time. So that's something that I would definitely
12 try to hope that is maintained and included in this.
13 It came into the 2012 call, I guess it was 2014 if this
14 is 2016, the call that came out in 2012, we're a couple
15 of years backwards in numbering here a little bit. But
16 it came into the call because of the conversations that
17 you, the RAC, have had about trying to understand how
18 resources are harvested and shared not only within our
19 communities here in Bristol Bay, but through the cooler
20 exchange into urban Alaska also. And so that came
21 directly from you, the RAC, and it should probably stay
22 in there.

23

24 Chinook, we talked a lot about Togiak,
25 but the people in Port Heiden are also seeing the same
26 concerns for the Meshik River and definitely want to
27 get some research directed for the subsistence system
28 there.

29

30 And so those are the primary things
31 that BBNA wanted to bring up today. And I guess I
32 don't necessarily understand the Katmai thing as much
33 and maybe I could ask the question on the record and
34 perhaps Troy or Diane could answer, but if this is
35 about subsistence research for subsistence population
36 why is Katmai in here if it's not a subsistence harvest
37 opportunity Park. I'm not entirely sure about that and
38 that just might be my own misunderstanding.

39

40 So that's all I have, but hopefully
41 Port Heiden's on the line or they might be able to call
42 in tomorrow and I'd be happy to work in committee with
43 you.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair, we don't want
48 her to go away because.....

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes,

1 Courtenay, if you don't mind please stick with us.

2

3 Troy.

4

5 MR. HAMON: Madam Chair and members of
6 the Council. For the record my name is Troy Hamon with
7 the National Park Service in King Salmon. In response
8 to Courtenay's question, there's two -- I don't
9 necessarily know how we got on this list specifically
10 because I don't know who proposed it, but the reason
11 why Katmai is relevant to subsistence management and
12 subsistence users is that in Katmai Preserve and the
13 Alagnak River subsistence is legal and authorized and
14 that's -- includes the drainage that has the Branch
15 River or the Alagnak River has as many as 5 million
16 fish escapement since some of those early 2000 years.
17 The other reason why it's probably somewhat relevant is
18 that there's a red fish harvest which is not in Federal
19 subsistence, but it is a traditional use fishery that
20 has been of interest to the Board. I suspect that the
21 broader scale of the Preserve may be the more pressing
22 issue at the Council level because of the fact that we
23 don't have the same data record in the preserve that we
24 have in the Naknek system. But those are the -- those
25 are the reasons why it might be something the Council's
26 interested in.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
29 you, Troy.

30

31 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: That makes great
32 sense. If I could just follow-up on that in regards to
33 the Alagnak, that's another area that we did have
34 directed research coming out of the FRMP looking at
35 salmon escapement into the Aleknagik River. And if --
36 some of you might recall the 2012 Board of Fish
37 meeting, we did have a set of proposals from the
38 Levelock Village Council to open a fishery in the
39 Alagnak River, that didn't go anywhere, the Board did
40 not adopt those proposals. But that is something that
41 could potentially come forward again as we're now
42 coming into the next 2015 Board of Fish cycle.
43 Proposals are going to be due in April. And so that
44 might be something to consider at least having the
45 discussion either on the record or in committee as --
46 including as another priority information need.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.

49

50 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. Yeah, sounds

1 like -- at least for me when we -- throughout today and
2 tomorrow when we get a list made up for Karen that we
3 can converse with BBNA, you know, about some of the
4 priorities that they see. I don't -- I don't see, you
5 know, the Alagnak, you know, as one of their priority
6 items or the Naknek, you know, and those drainages, you
7 know. And to me it's still a concern so I'd like to
8 make sure that, you know, when we're looking for
9 funding that together we're, you know, sharing that
10 funding or something so we can keep the ball rolling.

11

12 Thanks.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr.
15 Wilson. I hear that concern.

16

17 Anybody else?

18

19 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

22

23 MR. O'HARA: Yes, several things,
24 Courtenay, that we brought up was there was a fishery
25 in, you know, the white man called it the Alagnak, the
26 name of the river is the Alagnak and the Branch. And
27 then they tried fishing in there with seines and it
28 just didn't work. There was so many snags it just
29 wasn't even practical. Processors were not excited
30 about it.

31

32 But let's go back to the -- down at
33 Port Heiden to the Meshik. And there's a -- you
34 brought up the subsistence needs of that river and my
35 opening statements this morning was the counting tower.
36 And this Board is made up of not only commercial,
37 recreational, subsistence and whatever other users that
38 -- they change under Title VIII, that's fine. But you
39 take like Joe Klutsch and, Katie, what's his name
40 there, Dick Yakee, on that island. And they have --
41 one of the things that their clients come there to do
42 if they're going to moose hunt or bear hunt they can do
43 sport fishing, you know, they can buy the license and
44 -- a three day license or whatever it is. And there's
45 been such a decline that this has really affected that
46 part of the business. And that's along with
47 subsistence the first priority is going to be they'll
48 not catch any more fish if Port Heiden says we're going
49 to -- this is a subsistence issue, this is going to be
50 -- and that is a Federal river I believe, Meshik is a

1 Federal thing, so yeah, that's a different priority.
2 And so I think that's pretty important too to add to
3 the counting station and taking care of the needs of
4 the Port Heiden people for their regular subsistence
5 along with the recreational users that are there.

6

7 Thank you, Madam Chair.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes. And, Mr.
10 O'Hara, for your reference that -- the map shows the
11 upper stretches of the Meshik are indeed pink in color
12 which I believe qualifies them as subsistence areas.
13 So you are correct, yes.

14

15 Go ahead, Karen.

16

17 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
18 members. I'd just like to ask for some clarification.
19 You're talking about salmon, but was there a species
20 specifically that you were interested in, say chinook
21 or sockeye, or is it just salmon in general?

22

23 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

26

27 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I think the species
28 has to be -- we have to target would be the chinook and
29 that's what they has declined. And, you know, there is
30 a commercial effort there on chinook and in Port Heiden
31 these guys ice them and ship them out and have done
32 very well, but the fish has been pretty scarce with the
33 area M going all the way up to -- almost to Cinder
34 River. Well, so we're going to have to look at that.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
37 you, Mr. O'Hara. Anybody else?

38

39 Courtenay.

40

41 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: I guess I'll say one
42 thing -- one last thing for the record. Courtenay
43 Gomez. I just would like to make sure that the Federal
44 agencies really try their best to work not only with
45 BBNA, but with the state to make sure to respond to the
46 priority information needs in the FRMP call or notice
47 of funding availability. In the last call BBNA was the
48 only one with the ADF&G Division of Subsistence to
49 submit a proposal to the FRMP call for our region. And
50 it's not that we all aren't busy, we're all very busy

1 and there are just some issues that have hung up
2 different proposals in the past, but hopefully we'll
3 all be able to work together and get a good amount of
4 proposals submitted for consideration for funding for
5 our region because over time in the last decade not
6 only has Federal funding everywhere shrunk, but our
7 region's ability to have directed research and
8 understand what's happening with our fishery
9 subsistence harvest on Federal lands has really
10 declined over time and we as a region definitely need
11 to step it up and be doing our due diligence to submit
12 proposals to address these needs.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
17 Courtenay. And I would like just to comment too real
18 quickly. I think your suggestion also of
19 interconnecting smaller proposals at a time just so
20 that we can accommodate funding availability is really
21 a -- I think it's a good answer to a major problem.
22 And I think that, you know, we as regions might be very
23 wise to have -- and I guess this would be directed to
24 you, Karen, but basically stepping stone proposals
25 whereas we're going to study the chinook escapements in
26 the Alagnak or the chinook, you know, smolt needs on
27 the Alagnak this year and next year we're going down to
28 the Meshik or however we want to do it and then -- and
29 knowing that we're going to interconnect them like a
30 spider web in the long run. But I think that it might
31 be wise for us to do this.

32

33 I also think that -- I'm going to ask
34 Mr. Wilson and Mr. O'Hara if they want to volunteer for
35 a lunch meeting and if Courtenay would be our person
36 there as well.

37

38 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: (Inaudible response)

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
41 Courtenay is shaking her head in agreement. Mr.
42 O'Hara, Mr. Wilson, and I invite anybody else who'd
43 like to be a part of that to come up with any further
44 ideas we might have or and this -- I would still leave
45 the floor open to any additions throughout our meeting
46 other than this directed.....

47

48 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead,

1 please.

2

3 MR. O'HARA: I think you should be
4 included in the committee. Would you be available?

5

6 MS. HYER: Absolutely, Madam Chair and
7 Council members. And then I would also invite any
8 other agency people that are in the room that would
9 like to participate with us. That would be great to
10 have their input also.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes,
13 absolutely. I didn't say your name directly, but I
14 meant that when I said -- okay. And please any other
15 representatives that, you know, have things that they
16 like to share with us or bring forward, I think it's a
17 great way to spend our lunch getting some productive
18 measures taken especially seeing what a short time
19 frame we've got available to us.

20

21 Donald.

22

23 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
24 Since the committee will be meeting for lunch and it's
25 a committee of the Regional Advisory Council, the
26 committee will have to report back to the Council for
27 the public record.

28

29 Thank you, Madam Chair.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you for
32 that reminder, Donald, and, yes, I think that we would
33 be prepared to give a brief report of our results.
34 Perhaps we'll have Karen take notes and do that first.

35

36 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
37 members. I have a question for Donald Mike. Because
38 my intent was to formalize a list and then come back
39 again for a review with the whole Council would that
40 constitute reporting back?

41

42 MR. MIKE: Reporting back in another
43 meeting, is that what your question was or at this
44 meeting?

45

46 MS. HYER: Later in this meeting.

47

48 MR. MIKE: Yes. Yes, it is. Thank
49 you.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you both for that.
3
4 Okay. Anything else on this.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
9 move forward. Actually I think let's go ahead if the
10 Council wishes and take our break now before we jump
11 into proposals. We want to give them due time, is that
12 -- is that something everybody's -- I'm getting some
13 head shakes on this side, what about this side, do you
14 want to take a lunch break?
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
19 go ahead and call a lunch recess. What -- how much
20 time do you guys think we need, any suggestions.
21
22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: An hour.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Hour. Okay.
25 Let's reconvene at 1:00 o'clock then again.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 (Off record)
30
31 (On record)
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Let's call the
34 meeting back to order, 1:25 for the record.
35
36 And I think that we'll have all reports
37 necessary for you later about our committee meeting,
38 Donald, is that okay with you?
39
40 MR. MIKE: Yes, that will be okay.
41 Just briefly to go on record you have -- you know, you
42 can have a committee report just briefly stating what
43 -- what's -- each subject item, but just a brief
44 summary.
45
46 Thank you, Madam Chair.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thanks.
49 Karen, go ahead.
50

1 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
2 members. This is Karen Hyer for the record. And we
3 flushed out some of the ideas we had talked about on
4 the record earlier and I got some specifics about
5 whether they were sockeye or chinook populations we
6 were interested in and some river names. And I'm going
7 to type this up when I -- I have to go through a couple
8 of proposals with you, regulatory proposals and then
9 the Partners Program and then Courtenay has graciously
10 offered me her office, I'm going to go type them up and
11 have them back to you this afternoon I think and so you
12 can mull them over tonight and we'll talk again
13 tomorrow morning. Okay?
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I
16 appreciate that very much.
17
18 Mr. O'Hara.
19
20 MR. O'HARA: So then, Karen, we won't
21 be addressing this issue until tomorrow then. That --
22 that's a really good time for us to digest it and thank
23 you very much for that, we appreciate it.
24
25 MS. HYER: Okay. Great.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
28 you. I'd also like to take this opportunity to find
29 out who we have online if you don't mind please stating
30 your name and your interest.
31
32 Thank you.
33
34 MS. LARSON: Dorothy Larson,
35 Administrator for the Curyung Tribal Council.
36
37 MR. CRAWFORD: Drew Crawford, Alaska
38 Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage.
39
40 MR. ANDERSON: Pat Anderson, Alaska
41 Department of Fish and Game in Kodiak.
42
43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Anybody
44 else?
45
46 MS. LA VINE: Robin La Vine with Office
47 of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
50 you.

1 Okay. If we don't have anything else I
2 would like to go ahead and move forward with our
3 proposals. Karen, would you like to start us off.

4
5 MS. HYER: Yes. We'll start with
6 proposal 15-01 and that starts on page 67 of your
7 books. And this is somewhat of a housekeeping
8 proposal. It was submitted by Southcentral Alaska
9 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and it requests
10 that the definition of hook be described in regulation
11 as hook with or without a barb. And the proposed
12 language would clarify the type of fishing hook that
13 could be used under Federal subsistence regulations.

14
15 And the reason that this was submitted
16 is statewide Federal regulations, if there is no
17 Federal regulation for an area we often default to the
18 State regulations and on the Kenai because of the
19 issues with chinook salmon they have defined in their
20 regulations, so this is in State regulations, they have
21 defined a hook as being barbless so that they can do
22 catch and release for chinook salmon on the Kenai. And
23 while that doesn't directly apply out here there are
24 areas in the state that if there are no specific
25 Federal regulations then it will default to what is in
26 State regulation. And so this is just statewide and it
27 is just to define hook as with or without a barb. So
28 it clarifies our regulations and puts that into place.
29 So then throughout the state for Federal subsistence --
30 for the Federal Subsistence Program a hook will be
31 defined either as with barb or without barb.

32
33 And so OSM's preliminary
34 conclusion.....

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Can I
37 interrupt you and ask just a quick question. And I
38 don't know, this may end up going to Fish and Game's
39 plate, but I have sat on many, many, many Boards where
40 hooks have been contingent argument and how to define a
41 barbless hook. Are you saying they've now defined what
42 a barbless hook is in State regulations?

43
44 MS. HYER: Specific -- the regulation
45 is specific to the Kenai and I think that they are
46 restricting it to barbless hook, it just says barbless
47 hook so I think that's just the one hook without the
48 piece that comes down.

49
50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, but --

1 okay. So -- but, yeah, I'm familiar with that. I --
2 the problem is nobody -- there's not a manufacturer out
3 there that creates a hook that is like that. So
4 therein the definition for barbless has always been a
5 bone of contention in many, many fisheries because how
6 do you define barbless, is it if you run your
7 fingernail over it and nothing sticks it's barbless.

8

9 MS. HYER: I see.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: If you take
12 another piece of fishing line and it doesn't get caught
13 within the shank of the hook, does that make it
14 barbless. So that's why I wondered, it's more a point
15 of curiosity and I don't know that this hook issue is
16 heading for that or it's merely a regulation about use
17 -- the use of hooks in subsistence fishing, but I think
18 everybody should be aware that there's a real finite,
19 sticky thing going on there.

20

21 MS. HYER: Thank you, Madam Chair.
22 Carl just pointed out to me that Drew Crawford is
23 online too and he might be able to add clarity to us.

24

25 Drew, are you there?

26

27 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, but I could also
28 just include that when the State gives their
29 recommendation on this proposal.

30

31 MS. HYER: Excuse me, Drew, I missed
32 that. Are you asking for the Federal recommendation?

33

34 MR. CRAWFORD: I said I could wait my
35 turn.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Right. I
38 understand, Drew, and that'll be okay then. I don't
39 want to put the cart ahead of the horse either.

40

41 Donald, did you have something?

42

43 MR. MIKE: Yeah, I was just going to
44 remind the Council that we're still doing the analysis
45 presentation and Ms. Hyer wasn't complete with her
46 presentation and then we'll have an opportunity for the
47 State of Alaska to provide its comments.

48

49 Thank you, Madam Chair.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Great.
2 Well, let's follow our sheet then and maybe my question
3 will be answered.
4
5 Thanks.
6
7 MS. HYER: Okay. So then OSM's
8 preliminary conclusion is to support FP 15-01. And the
9 adoption of this proposal would protect the subsistence
10 fishermen's choice of using a barbed or a barbless hook
11 throughout Alaska because this is a statewide proposal.
12
13 And that ends my presentation.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
16 you, Karen. We'll use our typical list here that
17 Donald so graciously abbreviated for us, then we'll ask
18 for any comments from Native organizations or Tribal.
19
20 Is that the list you want to use,
21 Donald?
22
23 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Do we
26 have any comments that were brought in?
27
28 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, I didn't
29 receive any request for testimony.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
32 you. Then should we ask for Fish and Game's comments?
33
34 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Drew,
37 would you care to share with us Fish and Game's
38 comments on this proposal?
39
40 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Madam Chair. This
41 is Drew Crawford with the Alaska Department of Fish and
42 Game, Federal Subsistence Liaison Team in Anchorage.
43 The State's recommendation for fishery proposal 15-01
44 is we support with modification to adopt similar
45 criteria for hooks as defined in State regulation. Now
46 the State has got three definitions for hook. One is a
47 single hook which is a fish hook with only one point
48 with or without a barb. The second one is a multiple
49 hook which is a fish hook with two or more points with
50 or without a barb. And the most recent definition

1 which you were asking for earlier is barbless and
2 barbless is defined currently in State regulations I
3 believe the hook is manufactured without a barb or the
4 barb is completely removed or compressed or the barb is
5 in complete contact with the shank of the hook. Now
6 when the North Slope RAC heard this definition they
7 were concerned that it may not include a barbless hook
8 which they commonly use on the North Slope for fishing
9 under the ice in the wintertime. And they typically
10 make their own hooks out of nails. However I looked up
11 the definition of manufactured in the American Heritage
12 Dictionary for them and it says the definition of
13 manufactured is to make or process a raw material into
14 a finished product. Therefore this would include the
15 homemade hooks that are commonly used up there.

16

17 Over.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
20 you, Drew. That's a very good clarification, I
21 appreciate that.

22

23 Okay. Any questions from the Council
24 to Drew.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Can we
29 have Advisory Group comments.

30

31 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair, there's no
32 State Advisory Group comments received on this
33 proposal.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Do we have any
38 from any other RACs that have approved it already.

39

40 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair. There
41 were eight Regional Advisory Councils that recently met
42 over the month and a half, the Southeast Council
43 supported it, the Southcentral supports the proposal,
44 Kodiak-Aleutians support it, Y-K supports, the Seward
45 Peninsula RAC supports, Northwest Areas RAC supports
46 and the Eastern and North Slope RACs support the
47 proposal.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
2 And do we have any Resource, SRC comments on the
3 proposal from.....
4
5 (No comments)
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Seeing
8 none. Any written comments?
9
10 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
11 You'll find the written public comments starting on
12 page 72 and ending on page 73. The Ahtna, Incorporated
13 Subsistence Committee supports proposal 15-01 to add a
14 new definition to hook which is defined as a single
15 shanked fish hook with a single eye constructed with
16 one, two or three points with or without barbs.
17
18 The Southeast Alliance supports
19 proposal 15-01 defining a fish hook. This will make it
20 very clear that a hook can have barbs in Federal
21 subsistence fisheries unless specified in regulation
22 for a particular conservation issue.
23
24 And back in September we had Tribal
25 consultations with the Tribes and ANCSA corporation.
26 Gloria Stickwan was -- wanted to know -- needed
27 clarification on barbless hooks and the affects on
28 their region. And she basically stated that Ahtna did
29 submit a proposal and wanted the Board to know they
30 were commenting that the proposal could affect them in
31 the future.
32
33 Thank you, Madam Chair.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
36 you, Donald. Any public testimony?
37
38 MR. MIKE: None.
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I would
41 entertain a motion to put this on the table for
42 discussion.
43
44 MR. WILSON: I so move.
45
46 MR. O'HARA: Second.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I've
49 got a motion and a second. Discussion.
50

1 MR. O'HARA: I guess you have the
2 barbless hook because it doesn't -- there's less
3 possibility of harm to the fish and would this be for
4 like rainbows and Dolly Vardens or kings or all
5 species?

6
7 MS. HYER: Madam Chairman, Council
8 members. It could be for any species. The specific
9 proposal that was passed on the Kenai was for chinook
10 salmon. And this proposal would allow Federal
11 subsistence users to use the barbless hook or a barbed
12 hook, it would allow them both options.

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.

15
16 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. Just
17 thinking, what -- a barbless and a barbed hook, what
18 difference does it really mean, I mean, if you caught
19 that same fish four times, five times with a -- is
20 there anything out there that tells us how many times
21 you can do this before it actually is -- you know, the
22 fish dies or, I mean, that's the reason we're going
23 barbless of course is you want to catch and release.
24 Well, under subsistence, you know, you catch them and
25 you keep them. So it doesn't matter. So just I'm
26 curious here.

27
28 MS. HYER: Madam Chairman, Council
29 members. I do know there's been a lot of research on
30 mortality of tagging and releasing. I don't have that
31 at my fingertips and I don't know if somebody in the
32 room does, but that would be something I could
33 certainly research and get back to you on.

34
35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Drew, can I
36 ask you if you have -- if you have some of the research
37 that you've shared with me in the past anyway on those
38 studies, just a brief summary to -- and for the benefit
39 of the Council members I suspect that this proposal
40 came about to ensure that it was defined in the
41 subsistence fisheries for this state that hooks would
42 be allowed, barbed or barbless, for subsistence
43 fishing. If I'm off track here tell me, but I also
44 know there's a big push within the state for fisheries
45 that are catch and release fisheries to be using
46 nothing but barbless hooks and it's -- it I think is a
47 way of protecting subsistence fishers' interest. So,
48 Richard, you are correct and I think by putting this
49 definition in the books it's we're trying to protect
50 our use of hooks in subsistence fisheries.

1 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, I just want to
2 clarify that that's exactly true, but it's in Federal
3 subsistence fisheries because stand alone Federal
4 subsistence regulations do not exist everywhere in
5 Alaska. And so then when there's not a stand alone
6 Federal regulation it defaults to the State regulation
7 and this is just to ensure that everywhere there's a
8 Federal subsistence fishery Federal subsistence users
9 can use barbed or barbless hooks.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
12 you. And, Drew, did you have that information that Mr.
13 Wilson asked for?

14

15 MR. HAMON: Madam Chairman, members of
16 the Council. My name is Troy Hamon with the National
17 Park Service over in King Salmon. And I expect that
18 Drew probably has a lot of numbers and details that I
19 don't have to offer you, what I can tell you is that in
20 a number of projects that we've been either cooperators
21 on or assisted with, we've reviewed the literature on
22 barbed and barbless hooks. It's not a clear cut, easy
23 thing to say what the mortality rates are. The numbers
24 are I would say all over the place. The best estimates
25 are that there's not a huge difference in mortality.
26 What we have seen a lot in our areas that may be
27 related to barbed hooks, but is also not clearly
28 measurable is injury rates where you talk about damage
29 to fish in terms of removing mouth parts, losing eyes.
30 But again that's complicated because it seems like the
31 size and the shape of the hook are equally important.
32 There's a lot of pieces of the puzzle going on. It is
33 true however that in many places throughout the world,
34 not just in Alaska where they've had this discussion
35 barbed hooks are generally favored for catch and
36 release activities where you're trying to reduce the
37 potential harm to the fish. It does -- it is generally
38 an accepted practice. The biological success rate of
39 it is not entirely clear. So I think Mr. Dunaway.....

40

41 MR. DUNAWAY: Madam Chair.

42

43 MR. HAMON:can probably follow-up
44 with anything else.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, Dan.
47 Thank you for being patient. Please go ahead.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, first what you
50 brought up, Nanci, we could get wrapped around the axil

1 on hooks for the rest of the allowed time for this
2 meeting and I don't want to go there. I'm generally
3 supportive of what is proposed here just to take care
4 of that omission if you will. Troy pretty much summed
5 what I understand about barbed and barbless, it's
6 highly controversial. Back when I was working I could
7 find studies that said treble hooks were better than
8 single hooks for survival of some fish and then a lot
9 of other players it was just the opposite. There's
10 also the individual person handling the fish and the
11 hook and all. But it struck me that the main point in
12 here is to assure that a hook is an allowable means
13 addressed in Federal regulation rather than just
14 tossing it to the State. And I also support the simple
15 version and not get too tangled up until some barbless
16 -- the need to really get into barbless comes along.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

21
22 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Troy, I mean, I
23 don't know if I heard you right or not, but you said
24 there was less damage done with a barbed hook versus a
25 barbless hook?

26
27 MR. HAMON: That is generally believed
28 to be the case. It's only in the last decade that
29 we've seen too much work to even try to assess that and
30 it's hard to compile that kind of data. So I would say
31 that people assume it's true, it makes sense, but the
32 data record to support it is fairly limited.

33
34 MR. CRAWFORD: Madam Chair. Drew
35 Crawford.

36
37 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Yes, he can go
38 ahead and talk.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Would you
41 mind, Dan?

42
43 MR. DUNAWAY: No.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Drew, please
46 go ahead.

47
48 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, I'm sorry, I tried
49 to respond to you before, but I had my mute on. I
50 agree with the prior two speakers that studies of

1 mortality rates on fish released either on barbed or
2 barbless hooks are inconclusive. The results largely
3 suggest there's no significant difference in mortality
4 rates of fish caught on barbed versus barbless hooks.
5 Although there's vast bodies of research on the topic,
6 some studies do support the use of barbless hooks for
7 specific species in some fisheries.

8

9 Over.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
12 you, Drew. I really appreciate that clarification and
13 I -- that was my understanding from the last research I
14 had read over and I didn't know if it had been updated
15 or changed since then, but you and Troy both have set
16 the record straight on it.

17

18 Does that help you out too, Mr. Wilson?

19

20 MR. WILSON: Yes.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Back to you,
23 Mr. O'Hara.

24

25 MR. O'HARA: I want to have a follow-up
26 with Troy. Nanci, you fix in the condensed area of,
27 you know, a lot of hook and release, I guess the
28 biggest percentage of anything was on hook and release.
29 And then you go into the Brooks, I mean, you got to be
30 -- you know, I don't know who's more dangerous the fly
31 fisherman or the bear, you know, and who gets to fish.
32 But, I mean, this is high intensity type work where you
33 really should have it. Then you go, Dan, down to
34 Ugashik one and two and those -- and they're just
35 hundreds and thousands of the -- of the fish coming
36 through there, I forget the name of the high push they
37 are, but -- and then and they're high intensity hook
38 and release too. So I guess if you just draw the line
39 and maybe it's just kind of the way it is and it's
40 probably not going to change. So and I guess this is
41 marrying the Feds with the State regulation, kind of a
42 housekeeping item.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Actually, no,
45 I think it's more of a regulation to put in place for
46 subsistence fishers to ensure that hook -- hooks will
47 be allowed as a method. Correct me if I'm wrong.

48

49 MS. HYER: Yeah, it is to ensure that
50 Federal subsistence users can use both a hooked or a

1 barbless hook, whichever they choose.
2
3 MR. HAMON: Madam Chair. Troy Hamon.
4 My impression reading this is that this is the first
5 time the State has put a requirement for the use of
6 barbless hooks into a regulation and it seems like the
7 intent of this regulation change is to make sure that
8 if the State imposes a barbless requirement that it
9 doesn't become an imposition onto the subsistence
10 fishers' ability to use a barbed hook.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well put,
13 that's what I was trying to say.
14
15 Anybody else?
16
17 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.
18
19 MR. CRAWFORD: Madam Chair. Drew
20 Crawford, Fish and Game.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Withdrawn?
23
24 MR. O'HARA: I'll withdraw.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
27 ahead, Drew.
28
29 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah, I've got one other
30 thing. I'd like to tell you that Donald was correct
31 regarding his information he provided that all previous
32 RACs that have met have supported fisheries proposal
33 15-01. However two of the RACs supported the proposal
34 with the modifications found on page 70 on your RAC
35 book, it's in bold print in the middle of the page.
36 Basically they accept the definition provided by the
37 OSM, but they have modified it by adding the sentence
38 which mirrors the State of Alaska statewide definition
39 of barbless hooks.
40
41 Over.
42
43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
44 you, Drew. I think that's an important point for us to
45 include in our deliberations. In other words we could
46 -- we have the option of proposing or supporting a
47 proposal that would pretty much mirror the statewide
48 definition, correct?
49
50 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.
2
3 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, looking at those
4 two I'm wondering if we're trying to protect
5 subsistence users in the event that there's more State
6 -- protect the Federal subsistence users in the event
7 that there's some additional new State regulations
8 which I know they're -- some of the Board of Fish has
9 been eager to impose some of these out here, it might
10 be wise to look at the modified version that's offered
11 there in the middle of page 70.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Any other
14 thoughts?
15
16 MR. O'HARA: Call for the question.
17
18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. The
19 question's been called. Proposal, where's my number,
20 FP 15-01. All in favor signify by saying aye.
21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Opposed same
25 sign.
26
27 (No opposing votes)
28
29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Motion
30 carries.
31
32 Okay. Karen, would you like to start
33 on FP 15-08, please.
34
35 MS. HYER: Yes, Madam Chair, Council
36 members. 15-08 starts on page 75 of your books. And
37 proposal 15-08 was submitted by Alvin Boskofsky on
38 behalf of the Chignik Lake Traditional Council. And it
39 requests that seines be used as a legal gear for the
40 taking of salmon above the weir in Chignik River. And
41 this proposal was submitted with the thought that
42 adding seines as a gear type would allow for additional
43 subsistence harvest opportunity of chinook salmon while
44 allowing release of non-targeted fish species.
45
46 Currently this area above the weir is
47 open to Federal subsistence harvest with rod and reel.
48 Chinook salmon are known to spawn in this area and
49 about 80 percent of the 1.8 river miles that extends
50 from the outlet of Chignik Lake downstream to the ADF&G

1 weir is considered spawning grounds for chinook salmon.
2 And to prevent over harvest or harassment of these
3 salmon as well as non-selective harvest of other
4 species gear type has been limited to rod and reel in
5 this area for both subsistence use and then there's
6 also a State subsistence -- State sport fishery that
7 happens above the weir too, a rod and reel sport
8 fishery. And if this proposal was to pass residents of
9 Chignik area including communities of Perryville,
10 Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake and Ivanof
11 Bay would have access to this gear type.
12

13 Until 2012 this area was closed to the
14 taking of salmon under Federal subsistence regulations.
15 And however like I said before it was open to sport
16 fishing regulations or harvest under sport fishing
17 regulations and in 2012 the Chignik Lake Traditional
18 Council submitted proposal 13-13 to allow for the
19 taking of salmon above the weir. And in their proposal
20 they requested using a gillnet to harvest the fish or
21 actually it was just a net in general, but there was
22 talk on the record of a gillnet. And the Federal
23 Subsistence Board chose to restrict it to rod and reel
24 to control harvest, for selective harvest. And
25 currently there is -- while the sport fish regulations
26 have a bag limit there is no possession or annual
27 limits for the Federal subsistence harvesters above the
28 weir.
29

30 So ADF&G has set the biological
31 escapement goal for chinook salmon in Chignik River
32 between 1,300 to 2,700 fish. And in 2013 there was a
33 low escapement of 1,253 chinook salmon which was
34 slightly below the lower bounds escaping into this --
35 into the lake. And also the escapement was below the
36 five and 10 year average. And I have passed out maps
37 and a table that didn't get included in the book in the
38 analysis so you can look at those. And these poor
39 returns in 2013 led to a restriction in 2013 of
40 commercial, sport and Federal subsistence fisheries.
41 The commercial fleet was not allowed to retain chinook
42 salmon over 28 inches later in the season and both the
43 sport and Federal subsistence fisheries were closed in
44 2013.
45

46 So entering in 2014 because of the low
47 runs in 2013 the sport fishery started off with a
48 reduced bag limit. And that's how they actually went
49 into the season. And then the Federal subsistence
50 fishery was opened, but the commercial in Chignik Bay

1 did not begin until July 15th and this was due to the
2 low returns of sockeye salmon. But it also then
3 reflected in the escapement which was 2,895 chinook
4 salmon through the weir because they weren't caught in
5 the commercial fishery. So while the escapement was
6 made for the river this year it was still lower than it
7 would have been if the commercial fishery had taken
8 place. And in mid year -- excuse me, mid year, mid
9 July the -- because the escapement was so good the bag
10 limit was again increased in the sport fishery. And so
11 -- and we also had many -- we issued several Federal
12 subsistence permits, but those numbers won't be
13 returned to us until later in the season so we don't
14 have an estimate for what was harvested during that
15 Federal subsistence fishery.

16

17 But currently OSM's preliminary
18 conclusion is to oppose 15-08 and it's for conservation
19 concerns on the river because it's felt like a seine in
20 that area could be detrimental to the spawning chinook
21 salmon and because there's no harvest limit on chinook
22 salmon currently in that area it could be result in
23 over harvest too.

24

25 And so that's end my presentation and
26 I'll take any questions.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.

29

30 Questions.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I feel the
35 absence of our Chignik Council members.

36

37 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

40

41 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. There was no limit
42 on chinook being able to retain for subsistence use, is
43 that right or let -- you know, for instance whenever I
44 pick up my permit to do subsistence in State waters,
45 Naknek River, they'll say 300 reds and 10 kings. And
46 that both seemed like a lot.

47

48 MS. HYER: Currently in this area above
49 the weir it -- the Federal subsistence fishery's with
50 rod and reel and there is no daily bag limit or there's

1 no -- excuse me, there's no daily harvest limit and
2 there's no annual harvest limit.
3
4 MR. O'HARA: The question I'm asking
5 then, they do have gillnets in the Chignik River?
6
7 MS. HYER: Yeah, that's below the weir.
8 And there is a harvest limit on those because you need
9 the State permit.
10
11 MR. O'HARA: No, I don't think that's
12 correct. There's gillnet in the -- where you go into
13 the lake itself and the.....
14
15 MS. HYER: Correct. In the lake also.
16 But we're just talking about the area above the weir
17 and before the lake. And you can also have nets I do
18 understand below the weir too.
19
20 MR. LIND: Madam Chair.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Please,
23 Orville.
24
25 MR. JONES: Madam Chair, this is John
26 Jones in Chignik Lagoon.
27
28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: John, you
29 know, we've got Orville and then I will be more than
30 happy to call on you. Thank you for joining us.
31 Standby.
32
33 MR. LIND: Again, Madam Chair, Orville
34 Lind, Ranger and Native Liaison for Alaska Peninsula
35 National Wildlife Refuge. Just to share some history
36 on the fishery in Chignik, traditionally they used
37 gillnets above the weir, up in the lake area and mouth
38 of the lake, Chignik Lake, to harvest chinook. And
39 you're talking four or five families that do it today
40 and so there's a small impact on that. And this
41 proposal addresses the issue of changing gillnet to
42 seines because they were -- they would be able to take
43 bycatch out safely and return to the river system.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: You might want
46 to stay there, Orville, I have a sneaking hunch there
47 might be more questions for you.
48
49 Okay. Thank you, Mr. Jones, for
50 joining us and you have the floor.

1 MR. JONES: I'd like to put some
2 comments on, please. First of all I don't think
3 gillnets will work in the Chignik River. I think that
4 the fishing poles don't work either, there's too many
5 people going up there with their subsistence permit now
6 and it's causing chaos at the weir with people coming
7 out of there with more than the bag limit. And they're
8 trying to define subsistence and sports fishing up
9 there. I talked with Pierre quite a bit this summer
10 seeing how I had the summer off, but it's mass
11 confusion. I think the whole thing needs to be knocked
12 out of there and reevaluated some other way.

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
15 you. Council members, questions for Mr. Jones or Mr.
16 Lind.

17
18 Mr. Dunaway.

19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Just a process question
21 here a little bit. Mr. Jones has joined us by
22 telephone so he'll be able to vote and so on now,
23 right?

24
25 MR. MIKE: Yes.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Yeah, I'm glad
28 he's on. I -- my comments to this, I'm not sure if
29 we've gone through the list entirely, but I sense in
30 the past there's been pretty -- there's been a lot of
31 disagreement between Mr. -- the proposer, Mr.
32 Boskofsky, and Mr. Jones and they both reside and use
33 the area. Reading through the history I'm pretty
34 concerned about the potential for harm that this
35 proposal could do, but I'd like to wait through the
36 whole process first.

37
38 Thanks.

39
40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thank
41 you, Mr. Dunaway. I think we should keep our comments
42 to deliberation for now perhaps, but if anybody has any
43 questions.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Then
48 let's move on to.....

49
50 MR. JONES: Oh, I got another little

1 comment there.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
4 ahead, Mr. Jones.

5

6 MR. JONES: You know, I mean, they want
7 to put these gillnets up there and gillnet these
8 things, they also want to put in a proposal to dipnet
9 in the Chignik Lake -- River system. And dipnetting I
10 don't think would be a very good one for the Chignik
11 River system, you know, it's -- I don't know, it's too
12 much I think.

13

14 I think the (indiscernible -
15 distortion) steal Alaska out of that fish tag and that
16 sports fishing might be enough for 10 days or
17 (indiscernible - distortion) to get rid of us before it
18 nets into somebody, you know, knocking out the king run
19 altogether. And I've got a big feeling that a lot of
20 people that got the -- their permits this year ain't
21 including my harvest either. So it -- I go up and down
22 this river quite a bit and there was a lot of kings
23 taken out of there this summer at -- and low numbers
24 for the kings doesn't support that, you know, you're
25 talking 1,000, 1,500 kings and it doesn't support none
26 of this of somebody going up 50 kings.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
29 you, Mr. Jones.

30

31 Other Council members, questions.

32

33 Mr. Wilson.

34

35 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair, Orville, if I
36 may. I know you spoke on just the -- you were
37 clarifying language that was in there, I wonder if you
38 had a personal comment to give on this?

39

40 MR. LIND: Madam Chair, Council. It
41 was a proposal put in that represented Chignik Lake
42 mostly by Alvin Boskofsky. And through some of the
43 folks that I talked to about in Perryville including
44 Ivanof Bay, I did not talk to Chignik Lagoon or Chignik
45 Bay, but most support it -- were in support of the
46 proposal.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.

49

50 MR. WILSON: No. Good. Thanks.

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr.
2 Lind.
3
4 Anybody else.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Can we
9 move on to Advisory Group comments, other RAC comments.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. What
14 about local Fish and Game Advisory Committee comments,
15 did we get any of those from the area.
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No. Okay.
20
21 SRC.
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Again a no.
26 Okay. Any written comments.
27
28 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. There are no
29 written comments.
30
31 Thank you.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Do we have
34 anybody for public testimony.
35
36 (No comments)
37
38 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.
39 Striking out here. Okay. I would entertain a motion
40 if anybody would care to make one.
41
42 MR. CRAWFORD: Madam Chair. Would you
43 like to hear Fish and Game?
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Absolutely.
46 That's -- you were part of the agency comments. Not
47 hearing from you made me assume you didn't have any,
48 Drew.
49
50 Please go ahead.

1 MR. CRAWFORD: Sure. Regarding
2 fisheries proposal 15-08 Fish and Game is opposed to
3 this proposal. The Department is concerned about the
4 adverse affects of disrupting chinook salmon on their
5 spawning grounds with seine gear and the potential for
6 over harvest of fish in this area where they are
7 heavily concentrated. This proposal would create
8 divergent State and Federal regulations which leads to
9 enforcement problems and confusion for users. Also due
10 to the lack of an in season reporting requirement
11 neither State nor Federal managers have the ability to
12 manage the chinook river -- Chignik River chinook
13 salmon subsistence fishery in season because they have
14 no idea of what the Federal subsistence harvest is.
15 Adding seines as a legal gear type would exacerbate
16 this problem.

17
18 Over.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
21 you, Drew.

22
23 Mr. O'Hara.

24
25 MR. O'HARA: Yes. Who's the State of
26 Alaska guy, what's his name?

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Drew Crawford.

29
30 MR. O'HARA: Drew. Mr. Crawford, can
31 you hear me?

32
33 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. O'Hara.

34
35 MR. O'HARA: Did I understand you to
36 say that the seine operation is within the spawning
37 grounds of the chinook; is that right?

38
39 MR. CRAWFORD: That's what this
40 proposal advocates.

41
42 Over.

43
44 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Madam Chair. We
45 have a fishery in Katmai National Park, but it's not --
46 it does not take place during spawning time, it takes
47 place after the spawn out and we call them the spawn
48 outs. And so I have a little concern about this --
49 chinook history is a very delicate thing right now and
50 of course I'm pretty much on the side of subsistence

1 and recreational is good, but I got a little concern if
2 we -- we're looking at putting a seine in a spawning
3 ground. I think we ought to maybe talk about that a
4 little bit.

5
6 Mr. Drew, that would be a comment
7 request coming from you -- this is Dan O'Hara again.
8 Could you comment on those seines being on spawning
9 grounds a little bit more if you would, please?

10
11 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, the Department is concerned
12 about the adverse affects of disrupting the chinook
13 salmon on their spawning grounds with seine gear and
14 the area that they're proposing to use this above the
15 weir is where the chinook salmon spawn.

16
17 Over.

18
19 MR. O'HARA: Thank you much -- very
20 much, Mr. Drew.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Any other
23 questions.

24
25 Mr. Dunaway.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Not so much a question
28 but a comment. From everything I'm hearing I'm
29 opposed, but I'd like to move to adopt so that we can
30 come down clearly rather than not take it up. So I'm
31 -- I move to adopt.

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Do I have a
34 second.

35
36 MR. WILSON: Second.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr.
39 Wilson. Discussion.

40
41 Mr. Dunaway.

42
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, again everything
44 I'm hearing and knowing that it's pretty controversial
45 among even the residents down there I'm getting a
46 picture of a pretty small run in a pretty restricted
47 place. It's already highly sought. And I'm getting
48 from one of our other members here that he's concerned
49 that even the existing regulations are not sufficient
50 to protect the spawning population of kings in that

1 river and that would be a real mistake to do more
2 damage. So I'm very much opposed to this regulation
3 from what I know about it and from what I've heard
4 today.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 MR. JONES: Madam Chair, this is John
9 Jones.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, Mr.
12 Jones. Please go ahead.

13
14 MR. JONES: As you remember or if you
15 think about it when you sat there with Alvin when me
16 and Alvin argued about this proposal back and forth and
17 I wasn't for it then and then I agreed to try it for a
18 couple years and I wanted to make sure I was in that
19 proposal when it went through, but I don't know if it
20 ever made it into it. But I thought it should have
21 been a trial thing and what I can see of it it's a
22 flop, you know, it's uncontrollable on the fishery up
23 there. It -- it's hard to manage, it's hard to do
24 everything up there because of the fact that you don't
25 know if it's the State or the Federal which Fish and
26 Game will admit to. And I think it needs to be --
27 seeing this is my last year on the Board, but I think
28 it -- I think we need to procure another private
29 proposal into changing this back to just sports fishing
30 up there because there isn't that many people that go
31 -- we're catering to one or two families of having a
32 subsistence up there in that river system. And I don't
33 think it's working. So I would like to make that
34 comment and have it on the record that it's not working
35 and I'm not for this proposal or I would like to see
36 another proposal written up to knock out the other --
37 the fishing pole one.

38
39 So that's where I stand on this so
40 that's my comment and Fish and Game can try to figure
41 out how to manage it if it stays there, but I really
42 think that the Board needs to readdress this whole
43 thing from the beginning and change it back to the way
44 it was. These senior citizens they get a free license
45 for life after a certain age so they can go up there
46 and catch fish with their fishing pole and not have to
47 buy that license, it's the same as subsistence fishing.

48
49 So that's my comment on it.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
2 you, Mr. Jones.
3
4 Any other council member comments.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, Madam Chair.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.
9
10 MR. O'HARA: I think I -- I like the
11 seine thing because you can, you know, limit the
12 bycatch. But I think I'd like a little more research
13 on it before I say yes on it. And so I'll ask for a
14 roll call.
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Very well.
17 Roll call vote has been requested. Mr. Mike, would you
18 care to do that.
19
20 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. The
21 Regional Advisory Council moved to adopt proposal FP
22 15-08.
23
24 Mr. Pete Abraham.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. The Council
29 moved to adopt proposal 15-08 and the motion is in the
30 positive so if the Council votes yes on this proposal
31 it will go forward as proposed by the proponent. And
32 if the Council voted against it it'll go to the Federal
33 Subsistence Board as the Council recommends to oppose.
34
35 Thank you, Madam Chair.
36
37 MR. ABRAHAM: (In Native)
38
39 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. If you need
40 more clarification we can -- the Council can continue
41 to discuss this as far as more information for the
42 Council to consider.
43
44 Thank you, Madam Chair.
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: What are the
47 Council's wishes.
48
49 MR. O'HARA: Point of order. What are
50 we talking about here?

1 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. The Council
2 moved to adopt proposal FP 15-08 and some Council
3 members are confused whether or not if they should vote
4 yes or no. And I offer to the Council if they need to
5 discuss it further for the Council to consider all the
6 issues before they make their final vote.
7
8 Thank you, Madam Chair.
9
10 There is a motion on the table and if
11 we wish to continue I can go -- start from the bottom
12 voting, starting with Mr. Wilson if that's the wish of
13 the Council.
14
15 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr.
18 O'Hara.....
19
20 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:it's your
23 motion.
24
25 MR. O'HARA: You know, it's not my
26 motion, it's Dan's motion. And it was to oppose -- it
27 was to oppose the proposal, right, Dan?
28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: No.
30
31 MR. O'HARA: Oh, I'm sorry.
32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: No, I'm accustomed to
34 moving to adopt, but then if we vote no, do not adopt
35 we clearly reject the proposal and I guess that's a
36 habit and I'd rather -- I always try to do things in
37 the positive. But personally I'll be voting no on this
38 proposal.
39
40 Thank you.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.
43
44 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. I'm ready to
45 vote if that's the wishes of the Board.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.
48
49 MR. O'HARA: If we have Council members
50 who don't understand the motion then that's not -- if

1 they don't understand the motion I don't think they
2 should be called upon to vote on the issue. I think
3 that's basic to what we do, whether I support or not
4 support the motion. So I think in fairness to Council
5 members -- I don't know, I guess it's up to the rest of
6 you voting members and I want to hear from you, but,
7 you know, if -- you heard the comment and I think it's
8 -- I certainly wouldn't want a proposal before me that
9 I couldn't understand to vote on. And I guess the only
10 other thing you would do is just to withdraw the motion
11 and table it if we -- in fairness, but you don't have
12 to do that if you want because you can vote as you want
13 to vote.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Mike.

16

17 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
18 can restate the motion in the positive and read on
19 record what the proponent is requesting if that's the
20 wish of the Council.

21

22 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair, just every
23 Council member needs to clearly understand what the
24 motion is and if they want to vote it up or down. And
25 if they don't understand it then, you know, I don't
26 think we got a quorum and I don't know if that's a
27 legal issue or not, but I think that's in fairness to
28 -- you know, to the issue. It's fairly new to me as
29 well, you know, I never saw the seine thing before we
30 saw our packet.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Don, why don't
35 you go ahead and restate the motion and with your
36 clarification and we will take the roll call from there
37 and if it goes anywhere it does and if it doesn't it
38 doesn't.

39

40 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
41 There's a motion to adopt proposal FP 15-08 and
42 seconded by Mr. Wilson. And the motion was made in the
43 positive and proposal FP 15-08 submitted by Mr.
44 Boskofsky of Chignik Lake Traditional Council requests
45 seines as a legal gear type for the taking of salmon
46 above the weir in Chignik River. The proponent, Mr.
47 Boskofsky, states that adding seines as a gear type
48 would allow for additional subsistence harvest
49 opportunities of chinook salmon while allowing release
50 of non-targeted species. And that's the motion on the

1 table as proposed by the motion maker.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
4 ahead with your roll call vote, please. Any direction
5 you would care to start is fine.
6
7 Okay. One more comment from Mr. Carl.
8
9 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
10 For the record Carl Johnson. And just to add onto
11 Donald stating what the motion is I thought I would add
12 what a yes vote or a no vote would mean. A yes vote on
13 this motion means you wish the Federal Subsistence
14 Board to adopt this new gear type into Federal
15 regulation. A no vote means you do not wish to have
16 seines as a gear type above the weir for the harvest of
17 salmon.
18
19 Thank you, Madam Chair.
20
21 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
22 you, Carl.
23
24 Donald, would you like to proceed,
25 please.
26
27 MR. MIKE: Roll call on the proposal FP
28 15-08.
29
30 Mr. Richard Wilson.
31
32 MR. WILSON: No.
33
34 MR. MIKE: Mr. Thomas Hedlund.
35
36 MR. HEDLUND: No.
37
38 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan Dunaway.
39
40 MR. DUNAWAY: No.
41
42 MR. MIKE: Mr. John Jones.
43
44 MR. JONES: No.
45
46 MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris.
47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No.
49
50 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan O'Hara.

1 MR. O'HARA: No.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Peter Abraham.
4
5 MR. ABRAHAM: No.
6
7 MR. MIKE: Madam Chair. It's unanimous
8 against the proposal, seven -- zero/seven.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.
11
12 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, very good job. I
13 really -- I just really wanted clarification for all of
14 us to be able to make up our mind and so thank you
15 for.....
16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Appreciate it.
18
19 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.
20
21 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
22 you, everybody. Okay. Let's move on.
23
24 Karen, Partners for Fisheries
25 Monitoring Program. Are you going to do that in
26 conjunction.....
27
28 MS. HYER: Yes, Madam Chair. I'm going
29 to do that, then I'm going to ask Jeff to come and join
30 me and Courtenay said she'd help too because this is
31 another discussion, this is not an action item, we just
32 want your input.
33
34 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair. Where are we
35 at in the agenda?
36
37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Right after
38 the regional proposal is the Partners for Fisheries
39 Monitoring Program.
40
41 MR. O'HARA: Now I thought when we
42 adopted the agenda that we was going to go from the
43 Chignik River seine to the bycatch of the chinook.
44
45 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Oh, I thought
46 -- I put it on the bottom. If you.....
47
48 MR. O'HARA: Okay.
49
50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Is that okay

1 with you still?

2

3 MR. O'HARA: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. It's
6 not off of there, I just -- it wasn't in the same
7 location you had it. Sorry.

8

9 Go ahead, Karen.

10

11 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
12 members. As you well know because you have a partner
13 in your region, we have a program we call Partners for
14 Fisheries Monitoring and we fund different rural
15 agencies and they hire fisheries biologists or
16 anthropologists or educators in the area and these
17 positions are hired through rural organizations and
18 they live in the communities and they work in the
19 communities. And Courtenay has been our partner and
20 she's also over -- been an overseen -- she's been in
21 the position of leadership and over -- to oversee our
22 partners positions and we are now coming up on another
23 what we used to call call for proposals but we now call
24 funding opportunity for our partners' organizations.
25 And so before we do that we're developing a strategic
26 plan to give us some direction as to where we want to
27 head. The Partners Program now has been in existence
28 probably what, Courtenay, 12 years?

29

30 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yeah. Sorry. For
31 the record fiscal year 2002, I believe.

32

33 MS. HYER: Okay. And so we're taking
34 some time to step back and reevaluate what our
35 successes have been and what our failures have been and
36 before we go through this next funding opportunity we
37 want to develop a strategic plan to actually guide the
38 call and then guide the next few years of the Partners
39 Program. And so Jeff and I and Palma and we've have a
40 representative from K&A and a representative from the
41 Forest Service have been working on this plan and we
42 are at the point now where we are seeking input and
43 we're actually coming before you to gather some
44 information and get some of your ideas. And Courtenay
45 passed out a -- some questions that were asked of her
46 and her input just so you can see that, but I have
47 several questions that I'd like to ask you and if
48 you're ready I'll just start and then like I said it's
49 just a discussion so you're welcome to ask any of us
50 any question, anybody feel free to chime in at anytime,

1 if you want input from Courtenay, that's why I asked
2 her up here because she is a partner and she can
3 provide you with some insight.

4
5 So anyway I have a series of six
6 questions I'll ask you and I'm just going to get going
7 and ask the questions and then sit back and wait for
8 you guys to give us input. But how would you -- how
9 can our partners facilitate better communication. And
10 one of the example we have is our partners live in
11 rural Alaska and they interact with local people so
12 that -- I just wanted to kind of give you an example of
13 what we're looking for, but how do you think that they
14 can facilitate better communication with the RACs, with
15 locals, anything that you see as a need for our
16 Partners Program.

17
18 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Absolutely,
21 Mr. O'Hara.

22
23 MR. O'HARA: Where -- do we have a copy
24 of these questions?

25
26 MS. HYER: No, I'm sorry, I don't. I
27 only -- I only brought one copy because I just thought
28 we'd have a dialogue. But I do -- I apologize for that
29 because now I recognize it's helpful for you to have
30 these things in front of you too. Do you want to take
31 a break and let Courtenay make the copies?

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I think that
34 would be really helpful.....

35
36 MS. HYER: I do too.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:as well
39 as I -- you know, this is -- I just -- I would say that
40 from what my understanding for what Karen and Jeff and
41 Courtenay are all looking for is it'll be a fairly open
42 discussion, we can just kind of take turns and jump in
43 where we feel appropriate. But if -- I think if the
44 questions were in front of us it would help us to jot
45 down things while other people were talking as well.

46
47 MS. HYER: Absolutely. So I will --
48 we'll take a break and we'll let Courtenay make those.

49
50 MR. O'HARA: Karen, was this just for

1 the strategic plan?

2

3 MS. HYER: This is for the strategic
4 plan for the Partners Program and we are developing
5 that plan now. And once we actually have a formal plan
6 and we'll come back out for a review. So this is not
7 something that you have to -- it's not like what we
8 talked about earlier with the priority information
9 needs, it's not something that has a deadline of this
10 meeting, this will be an ongoing process. So it's a
11 little bit different.

12

13 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair. We like
14 strategic plans, a five year plan. At the end of the
15 -- at the -- a certain point in that year, first year,
16 you're going to measure what you have done in a way.
17 And I was on a BBNC Board, Bristol Bay Native
18 Corporation for 25 years and every February we had 27
19 subsidiaries and we had 27 books and we measured the
20 progress of this corporation by a strategic plan. Now
21 if your strategic plan is for the Partnership Program
22 versus the overall Federal Subsistence Program -- I
23 guess it's just going to be for the Partner Program,
24 huh?

25

26 MS. HYER: Yes, this is just for the
27 Partners Program.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.

30

31 MR. O'HARA: I was hoping it would be
32 the whole plan, but.....

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No. Okay.

35

36 Ten minute break and we'll reconvene.

37

38 (Off record)

39

40 (On record)

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Let's
43 call ourselves back to order, please. Okay.
44 Courtenay, Jeff, Karen are you ready to proceed forward
45 or I guess I should say Council members are you ready
46 to proceed with your comments or advice. Do you want
47 to go ahead and ask your question again and see if we
48 can launch from there.

49

50 MS. HYER: I do, but I want to back up

1 a little bit because I got ahead of myself and I just
2 want to refer you to page 83 and there's kind of an
3 overview document in there and through this planning
4 process we've developed six main goals and we're trying
5 to flush those goals out and develop strategies to
6 accomplish those goals. So what Courtenay just handed
7 out to you are what we're going to talk about and
8 they're the goals that we've developed. And -- but I
9 didn't -- I failed to mention that there's some
10 background information in the book that you can look
11 over and I just wanted to clarify that because they
12 don't exactly match, this is kind of an overview and
13 then we're talking just about the goals. So I am ready
14 to go back to the first one that you now have before
15 you and.....

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. One
18 second. I just want to make sure Council members are
19 up to speed on that, that they're -- I think we all had
20 a chance to look over what was in the book there before
21 we got here and that's what this is corresponding to,
22 that's on page 83.....

23

24 MS. HYER: Right. And that.....

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:with the
27 six bullet points?

28

29 MS. HYER: That's kind of the
30 background information.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: So I guess
33 maybe I'd like to back up and see if the Council
34 members had any questions directly pertaining to any of
35 that and I've got a hand up already.

36

37 Mr. Dunaway, go ahead.

38

39 MR. DUNAWAY: I read through this stuff
40 last night and I was trying to remember, Courtenay,
41 maybe you could help me out, didn't you do kind of a
42 presentation on this program at one of our previous
43 meetings?

44

45 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Sure. Thank you, Mr.
46 Dunaway. Through the Chair. For the record Courtenay
47 Gomez. Yes, we've -- the BBNA Partners Program has
48 presented on the status of our program at RAC meetings
49 prior. If it would be helpful for the Council I could
50 brief you on current -- the current status of the

1 Partners Program at BBNA if that would help guide your
2 discussion at all.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I'm going to
5 encourage you to go ahead and do that. I'm seeing
6 heads shake on the Council plus I know that it will
7 help clear the cobwebs in my mind from our last meeting
8 about it.

9

10 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Sure. Thank you. So
11 at your last RAC meeting, I believe that was the winter
12 meeting in Naknek, it was attended by Danielle Stickman
13 who was our Subsistence Fishery Scientist for about a
14 year and a half Danielle was with us. Prior to
15 Danielle being hired as the Subsistence Fishery
16 Scientist I served in that capacity from 2008 to 2012.
17 And then in 2012 I stepped into the position as
18 Director with Molly's retirement.

19

20 BBNA has hosted our Partners Program
21 since 2002. Throughout that time we've had a variety
22 of different full-time and also temporary positions
23 that were held as well as Summer Fisheries Interns.
24 We've had full-time Fisheries Biologists sometimes
25 under the title Subsistence Fishery Scientist. We've
26 also had Fisheries Anthropologists or Social
27 Scientists. Robin La Vine who's on the line served as
28 our Anthropologist for quite a few years at BBNA before
29 I took over the program from her. Where we're at right
30 now -- we also hosted many FRMP projects as we
31 previously discussed under the past agenda item and
32 currently have an FRMP project that we're closing out.

33

34 One of the contingencies I guess you
35 would say for receiving Partners' funding through OSM
36 is that you operate active FRMP projects and at this
37 time the BBNA Partners fund is going to close December
38 31st, 2014 is the last year of our funding agreement
39 that's current. We have received word from OSM that we
40 will be able to roll some funds forward to cover the
41 project period where we'll go without funding before
42 the next call comes open to reapply for funding. When
43 that call was open that we are currently funded under
44 it was a four year call, but in order to have funding
45 you have to have an FRMP project. And we are going
46 into a period of a year where during the application
47 time it was unforeseen as to whether or not we would
48 have an active FRMP project so as the applicant
49 following the rules of the application process I did
50 not apply for funds for a project period that I wasn't

1 sure that I would be eligible for. So that's why we've
2 got that flexibility thankfully to Palma and the
3 leadership at OSM for trying to ensure continuation of
4 the services that we provide OSM and the Tribes and
5 members of the RAC through there.

6

7 So aside from FRMP co-investigator
8 duties we also work closely with you the RAC, Donald,
9 as well as the staff at OSM to try to facilitate some
10 of these conversations. And a lot of that is really
11 outlined in the document that I handed you and I don't
12 know if you guys want me to state any of that
13 information into the record in detail or not.

14

15 Is that a good enough overview?

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Definitely
18 refreshing things in my mind. I see some other heads
19 shaking. Okay. Would anybody care to have her read
20 through that document or have you been able to have a
21 chance to look over it sufficiently and now that we're
22 more in full capacity of what these questions are
23 pertaining to and why they're asking them do you want
24 to move forward with those.

25

26 Mr. O'Hara.

27

28 MR. O'HARA: This is Dan. This --
29 these little bullet points you gave us here on the
30 strategic plan and Partners Program are good. They
31 cover pretty much everything. One of the things I
32 think that we did when we were on the BBNC Board and
33 they had an annual shareholders meeting in Togiak that
34 we had an interpretation program where 10 or 12 people
35 sat in the back and they had headsets, it didn't -- it
36 didn't disrupt the annual meeting because an
37 interpreter was talking to them as they went along and
38 it was very satisfactory. So when you -- in the
39 Partners Program you got to be engaged in all kinds of
40 different cultural things so would you cover the areas
41 where people would maybe have a little trouble coming
42 from their background, you know, trying to figure out
43 what a strategic plan does, it took me a long time to
44 figure out a strategic plan and I really like it.

45

46 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
47 Dunaway [sic]. Through the Chair. That is one of the
48 things that we try to do as the BBNA, I guess
49 International Resources Department in general, but also
50 through the Partners Program specifically is that very

1 much at times we are the middle man between the local
2 harvester, the Tribal Councils and the State and
3 Federal agencies who have very complex language that
4 sometimes needs to be broken down into every day
5 terminology that other people can understand. So we
6 definitely do that although I'm no bilingual, I wish I
7 was, I don't provide interpretive services, but we do
8 have fluent Yup'ik speakers on staff at BBNA that are
9 helpful in those events, but unfortunately not anybody
10 that's fluent (in Native).

11
12 MR. O'HARA: Thank you.

13
14 MS. HYER: Are we ready to move
15 forward?

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: We are.
18 Please, why don't you ask your question again.....

19
20 MS. HYER: Okay.

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:and see
23 if you can get a response.

24
25 MS. HYER: Well, in the spirit of
26 dialogue that -- before I start asking my question I
27 just want to point out Courtenay referred to and she's
28 correct in that in the past we have tied the Partners
29 Program to the FRMP and required that they have an FRMP
30 project. And there's a history behind that and there's
31 a reason that we did that, but that is one of the
32 things we're trying to revisit. So we're asking for
33 your ideas and please feel free to think out of the box
34 because we have had a discussion that maybe the
35 partners shouldn't be tied to the FRMP. They could be
36 and we've had some really successful FRMP projects with
37 our partners, but maybe we shouldn't be making it
38 mandatory. So don't let the confines of the program
39 now influence your feedback, just tell me what you
40 think.

41
42 So I will start with my first question.
43 How can the partners facilitate better communication?
44 And like I spoke about earlier our partners live in
45 rural Alaska and they interact with local people. That
46 would be an example, but I'm interested to hear
47 anything you have to say about how you think our
48 partners can facilitate better communication. And I
49 also heard just a few minutes ago about interpretation
50 and also about educating people about strategic plans.

1 So any other ideas would be great.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.

4

5 MR. WILSON: Simply what sort of
6 communications are -- how are you getting your
7 information now out there in rural Alaska?

8

9 MS. HYER: It depends on which partner
10 and what kind of relationship they have with their
11 communities, but a lot of our partners attend RACs,
12 some of our partners work with locals if they have a
13 priority information need that they feel is of interest
14 to them on a local level they might work on helping
15 them develop a proposal along the lines of some
16 research. We have educational outreach that we do.
17 Courtenay, can you give us some other ideas?

18

19 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Sure. I'll just
20 quickly read through a couple of these paragraphs that
21 outline some of the details that we do in regards to
22 our communications at BBNA. So not only do we serve
23 our principal investigators on FRMP projects, but we
24 also coordinate many functions with the staff and
25 members of the Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional
26 Advisory Council. We provide notice to the Village
27 Councils and the public of upcoming meetings and
28 important agenda items as well as provide technical
29 assistance to people and organizations responding to
30 OSM related public comment periods. Current -- or we
31 kind of discuss how the RAC has been working on
32 coordinating community input and public input on
33 customary and traditional use criteria. We help our
34 RAC Coordinator and Council and remain aware of
35 important dates within our region and help facilitate
36 meeting scheduling. BBNA staff ensures that the RAC
37 and members of the public have their input adequately
38 reflected on the public record by providing points of
39 clarification and asking questions that others might
40 not have answered adequately for all parties to
41 understand. We are also instrumental in verifying that
42 the priority information needs for our region are
43 reflective of the needs identified by members of the
44 public, Tribal Councils and our RAC members. In recent
45 times we are also the only organization in our region
46 submitting FRMP proposals to OSM for consideration.

47

48 Another service we provide is at the
49 confluence of the State and Federal Subsistence
50 Management Program. BBNA staff regularly attends the

1 Alaska Board of Fish and ADF&G Local Advisory Committee
2 meetings that relate to our region. We provide public
3 testimony as well as technical assistance to our
4 constituents who are working on State regulation
5 changes that affect subsistence fisheries management on
6 Federal lands in Bristol Bay. In these meetings we are
7 regularly working between the ADF&G Division of
8 Subsistence, our local harvesters and OSM State
9 Subsistence Liaison, Mr. George Pappas, to ensure that
10 the public records at these State meetings adequately
11 protect the rights and reflects the concerns of
12 Federally qualified subsistence harvesters and the BB
13 RAC as they relate to State regulation changes.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
16 Courtenay.

17

18 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Uh-huh.

21

22 MR. WILSON: Sounds like you wrote the
23 book on social media.

24

25 (Laughter)

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well, I'm --
28 and, you know, my two cents is I do think you guys have
29 done an excellent job at identifying needs even when
30 they've been unspoken and rising to the occasion of
31 meeting them. I know that I -- incredible -- I was
32 there before you were available with help at Board of
33 Fish meetings. My goodness, my life is so much easier
34 now, Board of Fish meetings it's -- I -- you can't even
35 begin to describe it and 90 percent of it is thanks,
36 you know, to you guys meeting those needs. So I tend
37 to concur with Dan on that and would encourage you just
38 to continue to do the same. I think that we're going
39 to see -- again my two cents is I think we're going to
40 see a big change in forms of communication with our
41 younger generation coming into social media times and
42 it'll be important that, you know, not me is going to
43 expand into social media, but hopefully you guys will
44 to maintain open lines there as well.

45

46 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yes. Thank you,
47 Madam Chairman. That is one other thing that we do in
48 terms of communication is try to provide a lot of
49 outreach within the schools, attending career fairs,
50 either Dillingham, Naknek, Lake and Pen when we get up

1 there and when we have job opportunities up there to
2 make sure the youth in our region are available -- are
3 understanding and available to the opportunities that
4 we provide.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, please,
7 Pete.

8
9 MR. ABRAHAM: Didn't the -- even the
10 elders involved in the camp before with -- from BBNA,
11 but you're talking about fish this time right there.
12 That's an excellent idea. You get the youth and elders
13 in the camps. And because I like that, that one we had
14 over here in Bristol Bay I thought that was a very,
15 very good idea. It we involve -- get the elders
16 involved, you know, we can do more.

17
18 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Thank you, Pete.
19 Through the Chairman. That is another thing that we do
20 is work at science and culture camps within the
21 communities. We regularly work at the Curyung culture
22 camp here helping students understand the traditional
23 harvest and sharing opportunities. And then this --
24 about a month ago, September 9th, we were able to go to
25 King Salmon and present at the Alaska Peninsula, the
26 Becharof science camp also on subsistence management
27 perspectives.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, and I
30 just know having -- I mean, she used to be in that age
31 group, it was very well received and appreciated over
32 there as well and I think that that was an important
33 thing that you do to keep that type of tradition alive
34 and being passed along.

35
36 Any other comments.

37
38 MR. O'HARA: Your -- the program has
39 come to an end, right, I mean, the funding is up at
40 this time so now you're going in for additional funding
41 and extending this program out for a strategic plan at
42 least for five years. And so how do we participate in
43 giving you the nod to go ahead and take your program
44 and which Federal department do you go to to get that
45 funding?

46
47 MS. HYER: Madam Chair, Council
48 members. We actually have the funding, it has come to
49 the Office of Subsistence Management. So a lot of our
50 partners have gotten -- gone outside our program and

1 gathered other funding from other proposals, but the
2 core funding does come through our office. And we are
3 just before our next call we are going to develop a
4 strategic plan to guide the next call in the next five
5 or so years, it may be four, it may be five, but we
6 have one more year of funding for our partners and then
7 when we go forward with the next funding cycle we hope
8 to have the strategic plan in place. And you'll see
9 the strategic plan before we go forward. So like I
10 said before we'll revisit this, but now it's just this
11 idea gathering stage.

12

13 MR. O'HARA: So you have a -- you're
14 forward funded for another year, then you're going to
15 have regular funding if it's going to be a strategic
16 plan for five years obviously you're going to have
17 forward funding or at least funding coming in. There's
18 no sense having a strategic plan if you're not going to
19 be funded for it. And then you are going to lay out
20 the strategic plan?

21

22 MS. HYER: Correct. We'll have the
23 strategic plan before we do the notice of funding
24 opportunity. And historically we have funded these
25 partner positions up to four years. And so when they
26 apply they will -- they can apply for funding up to
27 four years. BBNA only applied for three of the four
28 years because the program was tied to the Fisheries
29 Resource Monitoring Program. And we're hoping to
30 change some of that in our next call. And just.....

31

32 MR. O'HARA: And so.....

33

34 MS. HYER:a point of
35 clarification, when I say call I'm just falling back
36 into my old habits, it's a notice of funding.

37

38 MR. O'HARA: What were you saying?

39

40 MS. HYER: We now call -- we used to
41 have calls and we'd have a call for proposals so we'd
42 have proposals from the partners, now it's a notice of
43 funding opportunity and I'm having trouble making the
44 change. And so when I say call I really mean notice of
45 funding opportunity.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: And again, you
48 know, my two cents is I think -- is that I think the
49 Partners Program needs to be a high priority for
50 funding. I think that what -- I know what it has done

1 in our region, obviously I cannot speak for other
2 regions, it has been very large and noticeable. And
3 because of that I think it should be a priority in your
4 strategic plan to implement programs at least for our
5 area it's worked very, very well. I think that you
6 should consider removing the FRMP and I think, you
7 know, a better business model would be to have you guys
8 take a look at having them meet a set of requirements
9 perhaps that pertain directly to the proposal they're
10 speaking to or even just having a requirement be the
11 successful of a prior FRMP project rather than a
12 current one. I think that -- I think it's too
13 restrictive because you have to overlap them sometimes
14 you're not going to have the qualified personnel to be
15 able to meet that requirement in order to have
16 continuous opportunities available so I think that you
17 need -- you do need to relax that requirement. Again
18 just my two cents, but.....

19

20 Mr. Dunaway.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm still a little
23 confused on what I'm responding to because I was
24 looking at the bullets that were in the book. But,
25 yeah, I really want to be supportive of the Partners
26 Program across the board and Courtenay lists all the
27 things and I'm oh, that was Partners too, that was
28 Partners, oh. I think I see a lot of good there from
29 facilitating understanding among agencies and among the
30 public and agencies, I also get a sense that there's
31 kind of an opportunity to attract talent and
32 Courtenay's an example, Danielle's an example and I
33 think we have a few other ones. It was -- was her name
34 Ms. Blair, was she in this at one time?

35

36 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Kay Larson Blair for
37 the record, yes. Sarah Evans also.

38

39 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Sarah. And there's
40 one of the things I get really charged up about is
41 trying to draw in local talent into these agencies and
42 into the even non-agency functions though that get
43 involved with the issues. So, yes, I want to see it go
44 forward, yes, keep doing what you're doing, expand to
45 other -- if there was like -- if it would make it
46 easier or you might attract a different group going
47 into wildlife, yeah, I want to see it continue. There
48 was someplace in here should this -- how long should
49 this continue or how long should one agency get it. I
50 don't know, but I think we got quite a ways to go

1 before -- there's still a lot of work to be done in
2 facilitating communication, understanding the process,
3 as well as again developing local talent so I'm not in
4 a rush to see it go away at all. I hope it continues.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 DR. BROOKS: Madam Chair. Thank you.
9 Jeff Brooks. Dan, thank you for taking the time to
10 respond to the bullet points on page 83. And just for
11 clarification those are, you know, questions devised
12 just like the ones that we just handed out to help us
13 gather information so that we can properly write a
14 strategic plan for this program. And the document in
15 the book where you found those bullet points on page 83
16 is a hybrid briefing paper, background paper, a vision
17 document from our efforts to date. As Karen said we
18 have met twice in person with a group, we've made calls
19 outside and we've gone before RACs as part of the
20 scoping and addressing issues and drafting goals and we
21 even have a draft vision statement. But now we need to
22 get some meat and teeth behind those goals. And so
23 we're trying to seek some more information and ideas as
24 you've just provided so that we can write out
25 strategies to meet those goals. Just a point of -- a
26 further point of clarification.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 MS. HYER: Okay. Well, let's move on
31 to our second point. And we've already talked about
32 some of this so just any other ideas, but how can the
33 partners provide outreach and education so stakeholders
34 which are you and the locals can better engage in the
35 Federal Subsistence Program decision making process.
36 And one of our examples is as Courtenay talked about,
37 we go into the schools, our partners go into the school
38 and they educate school children. They also go to some
39 of the Tribal organizations, they have culture camps,
40 they have all kinds of different things. But I'd just
41 be curious of any of your ideas too in addition to
42 those.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.

45

46 MR. DUNAWAY: It seems like you
47 answered the whole thing in one -- in the beginning so
48 keep doing what you're doing. That youth and elders
49 part I thought -- and I'm thinking my kids have enjoyed
50 some of the Refuge activities, but I think within that

1 they come back, they get exposed to some of this
2 partner stuff as well and they tell us. And so that
3 element if it could be continued as well would be
4 great.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Did we have
9 someone on line too that would like to make a comment.

10

11 MS. LARSON: Yes, Madam Chair.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

14

15 MS. LARSON: This is Dorothy Larson,
16 Curyung Tribal Council. I would like to commend the
17 Natural Resources Department of BBNA and all the work
18 that they're doing, especially Courtenay and Jamie, I
19 know they've done a lot of traveling, they've helped on
20 several issues like House Bill 77, the Bristol Bay Area
21 Plan, the Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment, the NPA
22 Request to Invoke 404(c). All of those things play
23 into what's really critical to our subsistence and
24 customary and traditional practices. But I think too
25 it's important for us to put some effort into educating
26 urban Alaska so that we would have that support and
27 also on Capital Hill.

28

29 Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.
32 That's good information, Dorothy.

33

34 Mr. O'Hara.

35

36 MR. O'HARA: Yes, a two part question
37 here for the panel. When you do a strategic plan you
38 either can do the plan or you can contract it out, what
39 -- how's that going to work. That may not be a good
40 question.

41

42 DR. BROOKS: Madam Chair. Thank you,
43 Mr. O'Hara. The plan right now is that we do it
44 ourselves with -- using our partners, former and past
45 partners, the Regional Advisory Councils and members of
46 the other agencies involved with the Federal programs.
47 So when we had our first two face to face meetings in
48 Anchorage to start brainstorming the issues, the
49 planning issues, how to address them, vision statement,
50 draft goals, we included a former or a current partner

1 and also Forest Service staff who had lots of
2 experience with the program. And so we're trying to do
3 this in house and it's not going to be an exhaustive
4 plan, but it'll have all the key components and parts.
5 And we've already made it through the visioning and
6 planning issue stages to the point where we just now
7 need to get specific objectives and strategies to
8 accomplish what the program needs to do.

9

10 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes.

13

14 MR. O'HARA: The reason I asked that
15 question, this second bullet to be involved in the
16 school programs which you're asking for some input on.
17 I need to be careful how I handle this next comment
18 because I don't know where these things come from, but
19 over in the Bristol Bay Borough School District we have
20 Ms. Alexander for the Manager of the Refuge Peninsula
21 and Ms. Chung for the Park Service, Katmai National
22 Park all the way down through Aniakchak and I've got a
23 couple of great grandkids and they came home one day
24 immediately after the snack and they said we had a
25 snowy owl today in our classroom. And they came back
26 another time and they had an eagle that had been --
27 both creatures were recovering or could not survive on
28 their own so they weren't -- they just didn't take them
29 out of the wild to show somebody so -- and that's
30 important. And so the -- you know, they were excited
31 about how the information was -- and that happens a lot
32 with the resources that the Refuge and Park Service
33 people have to -- they brought the -- I believe the
34 creature came to school and groups of people passed
35 through that and so a big learning curve took place.
36 Now I'm not sure your strategic plan would excite a
37 fourth grader about, you know, how are you going to
38 preserve, you know, smelt or something like that, but
39 there are ways and methods of communication, I think,
40 that would bring into your strategic plan that would
41 come back obviously I think to the Council one of these
42 times. And so you -- I think it's opportunities create
43 larger groups of getting together and if you can have a
44 part in that, you know, I can see where -- I don't
45 think it would be too bad if at an annual shareholders
46 meeting you made a little presentation on something
47 that pertained to subsistence to go into your strategic
48 plan or, you know, how are you going to get to Chignik
49 and Perryville, tough places to get to, you might be
50 there a week, you know, pack some clean clothes. And

1 so I guess all those things will probably unfold. But
2 I like the idea pretty much that you're doing it in
3 house because you're on the ground working with these
4 type of things and that's good.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 (Off record)

9
10 (On record)

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: So it brought
13 to mind when Dan was mentioning the snowy owls and
14 whatnot and I heard about it through another forum and
15 that was social medial which I am not -- I'm not really
16 a user by any means, but somehow somewhere along the
17 line I got -- so I get all these messages from
18 Bristol Bay Exchange that just pop up in front of my
19 face, but that's how I found out about it. So I would
20 say that that would be another method is make sure
21 finding out -- I remember, you know, not that long ago
22 when we were using the TV ad channel and the radio
23 station in Bristol Bay to get the word of events out
24 and news and, I mean, we could -- we could take it a
25 step further or the partners could take it a step
26 further by finding out where all the exchanges are and
27 making sure that when proposals were coming forward
28 that were going to affect users they would go out on
29 that social media forum because then I think you would
30 hit young and old alike as well. And I know I just
31 haven't seen any of those pop up yet. I -- you might
32 be doing it on this side of the bay, but it might be
33 another method of communication with user groups.

34
35 MR. O'HARA: I just got in the mail and
36 I get all kinds of stuff in the mail, a fisheries
37 report from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in a
38 commercial fishery and I see we have the commercial
39 Biologist, State of Alaska back there. And they gave
40 an absolutely all of the undertakings of this year's
41 fisheries and it's an amazing and you can take that and
42 you'll find out the escapement goals, you know, the
43 commercial harvest and stuff that you may not even
44 think about just in about five or six pages which I'm
45 sure all of us got. And I still have yet to digest all
46 of it, but there's so many areas and one of the things,
47 you know, I guess maybe we're ahead of your bullets
48 here, but your escapement thing, that's one of your
49 bullet points here is lot of places get that.

50

1 That you, Madam Chair.

2

3 MS. HYER: All right. Moving on. And
4 feel free to jump ahead. I'm going to go through these
5 in order, but if an idea's occurred to you if we just
6 go ahead and let's discuss them and then if we get to a
7 bullet and it's already been discussed we can just go
8 through it quickly. But how can partners help
9 strengthen relationships between stakeholders and I
10 have here for an example our partners interact with the
11 State, Federal and local organizations to provide
12 information such as salmon escapements and part of that
13 is through the FRMP and they provide the information
14 back to many organizations, not just us.

15

16 So anyway any thoughts on that.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MS. HYER: If we've already covered it
21 I can move on too. Do you think we've covered that
22 enough?

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: It looks that
25 way.

26

27 MS. HYER: Okay. All right. So then
28 the next one is how can our Department promote
29 opportunities for youths and elders to gauge -- engage
30 in the Federal Subsistence Management Program and I
31 know we've talked about that so are there any other
32 ideas on that particular item?

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Well, I can
35 always come up with ideas, implementing them is a
36 partner's problem, right.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I think that
41 -- I think, you know, you've got a heck of a good
42 beginning with several of the educational things that
43 the partners have provided to the schools on at least
44 our side of the bay that I've seen. I would like to
45 see almost some type of a program that would follow the
46 kids literally from the beginning to the end of school
47 that would tie into what Dan was talking about, pulling
48 in talent from local recruitment so that, you know, as
49 the goal of graduation their goal is to come back here
50 and fulfill a position, you know, with BBNA or BBC or

1 somebody to keep talent in the region. Now again I
2 would have -- I'm full of ideas, but implementation is
3 a whole other thing, but it would be you have the
4 science and culture camp that has focused on middle
5 school to the younger high school, you know, so I guess
6 I would say if you would explore expanding that to
7 lower grade levels as well as upper grade levels to
8 keep engagement and interest going it might -- it might
9 help do that.

10

11 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Thank you, Madam
12 Chair. One thing that we did apply for in the current
13 funding cycle that we're in right now for the Partners
14 Program, it was originally written to have a Fisheries
15 Education and Outreach Coordinator that worked within
16 the school districts providing actual fisheries related
17 curriculum components and when we had started the
18 project it was -- I think that we kind of did it
19 backwards. We started here in Dillingham which is
20 where the partner is and we had difficulty trying to
21 engage with such a large school district as well as
22 trying to fill the position with a qualified applicant.
23 And one partner agency, the Kuskokwim Native
24 Association Native Association had a very successful
25 fisheries education curriculum component working with
26 the Kuspuk School District out of Aniak and they I
27 think had it right, they had a very small school
28 district, they had a full-time educator that was really
29 able to engage with the school district, with the
30 students and provided those services and it was very
31 successful. I think we almost tried to do it a little
32 bit backwards. Our idea was to start in Dillingham and
33 then branch out into the villages working with the sort
34 of regional school districts and it's just something
35 that we weren't able to necessarily get the level of
36 success that we wanted. So what we did was we built --
37 we called them fish kids which is kind of a play on our
38 fisheries industry subsistence harvest leave kit that
39 we have here at BBNA for our summer leave and we built
40 fisheries education totes that had fisheries,
41 everything from educational posters to games and giant
42 curriculum binders that we sent out to every school
43 within every community in the bay, I think was done in
44 I want to say 2010, maybe 2011. Sarah worked on that
45 for quite a bit for us. And sent those out as well as,
46 you know, engaging with the teachers and encouraging
47 them to try to build these components into their
48 classrooms, but that's pretty much the status of where
49 that went and that's something that we would be
50 definitely interested in exploring in the future if we

1 had A, the funding, but really it comes down to a
2 person to do the job.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.

5

6 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, on the same lines
7 and it's been a long time ago, but when I was working
8 for Fish and Game I was asked to go up to the Refuge
9 and there were some people, one of the women's name was
10 Laurel Devaney or something out of Cordova and then
11 Nels Anderson was sitting in on that and it was to
12 develop a fish curriculum. And it sounded pretty neat
13 and all and I think they took it to some of the
14 schools, but without anybody kind of checking on the
15 school, helping them out, the schools get drowned in
16 all these different curricula. And I still do -- I
17 substitute teach now quite a bit and I don't see any of
18 that in the schools that I can tell, but I'm kind of
19 real short snapshot, but somebody that could kind of
20 follow-up on that or help teachers do it because after
21 a while they're okay, check the box, next thing. And
22 yet to me you can teach an awful lot of school here and
23 make school more relevant if you put it in terms of how
24 we use resources out here, everything from math on a
25 fishing boat to, you know, the understanding of why
26 there's openings and closures and so on. And so maybe
27 a person that could help pursue that would be a good
28 angle to take.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: I tried to hire you,
33 Dan, but you were busy.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: I'm not kidding.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Through the Chair.
42 Thank you, Dan. That was definitely the intent of the
43 program at that time. And I think in the near future
44 you guys will see or at least the community of
45 Dillingham will see a big push. There's a group of
46 alumni that are putting forth a proposal to the School
47 Board at their next meeting in regards to rural,
48 relevant curriculum components that make our
49 educational standards relevant and I guess enticing to
50 our students instead of checking boxes on standardized

1 tests.

2

3

CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

4

5

MR. DUNAWAY: Also though I'm thinking about it too, in some ways the folks in Dillingham have a lot of agencies here and so there's more opportunity and, you know, Kari Fuller goes into the schools. It might be most important as Koliganek, New Stu, where they don't have agencies cycling through as often. But anyway, well, hang in there, I'm eager to see what you do.

12

13

14

CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

15

16

MR. O'HARA: Yeah, you promised to keep me quiet today, but I -- you're not doing a very good job of it.

18

19

20

(Laughter)

21

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MS. ALEXANDER: Science and culture camp.

MR. O'HARA: Yeah. And you -- I think they drew both the Borough and the Lake and Pen Borough and boy, I don't know if he let anybody on that system or not, but, you know, that -- there's an opportunity for youth to find out the basic things of what's going on on the Alaska Peninsula, that's all I can speak for. And I guess if you want to get the elders in on -- what do you want them in on?

MS. ALEXANDER: Yeah, everything we can get them in on.

MR. O'HARA: Well, play bingo and they'll all come running.

(Laughter)

MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yeah, through the Chair. Dan, we did present at the science camp last time.

1 MR. O'HARA: Oh, you did.
2
3 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yeah, you brought us
4 lunch that day right after we were done.
5
6 MR. O'HARA: Oh, that was.....
7
8 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: Yeah.
9
10 MR. O'HARA: That's not bad.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Please don't.
13 No, I -- you know, I -- and I was about to comment too
14 because I know Pete has had great success in elders and
15 youth combining together in learning opportunities and
16 I think that maybe even for a Partners Program to
17 figure out what makes that type of program work and
18 trying to implement it in other villages would be very
19 helpful because I know you've been very positive about
20 the results and like what you've seen from that.
21
22 MR. ABRAHAM: No, you can -- you can
23 pick out a certain village, you know, try not to grab a
24 whole lot of them, just the one village to choose from.
25 And if the parents and elders are willing and you got
26 to turn around and find your equipment. And there'll
27 be some questions, you know, about safety, little
28 things like that. And my boy's over there. When we
29 pick our children they put up life jackets and one guy
30 would say, no, I don't need life jackets. Well, from
31 here to your home you can walk.....
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MR. ABRAHAM:he said without life
36 jackets we cannot take you. When safety rules and
37 those things work out. You can't just pick out elders
38 and kids, even elders, life jackets. So because you
39 got to be an example. So my program -- my program
40 really worked very well. I don't have to -- because I
41 train a couple of grandkids how to handle the kids and
42 he works for us. So and what you're trying to do is
43 really a good idea because those kids need to be
44 introduced to lifestyles, some things we do because
45 right now the communication between young and old
46 there's a wall. Communication is getting more and more
47 impossible. Now's the time to do it when they're
48 young. And it's lots of work, but lots of fun.
49
50 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Mr.

1 Abraham. And I was going to save it to the end of the
2 meeting, but it was pointed out to me and I would like
3 to recognize Pete as he was recognized as BBNC's elder
4 of the year and I would like to congratulate him for
5 that. And I think says volumes and I think it was well
6 deserved too, Pete. Congratulations.

7

8 (Applause)

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: That's a tough
11 act to follow. Anybody care.....

12

13 MS. HYER: Oh, no, go for it.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: Well, you're talking about
16 getting in with the youth on the fishery thing. I'm on
17 the Sea Grant Program, I don't know if you're familiar
18 with that program or not, but it's a huge program it's
19 a good feel program, it does nice things. And they
20 offer \$10,000 to the school district if they want to
21 put on sea week. And they take two days of the staff,
22 K through eight, and they train those staff members for
23 that week of fish. And so, you know, if you could --
24 you'd get in on that, that would just be a natural if
25 you want to talk about reaching young people on the
26 fisheries program. And they're also working on May
27 being a fisheries month, the governor.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I think that's
30 a good idea. The other thing too that -- we're talking
31 all fisheries, but, you know, we should do this for all
32 subsistence uses. I -- and hopefully that's, you know,
33 being taken into account, but I think that, you know,
34 everything from gathering foods to hunting as well
35 should be included in these curriculums in some form
36 whenever possible. Granted, you know, might not always
37 be possible, but I think it's really, really important
38 for our young people to understand the importance of
39 subsistence in our lives so that they will want to
40 carry on the traditions and protect it for us in the
41 future. So it's kind of got to be all forums, but.....

42

43 MS. HYER: And, Madam Chair, that was
44 the last question. And I'm just going to roll the last
45 two into one because -- because of the conversations
46 we've had here. And we've talked a lot about creating
47 opportunities for local individuals, but I'd be curious
48 for -- the example I used here is the Fisheries
49 Resource Monitoring Program and we've talked about not
50 requiring that to be a prerequisite of the Partners

1 Program. And a lot of our partners have hired youth
2 and run a lot of their youth camps in add -- in
3 conjunction with the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
4 Program. So I'd be interested in any opportunities
5 that you can think of that haven't been mentioned
6 specifically about involving youth in subsistence
7 although we've already had a lot mentioned here. And
8 then again my last question is about should this be
9 tied to other resources and our example was wildlife,
10 but I think I've definitely heard from the RAC that
11 subsistence is more than fish.

12

13 So any closing comments or any other
14 ideas and you've been -- I have a page and a half of
15 notes and then I go back over the transcripts and I
16 have many more pages when we get done and I really
17 appreciate your input, but any closing ideas?

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Let me
20 recognize our birthday girl first.

21

22 MS. HOSETH: Thank you, Madam Chair.
23 Gayla Hoseth for the record with BBNA. And something
24 that Courtenay and I've been talking about in terms of
25 getting youth and elders involved would be to have this
26 set up like a mock RAC meeting, like Bristol Bay RAC,
27 having -- and bringing kids in and actually have them
28 go through the process and writing proposals and having
29 people oppose the proposals, support the proposals,
30 having, you know, fake staff in line and having a fake
31 council and then maybe bringing it on and having
32 another, you know, pretend Federal Subsistence Board
33 where we go through the whole complete process so that
34 they -- the kids understand that you have hands on and
35 you're engaged and you're going through something,
36 you'll understand it better than somebody telling you
37 it. And that would be a really good -- something good
38 to fund and it would actually be really fun, you'd have
39 the elders teaching the youth the knowledge and skills
40 that they have because that information is important to
41 be passed on and if we don't have that information for
42 the young children who's going to take you guys' place.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
45 Gayla. And thank you, Mr. Wilson, for your patience.
46 Would you like to have the floor.

47

48 MR. WILSON: Just -- you know, you're
49 looking for other ideas and we have a beautiful Park
50 over there, you know, in the Katmai, a lot of

1 equipment. And, you know, as far as subsistence needs,
2 I know subsistence isn't really a part of -- in the
3 Park itself, but in the Preserve it is and they're
4 players too, you know. And fall fishery, you know, we
5 have -- now a lot of times you're targeting the salmon
6 when they're coming up fresh, but what about late in
7 the fall when things are starting to shut down, you
8 know, the equipment's not put away yet and weather's
9 still pretty decent, you know, having a fall camp of
10 some sort, you know, that would -- because then elders
11 can get involved and show them the -- that side of
12 life, the -- you know, when the fish are -- the spawned
13 out salmon side of it.

14

15 Just an idea.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Courtenay, go
18 ahead.

19

20 MS. CARTY-GOMEZ: I'll just quickly
21 read through my answer in regarding to the expansion
22 beyond fisheries. So the Partners Program should be
23 extended and retitled to the Partners for Subsistence
24 Monitoring Program. The Federal Subsistence Management
25 Program does not revolve solely around fisheries
26 management and thus the Partners Program should be
27 expanded to include co-management activities for all
28 subsistence species and issues within a host
29 organization service area. For example the program
30 should be expanded to facilitate harvester/manager
31 communication and planning for caribou and moose
32 management plans, coordinating local input in fisheries
33 and wildlife harvest regulation changes and also
34 facilitating local involvement in topics including
35 customary and traditional use findings as well as rural
36 determination and other public processes as they relate
37 to Federal subsistence management.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

40

41 MR. O'HARA: It -- your last list was
42 something I had written down here and it -- and I don't
43 -- I don't know if this would go in his report or not,
44 but, you know, the fishing industry and the plant
45 management and this relationship that they have with
46 our resource it may not be a part of your strategic
47 plan, it may not fit into your strategic plan, it's a
48 little outside of the box by far when you're talking
49 about escapements or socioeconomic relationship to fish
50 and game, but we're moving in our community toward --

1 with Mr. Hill and his superintendent who Richard is
2 related to, a local guy who is now our superintendent,
3 he has wanted to see more of the young people take
4 control of that industry and in our community, not come
5 out of Monterey and San Francisco and Seattle. And
6 that may be a different strategic plan. But I thought
7 it worthwhile.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
10 So is your bag full for now, I'm sure that we can
11 always come up with more and are we going to see this
12 list retyped again as well?

13

14 MS. HYER: Actually, no, I think you're
15 going to see this list in a different form as we step
16 through the strategic plan. But you are going to see
17 the other list and that takes care of this for us and I
18 thank you very much for your input.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yeah, and I --
21 you know, if you guys -- I know as a Council in the
22 past we have requested almost without exclusion asked
23 to revisit things just so we can give you our input on
24 the importance of things as you move forward. I don't
25 know if I'm stating that correctly, but, you know, just
26 like this statement that I made earlier, I think that,
27 you know, if -- even if -- once you guys before you go
28 to formulate a final plan ask us even to rank the
29 importance of which items should be included in it I
30 think we would appreciate that. I know in the past
31 that I've felt a little bit disenfranchised when it was
32 put in front of me rather than asked where the
33 priorities should lie because sometimes we'll have a
34 different idea than where government might feel they
35 should be placed. So I know that might be a little bit
36 off the norm, but I -- if the rest of the Council
37 members kind of concur with that I think we could kind
38 of put it on there as a thought to keep in mind.

39

40 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair. Was this --
41 this is not an action item, huh?

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: No, it is not.
44 I just wanted to make that comment for the record
45 because in the past it's come back and we're like well,
46 yeah, but don't you think it would be more important
47 for you to have this put as a higher rated portion in
48 your strategic plan. And so I guess I'm just trying to
49 lay it out there as a suggestion and definitely not an
50 action item, but I don't want to be a lone wolf on the

1 Council and I just wanted to see I had heads shaking on
2 every side of me to agree with that.

3

4 DR. BROOKS: Madam Chair. I would like
5 to ask you a couple things or act -- one is the next
6 step that we will take is to put together a draft
7 strategic plan. And depending on what stage of it
8 we're at for the next found of meetings it -- I mean,
9 we're going to -- we're going to try to get something
10 done so that we can have it ready to guide the funding
11 opportunity announcement, but we would be bringing back
12 a draft plan before all the Regional Advisory Councils
13 for their comment. I don't know if that would suffice
14 or if what you're asking is whether or not you would
15 like -- you would like the chance to prioritize goals
16 and objectives for the strategic plan before the draft
17 comes out. One thing the plan will actually probably
18 be quite inclusive and it'll include strategies that we
19 may not have current funds for, but we will say in the
20 plan that if you want us to fulfill all of these
21 objectives we will also need more resources. If you
22 want us to just fulfill part of these objectives at
23 this current funding level then we can do that, but we
24 may have to prioritize and there's an opportunity there
25 to come back to the RACS. But maybe if you could just
26 clarify your request, please?

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, by all
29 means, Jeff. My thought, I think that if you do it in
30 draft form open for comments by the Council we can
31 easily fulfill what my thought behind it was in making
32 sure that we had emphasis in the areas we felt were
33 important to have emphasis in and as far as the funding
34 goes I think all of us frustratingly understand the
35 limitations involved there and how they're out of
36 pretty much everybody's control. However we've also
37 found that if we're persistent enough as a Council and
38 make it understood enough as a Council that it has a
39 high enough element of importance to us things will end
40 up happening too. So I think that the draft portion is
41 fine and I guess that's what I was saying instead of
42 just having one suddenly appear in front of us I think
43 if we're asked to give this input we'd like input to
44 make sure the final plan was going to look like what
45 we'd like to see as well.

46

47 Mr. O'Hara.

48

49 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I think it's -- all
50 some of us had left is time. And I guess, you know,

1 September was something else and February -- October
2 wasn't much better. And fish expo's coming up in
3 November so it -- you know, there's just a lot of
4 things down the line. So if you were to engage us or
5 keep us informed can you do it by email, I don't like
6 to run 15 pages off on my computer to look at what
7 you've written just because of the expense of -- you
8 know, I run a business and I just don't want to do
9 that. But probably email would be best or you -- would
10 you want us to do a written draft and that's a
11 question.

12

13 MS. HYER: Mr. Chair -- Madam Chairman
14 and Council members. Yeah, we very easily can keep you
15 informed via email. And I have found that it's very
16 advantageous to us to keep things before the Council
17 too so we don't all forget what we're doing.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
20 Thank you.

21

22 Anybody have anything else to add.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Karen, I take
27 it you got what you need then, correct?

28

29 MS. HYER: I did. Thank you very much.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.

32

33 Thank you, Jeff and Courtenay as well.

34

35 Okay. Identifying issues for fiscal
36 year 2014 annual report.

37

38 Donald, I assume that that would mean
39 you are going to make a list.

40

41 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair. If
42 you turn to page 89 and 90 in your Council materials
43 book you'll find the annual report's background
44 information. This is just for the Council's guidance
45 and help with our annual report process. ANILCA
46 established the annual reports as a way to bring
47 regional subsistence uses and needs to the Secretaries'
48 attention. And the Secretaries delegate this
49 responsibility to the Board. Section 805 deference
50 includes matters brought forward in the annual report.

1 And this annual report provides opportunity to address
2 the directors of each of four Department of Interior
3 agencies and the Department of Agriculture, Forest
4 Service in their capacity as members of the Federal
5 Subsistence Board. The Board is required to discuss
6 and reply in each year in every annual report and to
7 take action when within the Board's authority. As
8 agency directors the Board members have authority to
9 implement most of the actions which would effect the
10 changes recommended by The Councils, even those not
11 covered in section 805(c). So the Board -- the
12 Councils are encouraged to take advantage of this
13 opportunity.

14
15 And in the report content both title
16 VIII, section 805 and 50 CFR describe what may be
17 contained in an annual report from the Councils to the
18 Board. The description includes issues that are not
19 generally addressed by the normal regulatory process.
20 Identify -- identification of current and anticipated
21 subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations
22 within the region; an evaluation of current and
23 anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife
24 populations from the public lands within the region; a
25 recommended strategy for the management of fish and
26 wildlife populations within the region to accommodate
27 such subsistence uses and needs related to the public
28 lands; and recommendation concerning policies,
29 standards, guidelines and regulations to implement the
30 strategy.

31
32 In the report itself, in order for the
33 Board to adequately respond to each Council's annual
34 report it is important for the annual report itself to
35 state issues clearly. When addressing an existing
36 policy the Council should please state whether there is
37 something unclear about the policy, if there is
38 uncertainty about the reason for the policy or if the
39 Council needs information on how the policy is applied;
40 Council members should discuss in detail at Council
41 meetings the issues for the annual report and assist
42 the Council Coordinator in understanding and stating
43 the issues clearly; and the Council Coordinators and
44 the OSM staff should assist the Council members during
45 the meeting in ensuring that the issue is stated
46 clearly.

47
48 And the final, report format. The
49 report must clearly state the following for each of the
50 items the Council wants the Board to address. Number

1 the issues; description of each issue and whether the
2 Council seeks Board action on the matter and if so what
3 the Council recommends; and finally as much evidence or
4 explanation as necessary to support the Council's
5 request or statements relating to the item of interest.

6

7 So that's a brief overview of the
8 annual report process and, Madam Chair, if the Council
9 have issues they wish to bring forward to the 2014
10 annual report this is an opportunity to do so.

11

12 Thank you, Madam Chair.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you,
15 Donald. I'm assuming that if memory serves me
16 correctly this is where in the past we've brought
17 forward our predator control issues and issues like
18 that; is that correct?

19

20 MR. MIKE: That's correct, Madam Chair,
21 yeah. This is where we -- the Council can bring
22 forward issues that they wish to have the Board
23 address.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

28

29 Council members.

30

31 Mr. Dunaway.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: I had just recently some
34 folks contact me and I'm very vague -- this is clear,
35 I'm very vague on exactly what the issue is, but I --
36 it was spurred to me when we were conversing a little
37 bit about some of new actions the Park Service is
38 taking statewide in regard to some of the Alaska Board
39 of Game hunting regulations. And I -- and I assume
40 that regulations that could have affected the Preserves
41 and those Parks where hunting's allowed. And I'm not
42 very clear on it, but there's concerns that -- the
43 concerns the people want to be able to continue to hunt
44 wolf, wolverine and caribou in a manner they've become
45 accustomed to. And beyond that I'm not entirely clear.
46 I was trying to ask Jimmy if maybe he lived closer to
47 some of those folks and knew what was going on. I
48 guess maybe my understanding at this point is that as a
49 Park starts exercising maybe more unilateral control in
50 the lands that they have authority the question is how

1 vigorous are they going to be and are they going to add
2 more regulations, more enforcement. So I'm kind of
3 hanging it out there, maybe other folks -- it's more
4 maybe of an east side issue, but they really clearly
5 asked me to speak up, that they're concerned about
6 this. And I think I even brought it up to Ms. Chung
7 earlier.

8

9 So I wish I had something more concrete
10 to hang on to, but I'm trying.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Wilson.

13

14 MR. WILSON: Madam Chair. I think
15 under agency -- some reports here later. I think we're
16 going to be able to hear about those particular
17 proposals and some of that maybe then. I mean, I don't
18 -- I think I'd like to kind of hear what their side of
19 it is before I dug into too much language at this point
20 in their -- in their reporting later on if that's all
21 right.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: And if I may
26 too one second comment, I believe that this is
27 something that we have left open until the end of the
28 meeting in prior years and are able to add it at any
29 point; is that correct, Donald?

30

31 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam Chair. You can
32 add to the annual report as the meeting progresses.
33 And this is an opportunity for you to bring out some
34 issues and Mr. Johnson will have more information on
35 that.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Mr.
38 Johnson.

39

40 And would you please come forward and
41 we'll recognize you next, Clarence.

42

43 Go ahead, Carl.

44

45 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
46 Carl Johnson, Office of Subsistence Management. Now
47 remember you also have a variety of different tools as
48 a Council to express concerns on behalf of other
49 subsistence users in the region. The annual report is
50 one tool, but also when other agencies do engage in

1 rule making process it's quite common for you as
2 Councils to submit a comment on behalf of the Council
3 and on behalf of subsistence users in your region in a
4 separate correspondence directly to that agency. So
5 you'll hear later on as part of this report on this
6 proposed rule what it is the Park Service is
7 considering and also what their public process is going
8 to be. So as long as you have a discussion on here on
9 the record today and tomorrow about what you would
10 liked expressed in the correspondence to the Park
11 Service we can draft correspondence for you and issue
12 that outside of the Council cycle as part of that
13 public rule making process.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thanks
16 for that clarification, Carl. So I would also add to
17 that then we could do that as well as if we have an
18 additional concern that we'd like addressed also place
19 it on a report, correct?

20

21 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
24 ahead, please.

25

26 MR. SUMMERS: Madam Chairman and
27 Council members. My name's Clarence Summers, I'm with
28 the National Park Service. And what I can do for you
29 now since I'll be here tomorrow is give you some
30 information on this proposed rule. I know Dan had a
31 question and I know Thomas Hedlund just sat through a
32 session with Lake Clark and with the Lake Clark
33 Subsistence Resource Commission and I took a position
34 on it. I want to share that with you, but if you don't
35 mind I'll pass this out and.....

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Donald.

38

39 MR. MIKE: Yes, Madam. Chair. Thank
40 you. This -- the issue that Mr. Dunaway was speaking
41 about you can address that under agency report,
42 National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service
43 will have that information.

44

45 Thank you, Madam Chair.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I was
48 wondering the same thing. So I'm -- you know, are you
49 going to be available for agency reports when we go
50 through this.

1 MR. SUMMERS: That's correct. I'll be
2 here tomorrow.
3
4 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I would
5 appreciate having this information in front of us and
6 we will still have it here tomorrow for us as well. So
7 I would prefer to do that unless the Council wishes
8 otherwise. And any other things that people either
9 want to put forward as possible items to consider or to
10 take forward to the Council or do we want to take a
11 break and see what comes up throughout the rest of the
12 meeting?
13
14 MR. MIKE: Good idea. The.....
15
16 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Go
17 ahead, Donald.
18
19 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
20 BBNA is going to be hosting a potluck for Council
21 members and the public's invited, incoordination --
22 working with Courtenay -- I mean, yeah, Courtenay and
23 we'll have a potluck about 5:00 or 5:30.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thanks.
26 Yeah, I was wondering about time frame on that. I do
27 appreciate it. So.....
28
29 MR. MIKE: And tomorrow we have the
30 high school kids coming and performing for the Council.
31 So and it'll be about 2:00 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: What a treat.
34 Thank you.
35
36 Okay. Then I encourage all my Council
37 members to bring forth anything that comes to mind that
38 they might think that we should consider to put on a
39 list for future bringing forward and let's take a 10
40 minute break.
41
42 (Off record)
43
44 (On record)
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'll
47 call back to order here. We're going to -- we'll move
48 forward here with a report on the all-Council meeting
49 in winter of 2016 or, no, excuse me, first we're going
50 to hit recommended changes to nominations and the

1 appointment process. And that is Carl.

2

3 Please.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair.
6 Carl Johnson, Office of Subsistence Management. I am
7 the Council Coordination Division Supervisor. So what
8 that means a lot of times is I'm assisting the Council
9 Coordinators and making sure that you guys have
10 meetings that are planned well and executed well. But
11 also throughout the entire year there's another thing
12 that's kind of going on in peaks and valleys and that
13 is our process whereby we take nominations and
14 applications to the Regional Advisory Councils and we
15 get new Council members appointed. And as you may know
16 we currently have on 10 Councils 109 seats on those
17 Councils. And every year roughly one-third of those
18 seats are up for appointment. And how we get people in
19 those seats is in the fall we start with a recruitment,
20 whether it's at Council meetings, at AFN, through
21 display ads in regional papers and in radio ads, we
22 invite people to apply for the Regional Advisory
23 Councils and we also encourage Tribes, organizations
24 and other individuals to nominate someone. This is a
25 very under utilized option, but you can nominate
26 someone to serve on a Council as well. And this goes
27 on through the winter.

28

29 This year our Council application
30 deadline is January 23rd. And then nomination panels
31 consisting of staff from the five agencies that
32 participate in the Federal Subsistence Program get
33 together and they conduct interviews of the applicants
34 and their references, they come with the
35 recommendations to the Inter-Agency Staff Committee
36 which then in turn makes its recommendations to the
37 Federal Subsistence Board. By this time we're around
38 mid summer in our process. And then the Federal
39 Subsistence Board makes its final recommendations to
40 the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. So by
41 early fall the nominations materials are in the Office
42 of the Secretary of the Interior and then they spend
43 the next several months doing their own vetting which
44 is essentially looking at the backgrounds, back --
45 we're doing background checks on the people who have
46 been nominated. And by early December each year new
47 letters are supposed to be issued that appoint or
48 reappoint individuals to the Councils. So this process
49 can take 14, 15 months from its beginning to its end.

50

1 But as noted here in your briefing
2 materials that begin on page 91 we've run into a few
3 problems in recent years, significant the problem of
4 those appointment letters not being issued in December.
5 In fact, not even being issued until January or
6 February or as late as early May in some cases. And
7 this has shown to be very disruptive of your winter
8 meeting process. This year we even had to have the
9 Northwest Arctic Council even push back its entire
10 meeting a month because they were waiting for five
11 seats to be filled and they couldn't conduct business
12 with only five Council members.

13
14 Another problem under the current
15 system in the last 10 years we've seen a steady decline
16 to the tune of 30 percent in applications each year.
17 We also have a process that sometimes is confusing to
18 the public in that we're right now seeking new
19 applicants and we still haven't heard yet from the
20 previous year's applications as to who the new
21 appointees are going to be. And that overlapping
22 process can be a little confusing.

23
24 Additionally one of the pieces of the
25 puzzle is the way we currently do business not only are
26 names forwarded to be appointed to the Council, we also
27 forward names of individuals to be cleared through the
28 background checks for use as possible alternates. And
29 I say possible because we don't actually appoint
30 alternates right now. We just identify people, we get
31 them cleared in the event there's an unexpected
32 vacancy, somebody either passes away or has to resign
33 for health reasons, and only then do we then contact
34 them to see if they're still interested and then go
35 through the process of getting an appointment letter
36 issued and that sometimes can take a couple of months.
37 And in that case they're not going to be able to
38 participate in that upcoming meeting if there's a
39 meeting coming soon.

40
41 So what we have before you is a series
42 of recommendations that are designed hopefully to
43 address a lot of these issues. The first
44 recommendation would change the current appointment
45 terms of three years to four years. And there's a
46 couple of things that this will hopefully accomplish.
47 Right now as I mentioned roughly one-third of the seats
48 are up for appointment every year. That means we're
49 sending anywhere from 40 to 45 names to Washington,
50 D.C. to have background checks done on. And while

1 we're doing it dozens of other similar committee that
2 are covered by FACA as yours is, are also throughout
3 the U.S. also submitting their names at the same time.
4 And we're hoping that if we go from a three year to a
5 four year term then that'll reduce, you know, the math
6 from one-third to 25 percent of the Councils are up for
7 appointment every year and that'll reduce the number of
8 names that are being submitted every year and hopefully
9 help them get through their process.

10

11 Another problem that could hopefully
12 alleviate is not having enough applications every year.
13 As much as we've tried a lot of things over the years
14 we still keep getting declining numbers of
15 applications. So if we don't have as many seats we
16 have to fill every year that'll hopefully help us make
17 sure that we have enough names not only to fill those
18 seats, but also to have some suitable alternates for
19 the Councils.

20

21 Now there are -- if you look on page 91
22 there's kind of a side by side there that has the four
23 year annual cycle and then a biannual cycle. One
24 option we've considered as possibly instead of doing
25 appointments every year we do them every other -- every
26 other year. And you can see the advantages and
27 disadvantages sitting there side by side for each side.
28 And I won't go over each of those individually.

29

30 Now in order to make these changes we
31 have to change both your charters and the Secretarial
32 regulations. Fortunately your charters are up for
33 renewal next year anyway so this could be a change we
34 could do as part of that. Also the regulatory change
35 would be a very simple one. I'm told the process would
36 be very quick given that it's not something that would
37 be controversial in nature that would generate a lot of
38 adverse public comments.

39

40 The next issue we are considering is
41 having formal appointments of alternates to the
42 Councils. Now this wouldn't require a change to the
43 charter or regulations, this is just something we would
44 do, we would ask the Secretary to do, and that is, you
45 know, somebody would actually -- instead of just
46 waiting and getting -- because right now if somebody is
47 -- has been considered as an alternate they like any
48 other people get a letter that says we're sorry you
49 have not been appointed to the Council. And for some
50 people that might be the end of it. They may not

1 continue any further on being involved or interested in
2 the Council and might move on to something else.
3 Whereas with this situation they would actually get a
4 letter that says you have been appointed as an
5 alternate to the Council. So that keeps them engaged,
6 it keeps them interested, it also -- there's been a lot
7 of different discussion as to how the Councils could
8 take advantage of formal alternate appointments. One
9 common one is the notion of quorum. If you're ever at
10 a risk where you might not be able to make quorum the
11 alternates could step in and attend instead of the
12 Council member who is unexpectedly not going to be able
13 to attend.

14
15 Next a third option and this was
16 actually suggested by the Western Interior Council, is
17 to put something in the charter called carryover terms
18 which would allow a person whose term is expiring to
19 still remain a formal member of the Council until
20 appointment letters are issued, either reappointing
21 them or appointing someone new in their seat. So if we
22 have a situation where we have two, three, four or five
23 month delays we don't have to worry about that
24 inferring with the Council's business because that
25 Council member can still plan to participate as a
26 Council member, if you have an unexpected January
27 telephonic Council meeting like we did just recently
28 over one of those Fisheries Resource Monitoring
29 projects that wouldn't be a problem because this
30 Council member's term would carryover until the
31 appointment letter is issued. That would require a
32 change to your charter and we would most likely model
33 it after the National Park Service Subsistence Resource
34 Commissions that currently has such a provision in
35 their charter. My only change I would make compared to
36 their language is their language is mandatory, will
37 continue to serve, I would change it to an optional,
38 may continue to serve because we don't want to drag
39 somebody kicking and screaming forward if they were
40 planning on this being their last, you know, meeting
41 and last term on the Council.

42
43 Now these are the three substantive
44 recommendations we are seeking your feedback on. This
45 does not have to be in the form of a motion, but we do
46 want a yea or a nay as to whether or not you would like
47 to see any of these three changes implemented.

48
49 The last item that you'll see on page
50 94 is something that comes up a lot in discussion among

1 the Council members and that is how do we get more
2 youth involved in the Councils. So what I've laid out
3 here are kind of the relevant issues and that is one,
4 as you're governed by the Federal Advisory Committee
5 Act it specifically sets forth the types of memberships
6 that may exist in the Council formally and
7 unfortunately a youth member wouldn't fit in, but there
8 are some suggestions in here as to a variety of
9 different ways you could have some type of mentorship
10 or other youth involvement, they become -- they can
11 become more regularized. And you can work with Donald
12 and other OSM staff on coming up with ways to implement
13 something that would be useful to your Council because
14 a lot of different Councils have different ideas as to
15 how this would be implemented and what would be
16 meaningful in their region. So really this would be
17 more of a region by region bases as to what each
18 Council would like to do.

19

20 So that's my initial presentation and
21 I'm open to any questions that the Council may have.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Thank
26 you, Carl.

27

28 Would anybody care to open this
29 discussion.

30

31 Mr. Dunaway.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I looked at this
34 for a while yesterday. Under the alternate idea would
35 there be that each seat has an alternate or would there
36 be like a couple alternates for the entire RAC and how
37 would they, you know, at.....

38

39 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you. That was a
40 good question. And through the Chair. Unfortunately
41 we never get enough applicants where we could
42 conceivably have an alternate for each seat so it would
43 be a couple of essentially at large alternates that
44 would come base -- you know, it would be based on --
45 you know, currently right now with the Inter-Agency
46 Nominations Panels they have five criteria that they
47 grade applicants on that are criteria that were
48 established by the Federal Subsistence Board and then
49 they rate and rank them, they rank them as a first
50 candidate, you know, top subsistence candidate and

1 second, third and fourth and then for the commercial
2 sport use representatives same thing, top candidate,
3 second, third, fourth. And those names are then
4 forwarded on to the Inter-Agency Staff Committee and
5 ultimately most of the time, nine times out of 10, the
6 Board goes with those initial ranking and ratings from
7 the Nominations Panels. So we would essentially same
8 thing, the alternates would be ranked by -- okay, after
9 we identified our top to fill in for the actual
10 appointments, then the next ranked candidates would
11 then be the first, second and third alternates and so
12 on. So it would just more or less be for the Council
13 as a whole and they would step in to fill any seat that
14 may be vacant.

15

16 Thank you, Madam Chair.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay.

19

20 Mr. Dunaway, follow-up.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: I have one more comment,
23 I don't -- I'm not sure if it's fair especially now
24 that you've explained a little more about the process,
25 but I know from my days when I was involved with
26 managing the crab fishery trying to get closure through
27 Federal process it seemed like they had to have many,
28 many lawyers in D.C. handle every single decision. I
29 was just wondering if we could speed the whole process
30 by reducing the number of bureaucrats that had to
31 handle all this stuff. I just get -- I have to say it,
32 but I get a little more glimmer of what goes on from
33 what you said there. So anyway is it really necessary
34 for everybody to spend time with every application.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MR. JOHNSON: Well, actually I -- I
39 consider the Inter-Agency Nominations Panels, so those
40 consist of the staff from the different five agencies,
41 to be really a crucial part of this because those are
42 all field staff who all work out in the regions. So
43 they are probably the best situated to be objective
44 evaluators of applicants of anybody that's in the
45 program. And they provide an incredible service to
46 those of us in Anchorage who don't get out there in the
47 field and therefore they're much better positioned. So
48 I think they're a valuable tool. And nothing gets to
49 the Federal Subsistence Board without first going
50 through the Inter-Agency Staff Committee. So that's

1 definitely a piece that is also part of this puzzle.

2

3 As for what happens in D.C., well as
4 you can imagine we have no control over what they do
5 once the paper leaves Anchorage and heads to D.C.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. O'Hara.

8

9 MR. O'HARA: Yes, we at the Sea Grant
10 Program the other day, they have -- they are charged
11 with the responsibility of the graying of the fleet,
12 talking about the fishing fleet. Well, you got the
13 graying of the Council Committee right here, I
14 guarantee you and I'm number 1. And so in one form or
15 another and you'll have to create a method of getting
16 younger applicants into this program, if not it'll just
17 get old and go away, you know, and we're not going to
18 be here forever. And I reluctantly took the last --
19 I'm appointed for the last time just recently and by
20 the way I'm not sure it's the Administration meaning
21 the President and his staff is so disorganized that
22 they can't get an appointment going and we can't
23 function properly maybe in a year and a half that'll be
24 better I hope.

25

26 And secondly I think it's the strategic
27 plan that's going to handle this. This should be
28 something that the strategic plan should be doing.
29 They can -- they are -- they have the pulse of the
30 entire southwest region and they indicated in one of
31 the things that they just mentioned here an hour ago is
32 if they were to do a mock Council and show the young
33 people that there was a -- you know, you're keeping it
34 -- you're keeping the subsistence going, the resources
35 healthy, the communities are getting their needs of
36 fish and game and all these type of things that they
37 just take for granted that we do every year for them,
38 you know.

39

40 And I think that, you know, one of the
41 things that Sea Grant has done is they have had college
42 graduates come in and work on their programs for --
43 until they get their master's. You know, and their pay
44 is to come and do that. We're not going to do that
45 here, but eventually they go right out into the
46 industry and become biologists or geologists or
47 whatever they're going to be. So I think there needs
48 to be a concerted effort and I'm not so sure the
49 Federal program can handle it, but I think something
50 like the strategic plan which is going to have the

1 pulse of the whole thing they should be -- they should
2 be encouraged and we should as Council members
3 encourage them to start thinking of let's start
4 recruiting young people from -- the Bristol Native
5 Corporation Board, some of us older guys have been
6 there for 25 years, got off so you could put a four
7 year person -- four year degree person on there and
8 right now three of the four of the 12 Board members are
9 younger, college grads, management people and from 32
10 million to 2.9 billion is not a bad success story, but
11 you can't keep the old guys on there all the time, they
12 have got to get off, encourage other people to get on
13 and run the program. And so it's just as much -- I
14 think it's our -- more our responsibility than the
15 Federal government, I don't -- I think the Federal
16 government has its place, I can't figure out where it's
17 at yet, but I think it's something that this group has
18 got to have to deal with.

19

20 Thank you, Madam Chair.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: One more thing. The --
25 I'm kind of in favor of this carryover or carry on,
26 however. I believe we kind of have adopted a system
27 like that with the State Advisory Committees. Some of
28 that's just kind of gotten returned and correct me if
29 I'm wrong, but I thought in some cases we had problems
30 with scheduling and meetings and I believe now if
31 somebody's sitting there it -- they can continue to sit
32 until we can finally get a meeting together to have
33 another election and that sort of thing. So that --
34 the difficulty of having that in spooks me, but the
35 concept of it I really like.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Anybody
40 else.

41

42 Mr. Abraham.

43

44 MR. ABRAHAM: This is so right. When
45 nominating somebody and you don't hear back from -- I
46 mean, why wasn't -- I mean, why weren't they picked and
47 you wonder what's happened. I mean, I've done that a
48 couple times and nothing. I nominated a guy a couple
49 times and no answer, you know, I'd like to know.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you.

2

3 Carl.

4

5 MR. JOHNSON: Well, one of the things
6 I'm definitely working on improving is communication --
7 communicating with the applicants, kind of let them
8 know what's happening at each stage of the game. You
9 know this year, for example, we sent out a letter to
10 all the applicants at the end of the application cycle
11 letting them know we had received their application,
12 explained to them that somebody would be calling them
13 to conduct an interview soon and it also gave them an
14 idea as to what the topics of that interview would
15 cover. As to -- and then we try to do that as we go
16 along once we find out whether or not somebody has or
17 has not been appointed, you know, we -- once we get the
18 appointment letters, we get them pretty quickly in
19 digital format, the Council Coordinators contact the
20 successful applicants and let them know they've been
21 appointed or reappointed. We do send out a letter to
22 people who were not selected to let them know they were
23 not selected. The one thing we cannot share
24 unfortunately is why someone was not selected. The
25 whole process, the grading criteria is very
26 confidential and it's only shared within a very, very
27 small group of people in the program who are involved
28 in the appointments process. And there's just as a
29 matter of policy and as privacy protection we don't --
30 we don't share with anybody as to why somebody was not
31 selected or why one person was selected over another.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Yeah, I
34 -- you know, I was thinking too as other people were
35 laying their thoughts out, but I think it would be
36 something else that a person could consider possibly
37 for the Partners Program to include youth in it. I
38 loved Gayla's concept of putting a Council within the
39 youth and I think a person could even consider taking
40 it a step further of having -- possibly incorporating
41 it into one of the student government programs for that
42 type of class and having them bring forward even
43 proposals and they can follow the proposals through the
44 process with us as well. Also, you know, creating it
45 as part of the student government day if the student
46 government -- we schedule our meetings far enough in
47 advance and both of them are during the school year, I
48 don't know of anybody here that wouldn't welcome some
49 student participation and I know in past years once or
50 twice we've actually had student groups come in even

1 for a brief period of time to see what we're doing and
2 how we're conducting business. But the first place my
3 mind went was to the Partners Program for coordination
4 of that. It might help to get more youth involved and
5 maybe not make it such an intimidating feeling for them
6 to become involved in future years as well if they
7 realize that they're welcomed.

8

9 Another thought I've had in the past is
10 I'm not sure why nominations aren't opened earlier. If
11 you're going to take, you know, 12, 14, 16 months to
12 appoint somebody open the nominations before the seat
13 is even vacated so you have that potential conflict out
14 of the way, people can, you know, not receive their
15 appointment until the date -- you know, if the seat is
16 going to change hands or that person's stepping down
17 then that seat is already filled. If they're going to
18 remain in that seat then I guess it would be up to you
19 as to when you're going to announce that appointment,
20 whether you want to wait to that date or not, but I
21 don't know why you don't back up the nomination process
22 to meet the need rather than putting people out on a
23 swing not knowing or not allowing the Councils -- I
24 think that you -- if you don't do that you definitely
25 need to incorporate a holdover plan because I don't
26 think that it's fair to us who spend a lot of time,
27 energy and scheduling effort to participate in these
28 Councils not to be able to do anything done because we
29 don't have our seats filled. Now we personally have
30 not directly been affected by it yet, but as you
31 mentioned other Councils already have, it's not -- it's
32 definitely a possibility for us in the future. And to
33 be on hold because of somebody's lack of efficiency
34 that's making the appointment you should either back up
35 the nomination so that that's not going to be an issue
36 or definitely have a holdover plan implemented so that
37 you're not wasting a whole lot of people's time due to
38 no fault of anyone that's expected to participate.

39

40 Those were just my thoughts.

41

42 MR. JOHNSON: Well, actually -- so
43 right now the application period being open is for
44 seats that expire in December, 2015. So that's fairly
45 far forward as it is right now. Every year we try
46 something, we tweak something a little bit different
47 here and there to see if it'll improve things. So far
48 what we've been doing is doing a couple of measures
49 each year that gets the packets into D.C. a little bit
50 sooner than the previous year to give them a little bit

1 more time and this year we're going to jump that even
2 further by pushing the application process back and
3 shortening it. Because we haven't found any benefit to
4 having an application period that's open for eight
5 months. I think it's difficult to keep people's
6 attention and my experience has been that people will
7 make -- will wait until the last minute to apply
8 regardless of when the deadline is. So the real issue
9 is let's see if we can try to get it in to D.C. sooner
10 and then that way it creates more time for them to get
11 things done and then hopefully that'll be that other
12 little piece in the puzzle that tweaks it in just the
13 right direction.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Good.
16 I think that's definitely a movement in the right
17 direction because I think you're going to -- you
18 frustrate enough Council members enough times and they
19 won't be back for nomination and if you're already
20 struggling, you know, reeducating a brand new Council
21 could be another headache all over again that you'll be
22 facing so I encourage you to continue along those
23 lines.

24

25 Anybody else have anything else they'd
26 like to add.

27

28 Mr. Dunaway.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, again I didn't
31 quite -- I asked questions about alternates. I still
32 like the idea of alternates and there again the Fish
33 and Game Advisory Committee has alternates and
34 especially if it doesn't require change of the charter.
35 We've I think we've come close to not having quorums or
36 have delayed meetings when unexpected health issues
37 popped up or something. So I would be in support of
38 that and the carryover. I'm not necessarily against
39 the four year cycle. Just thinking like Nanci said,
40 some of this stuff it takes quite a bit of learning so
41 if you stretched it out a little longer you'd get a
42 Council member educated. The only thing is some people
43 might be willing to volunteer for three years, but the
44 concept of four is too intimidating. At this point I'm
45 kind of open to ideas, most of the ideas that --
46 something that'll work. I think one of the things that
47 snarled things up last year was that whole sequester
48 brakemanship thing going on in Congress. And I think
49 people knowing when their term expired and when they
50 should apply got confused in the other big budget

1 battle that was going on.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Go ahead.

6

7 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, Mr. Dunaway,
8 there's some advantages to the individual Council
9 membership themselves of having a four year term, you
10 get more time to learn. And for those folks who have
11 to now reapply for their December 15th appointment
12 letter, they just got their last appointment letter
13 January, 2014. So we're already just barely getting,
14 you know, warm the seats so to speak and now it's time
15 to reapply again.

16

17 And as for your concern as to whether
18 or not people would be interested to serve a full four
19 years, this has come up in the past and this reenforces
20 the value of having alternates because if somebody does
21 decide that four years is just too much, well, there's
22 an already appointed alternate that's ready to take
23 over their seat officially and now they get a chance to
24 sit on the Council for a year before they reapply and
25 maybe become a permanent member of the Council.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Good thoughts,
28 everyone. Did you get what you needed from us on that?

29

30 MR. JOHNSON: Well, I got a sense,
31 Madam Chair, that there's definite approval of the
32 carryover term provision in the charter, some approval
33 of having formal alternates and at least one Council
34 member expressed approval of four year terms. Unless I
35 hear stringent disagreement from the Council I'll just
36 go and say yea on those three items there as I tally
37 the different Councils' opinions on these different
38 recommendations.

39

40 Madam Chair.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Does
43 anybody have any objections to his carrying that
44 forward?

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Good. I think
49 that you have our approval for that.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 Okay. Let's move on to the all-Council
4 meeting in the winter of 2016.

5

6 Donald, is that you?

7

8 MR. JOHNSON: I'll be taking that since
9 I'm here and this gives Donald a chance to focus on
10 stuff that he's doing. This is on your agenda because
11 over the years off and on various Councils have
12 expressed the desire to have an all-Council meeting.
13 And we have considered this and started some kind of
14 preliminary brainstorming as to what this would take
15 logistically and how it would be scheduled out. But
16 before we move forward with actually spending the time
17 and energy of coming up with such a meeting we wanted
18 to actually check in with the Councils and see if this
19 was something that they would still find value in. And
20 the way we envision this working is it would take place
21 as it notes in the winter cycle of 2016. This is a
22 relatively quiet meeting period, it would be when
23 people would be submitting fisheries proposals and it
24 would be a combination of joint sessions where all 10
25 of the Councils would be together in the same room at
26 the same time to discuss issues of joint concern to all
27 the Councils. Then there would be breakout sessions
28 where some of the Councils -- we would have up to three
29 Councils meeting in their own individual meetings,
30 discussing their own regional issues and while those
31 three Councils are meeting the rest of the Council
32 members would have the opportunity to attend briefings
33 or training sessions. So for example issues of multi
34 regional concern like for example having a joint Fish
35 and Game and Fish and Wildlife Service briefing on
36 Yukon salmon which the Eastern Interior, Western and
37 the Yukon Delta members could attend while they're
38 getting a very detailed briefing from agencies on that
39 issue or it can also be breakout sessions with training
40 from different regional organizations on issues that
41 they're dealing with, their research projects, training
42 on Robert's Rules of Order, ANILCA, but the idea is we
43 would have a committee of people that would consist of
44 Council Coordinators and Council members that would
45 design an agenda that would benefit everyone.

46

47 So that's the big vision and we just
48 wanted to see if this if something that the Council
49 would find valuable and if so we'll go ahead and work
50 on planning it.

1 Thank you, Madam Chair.

2

3 And through the Chair, the time, the
4 winter, would be what we've been trying to get from
5 each of the Councils is a sense of when they would want
6 to have such a meeting or if it's more simple tell us
7 when you don't want to have a meeting in the winter and
8 as challenging as you can imagine it'll be we're going
9 to try to accommodate as much as possible a schedule
10 that fits everyone's needs, but again would take over a
11 period of just one week, five days in either Anchorage
12 or Fairbanks. We're going to figure out which place
13 works best logistically.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Mr. Dunaway.

16

17 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, right off the top
18 of my head some of us get pretty involved with Board of
19 Game, Board of Fish meetings and I'm like ooh. And
20 somebody's -- it's going to be conflicting for
21 somebody. I like the idea of a joint meeting just from
22 that sitting in on the Southcentral, Southeast meeting
23 I felt like I learned a lot and you see how other
24 counterparts do. So I wouldn't give up, but it might
25 have to take a number of polls to find out when would
26 be the least conflicting time for people to attend. It
27 might be that one Council -- it's not a time to get
28 left out somehow or I don't know or maybe you'd have a
29 few less members able to attend if there was some major
30 State board meeting.

31

32 But everybody's busy so go for it I
33 guess.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. Anybody
38 else.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: The one
43 thought that jumped into my mind, I would find it I
44 think hugely beneficial to have a statewide meeting. I
45 think that we could all learn a whole lot from it and
46 we can get a lot of information sharing done at it. I
47 think it -- you know, all of the Councils could
48 potentially benefit from it as long as it's structured
49 properly. My biggest concern is that we would be still
50 able to allow public involvement and public

1 participation. And I do see that that could be
2 somewhat of a detriment unless, you know, we can make
3 sure that telephonically or, you know, with the video
4 capabilities people have today if we could find a
5 facility that could accommodate that then I think
6 perhaps we could meet it. But I would put that in, you
7 know, we highly value the input from the public that we
8 get as well as the -- our Tribal members and other
9 Councils, Village Councils. So I think that we'd have
10 to make sure that they were included in this. I
11 commend you personally for looking forward far enough
12 that we can hopefully be able to mitigate as many of
13 the scheduling conflicts as possible, kind of like
14 getting out dates picked before everybody else does and
15 vice versa so that a person can always be reminded of
16 them. I think it's the best way you're going to go
17 about eliminating as many of those as possible although
18 I agree with Dan, you're always going to have some.

19
20 But those would be my comments and I
21 would give you a thumbs-up on it. I think if it's well
22 structured that everybody including agencies and user
23 groups would be benefitted by it.

24
25 MR. JONES: Madam Chair. This is John
26 in Chignik Lagoon.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: So good to
29 hear from you, Mr. Jones. Please share your thoughts.

30
31 MR. JONES: My thoughts are is that if
32 all the Councils ever got together it would be a good
33 opportunity to find out some of the issues that our
34 Board or their -- the Board that we have making
35 decisions in their areas which was always a bad thing
36 on the Board there is trying to make a decision for a
37 different area. If that included something where you
38 can get to know a little more about the issues I think
39 it would be a great idea.

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Good. Thank
42 you. I agree with you, Mr. Jones.

43
44 MS. LARSON: Madam Chair.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, please go
47 ahead, Dorothy.

48
49 MS. LARSON: And I would also -- would
50 add that I think many of our organization reps would be

1 interested in attending that hearing on a statewide
2 basis.

3
4 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Thank you. I
5 think that's valuable input as well.

6
7 Go ahead.

8
9 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah, Madam Chair, and I
10 think one of the things that we have in mind for this
11 too is that we're going to have these different
12 breakout sessions where there's going to be training or
13 reports then while primarily they will be designed to
14 benefit the Council members, there are definitely a lot
15 of topics that I know would benefit the public as well.
16 It could be Tribal representatives, representatives
17 from the regional nonprofits like BBNA that we also see
18 hopefully them getting some value out of this
19 opportunity as well.

20
21 Thank you, Madam Chair.

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes, thank
24 you, Carl. And I agree. I mean, I think that it could
25 be a valuable tool for us to train future recruitment
26 for our Councils as well as informing the public and
27 other entities as well to what we -- the parameters we
28 work within and that sort of thing. I know that the
29 training that was provided to myself years ago when I
30 came on this Council was a great tool and it was -- it
31 was something that I still use to this day. And I
32 think that it shouldn't -- people shouldn't be excluded
33 from that training, there's nothing secret about it and
34 it would -- it would certainly help them to understand
35 how to put their proposals better together for us as
36 well as more opportunity for success in the presenting
37 of them. So, yeah, I totally agree with it.

38
39 So that gives you I think lots of
40 thumbs up direction and some avenues to consider as
41 well.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam Chair
46 and members of the Council.

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Okay. And
49 perhaps our -- we want to approach the chinook bycatch
50 issue. And, Mr. O'Hara, I think I will turn the floor

1 over to you if you like for just open -- I know it's
2 just more an open item for discussion and we'd welcome
3 you to do that.

4

5 MR. O'HARA: Yes, thank you, Madam
6 Chair. A number of years ago when Randy Alvarez was
7 the Chairman of the Council he had a couple
8 representatives, actually staff members, who were very
9 highly involved in the North Pacific, they worked for
10 the Fisheries Management Council and brought a lot of
11 information to us on the bycatch of the Bering Sea and
12 the Gulf. And I would just -- if we can't have any of
13 those staffers come and talk to us at least if they
14 could give us a report. And then I think maybe in the
15 winter meeting if we see fit that we would make comment
16 on the bycatch, any improvement from the chinook and
17 coho and the chums and even the pinks, all those four
18 species of salmon are predators. The only one that's
19 not a predator is a sockeye and eats plankton so no
20 bycatch of the sockeye which is good for Bristol Bay.
21 But not good for Bristol Bay and southwestern Alaska is
22 bycatch of other species. So if we could just maybe
23 have our Coordinator set something up for us and I
24 think it would be worthwhile looking at.

25

26 Thank you. I don't think we need any
27 action or comment on that.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I -- yeah, I'm
30 assuming that you would like to see that as an agenda
31 item.....

32

33 MR. O'HARA: Yes.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON:at our
36 winter meeting and I would concur with that. And if we
37 could get somebody there to speak to it would
38 definitely be a bonus, if not perhaps just an updated
39 report, you know, for us would be appreciated.

40

41 Okay. Do we want to move on to agency
42 reports, do you guys want to take a longer break before
43 we are welcomed to our potluck, what are the wishes of
44 the Council here.

45

46 I don't know how I've tempered your
47 perseverance.

48

49 MR. O'HARA: Madam Chair.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: Yes.
2
3 MR. O'HARA: Tommy Hedlund and I were
4 going to take a nap before. So -- not necessarily, if
5 we have work to do we don't have to take a nap.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN MORRIS LYON: I -- well,
8 then let's -- we'll go ahead and take -- I think we'll
9 go ahead and break for the day. We've got plenty of
10 time tomorrow I think for our agency reports and we've
11 got some other activities so I'm going to go ahead and
12 suggest we take a break so everybody can stretch their
13 legs and get some fresh air before we enjoy the
14 festivities of the evening.
15
16 Thank you all for being here and I hope
17 you all can make it again tomorrow.
18
19 (Off record)
20
21 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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