

1 BRISTOL BAY ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8 Dillingham Assembly Chambers
9 Dillingham, Alaska
10 October 29, 2013
11 8:39 a.m.
12
13
14

15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16
17 Molly Chythlook, Chair
18 Pete Abraham
19 Dan Dunaway
20 Lary Hill
21 Daniel O'Hara
22 Nanci Ann Morris Lyon
23 Richard J. Wilson
24

25
26
27 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike
28
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41
42 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
43 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
44 Anchorage, AK 99501
45 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

1 P R O C E E D I N G S
2
3 (Dillingham, Alaska - 10/29/2013)
4
5 (On record - 8:39 a.m.)
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Good morning.
8 Welcome to Dillingham. I guess we'll get started here.
9 I'll call the meeting to order
10 so that we can go through our agenda. There's been
11 changes made. According to my clock here, it's 8:39.
12 The meeting is called to order.
13
14 Pete Abraham is going to do invocation.
15 You'll notice that we don't have Alvin Boskofsky here.
16 He's in Seattle getting some treatment, so we'll need
17 to remember him not only today but throughout the rest
18 of the year in our prayers. So if everybody could
19 stand, Pete Abraham will do the invocation.
20
21 (Invocation)
22
23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Pete.
24
25 MR. ABRAHAM: Uh-huh.
26
27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay, roll call.
28 Donald.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
31 This is the roll call of the Bristol Bay Regional
32 Advisory Council. Mr. Pete Abraham.
33
34 MR. ABRAHAM: Here.
35
36 MR. MIKE: Mr. Dan O'Hara.
37
38 MR. O'HARA: Here.
39
40 MR. MIKE: Ms. Nanci Morris Lyon.
41
42 (No response)
43
44 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Nanci stated
45 that she had a civic meeting last night. She'll be
46 here this morning about 10:00 o'clock. Ms. Molly
47 Chythlook.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Here.
50

1 MR. MIKE: Mr. Alvin Boskofsky.
2
3 (No response)
4
5 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Mr. Boskofsky
6 is on medical leave, so he can't be here. Mr. John
7 Jones, Sr.
8
9 (No response)
10
11 MR. MIKE: Are you online, Mr. Jones?
12 Madame Chair. Mr. Jones stated that he'd call in for
13 this meeting, so we'll wait for his call. Mr. Dan
14 Dunaway.
15
16 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.
17
18 MR. MIKE: Mr. Lary Hill.
19
20 MR. HILL: Here.
21
22 MR. MIKE: Mr. Thomas Hedlund.
23
24 (No response)
25
26 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Mr. Hedlund
27 stated that he had business matters to attend to in
28 Montana this week. Mr. Richard Wilson.
29
30 MR. WILSON: Yeah.
31
32 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. You have six
33 members present. You have a quorum.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
36 Donald. I guess next on our agenda is welcoming you
37 folks. It's -- I'm loss of words. It's been
38 interesting to watch not only our RAC system but also
39 other Advisory Council RACs. I've always wished that
40 people would -- the public would attend because this is
41 where all the action starts for our regulations. So I
42 really appreciate, even though the majority of you
43 might be agency people, we appreciate your attendance
44 to this meeting that we're having here today. With the
45 agencies attending, it helps this Board and the public
46 throughout Dillingham to realize that you folks are
47 here to help us and I do really appreciate this.
48
49 I guess what I'd like to do right now
50 is have the Council introduce themselves and then we'll

1 start from the back and have each one of you introduce
2 also yourselves, where you're working from, where
3 you're stationed and whatever else you would like us to
4 know.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 We'll start introducing the Council.
9 We'll start with Lary.

10
11 MR. HILL: I'm Lary Hill. I just
12 recently came on board. I've spent most of my adult
13 life in the Lake Iliamna and Bristol Bay area. I grew
14 up like a lot of you did in what's called a subsistence
15 lifestyle, which is living off the land, and had been a
16 commercial fisherman and gone through that also. I'm
17 happy to be here, I guess.

18
19 MR. O'HARA: You'll regret it one of
20 these times, but that's okay.

21
22 (Laughter)

23
24 MR. O'HARA: Dan O'Hara, Naknek.

25
26 MR. WILSON: That was short. I like
27 it. Richard Wilson, also Naknek. Lifetime resident of
28 the region here.

29
30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Molly Chythlook.
31 Originally from Aleknagik, but I reside in Dillingham.
32 A year ago July I had the privilege of retiring from
33 the work force, but I'm still involved in other areas.
34 Good morning again.

35
36 MR. ABRAHAM: Pete Abraham. Originally
37 from Nelson Island. I went to Togiak for a two week
38 visit about 40 -- yeah, 48 years ago. I'm still
39 working on that two weeks. I'm just an old story. I
40 guess I've been on this board for 20 years now I just
41 realized. I'm still looking for another 20 years.
42 John's going to get me a wheelchair for that, but he's
43 got to work -- you know, he's going to work me around.
44 Have a nice morning all you guys, okay.

45
46 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway. Born and
47 raised in Alaska. Lived in Dillingham for the last 24
48 years.

49
50 MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, wildlife

1 biologist.
2
3 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods, Bristol Bay
4 Native Association.
5
6 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Joe Chythlook, Molly's
7 husband.
8
9 (Laughter)
10
11 MR. LIND: Orville Lind, ranger, Alaska
12 Peninsula, Becharof Refuge.
13
14 MR. WATTS: Dominique Watts, wildlife
15 biologist for Alaska Peninsula, King Salmon.
16
17 MR. SCHWANKE: Craig Schwanke, Alaska
18 Department of Fish and Game, Sport Fish, here in
19 Dillingham.
20
21 MR. SANDS: Jim Sands, Alaska
22 Department of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Charles.
25
26 MR. BROWER: Charlie Brower from
27 Barrow, on the Federal Subsistence Board.
28
29 MS. STICKMAN: Good morning. Danielle
30 Stickman, subsistence (indiscernible).
31
32 (Technical difficulties. The following
33 were also present:)
34
35 MS. HOSETH: Gayla Hoseth.
36
37 MS. GOMEZ: Courtenay Gomez.
38
39 DR. CHEN: Glenn Chen.
40
41 MR. HAMON: Troy Hamon.
42
43 MS. CHUNG: Diane Chung.
44
45 MS. ANDERSON: Sherri Anderson.
46
47 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg.
48
49 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. If we could
50 notify the folks online to identify themselves and

1 request that they place their phones on mute. Who do
2 we have online this morning?
3
4 (No response)
5
6 MR. MIKE: Who do we have online this
7 morning?
8
9 MR. PAPPAS: Good morning, Donald.
10 This is George Pappas, OSM, State subsistence liaison.
11 We can barely, barely hear you.
12
13 Thank you.
14
15 MS. HYER: Hey, it's Karen Hyer too.
16 There's all kinds of static on the line also.
17
18 MR. CRAWFORD: Drew Crawford, Alaska
19 Department of Fish and Game, Federal Subsistence
20 Liaison Team Anchorage. I'm having the same problems
21 hearing you. Over.
22
23 MR. LIEBICH: Trent Liebich in
24 Anchorage with the Federal Subsistence Program.
25
26 MR. MILLS: Good morning. This is Dave
27 Mills with the National Park Service in Anchorage
28 having the same audio problems, can barely hear.
29
30 MR. MIKE: Who else to we have online?
31 Can you please identify yourself.
32
33 MS. INGLES: Palma Ingles.
34
35 MR. MIKE: Thank you. Mr. John Jones,
36 are you online with us today from Chignik Lagoon?
37
38 (No response)
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
41 going to be standing down for about five minutes to get
42 the teleconference.
43
44 MR. MIKE: Folks online, we're going to
45 try another teleconference line, so if you could hang
46 up and call back in about five, 10 minutes, please.
47
48 MR. PAPPAS: It's working now, Donald.
49 It just right now turned on.
50

1 MR. MIKE: Oh, it is. What about the
2 rest of the teleconference participants?
3
4 MS. HYER: Mine's working.
5
6 MR. LIEBICH: I can hear you pretty
7 well, Donald. This is Trent.
8
9 MS. HYER: Donald, have somebody else
10 talk besides you and see if we can hear them.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: This is Molly,
13 somebody else talking. Could you hear me?
14
15 MS. HYER: Yeah, Molly, you're loud and
16 clear. I guess you guys have to just make sure you
17 focus right on the mics.
18
19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, we're just
20 having a lot of static in the machines here, so
21 hopefully -- all right.
22
23 MS. HYER: You're coming through loud
24 and clear. That's great.
25
26 MR. PAPPAS: Sounds much better.
27
28 REPORTER: Ask them to mute their
29 phones.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess there is
32 a request for you to use your phones if.....
33
34 REPORTER: Mute.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Or mute. Sorry.
37 Mute the phones if you want to talk to us. Should we
38 continue with the introductions. John.
39
40 (Technical difficulties. The following
41 were also present online:)
42
43 MR. FOX: Trevor Fox.
44
45 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Kathy O'Reilly-
46 Doyle.
47
48 MR. KRON: Tom Kron.
49
50 MS. NARDI: Letizia Nardi, Ehess,

1 Paris.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I think
4 we've got everybody and the recorder, she's busy. So
5 good morning again. We'll go to number five, review
6 and adopt the agenda. I need a motion to adopt the
7 agenda. Because there's been changes made, during the
8 discussion part I'll go over the agenda with the
9 changes for today.

10

11 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Could you
12 go over the pages and then we'll make a motion to
13 accept the agenda as revised.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I'll do
16 that. Number 1, call to order. Number 2, invocation.
17 Number 3, roll call and establish quorum. Number 4,
18 welcome and introductions. Number 5, review and adopt
19 agenda. Number 6, review and approve previous meeting
20 minutes. And then we have under that, number 7, would
21 be 20 year service awards. Then number 8 would be the
22 reports. Number 9 would be the public and tribal
23 comment on non-agenda items. Number 10 would be old
24 business. Number 11, new business, which would cover
25 the wildlife regulatory proposals. After the last
26 proposal there's a B, draft 2014 Fisheries Resource
27 Monitoring Plan. Under that, number 1, we have BBNA
28 personnel, Courtenay, that will be on the agenda and
29 then Pamela will be calling under there. Then C would
30 be Partners Program and number 1 -- Donald, you need to
31 help me with the name.

32

33 MR. MIKE: After Partners Program --
34 thank you, Madame Chair. This is Donald Mike. The
35 Partners Program, Palma Ingles will do the presentation
36 and then C(1) will be Danielle from BBNA. She'll be
37 doing a presentation on the Partners Program. So that
38 will be C, Partners Program and then 1 Danielle from
39 BBNA.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
42 Donald. And we're hoping that when we get to C, it
43 will be about 4:30 and we're going to be recessing at
44 4:30 today to I guess go into a potluck that BBNA is
45 providing this evening. If perchance it's not quite
46 4:30, we may go down to pick up some of the agency
47 reports, like for instance budget update. So we'll see
48 where we're at.

49

50 October 30, tomorrow, we'll start off

1 with the D, rural determination process review. Then
2 we'll go on down through there. I'm trying to read
3 Donald's -- Donald, was there anything underneath?
4 Okay. Then when we get down to E -- sorry. Then F,
5 identifying issues for FY2013 annual reports, we're
6 moving that down to H under the agency reports.

7
8 And then under OSM you have numbers
9 from 1 to 5 and we're adding number 6, update on
10 fisheries. And then we're adding number 7 and that's
11 Board of Fish Proposal No. 40. Okay. Then the rest of
12 the agenda items, B, C, D and E are fine. When we get
13 down to G under agency reports, Bristol Bay Native
14 Association, number 1, Frank will have a presentation.
15 That's it. 12, future meeting dates. Excuse me,
16 that's not 12, it will be another 13.

17
18 MR. MIKE: It will be 13.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It's 13 and 14
21 is closing remarks, 15 adjourn. That's our agenda. I
22 guess we need to adopt the agenda if there's no
23 question.

24
25 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I'll make a
26 motion that we adopt the agenda that was presented to
27 us by our narrator Donald Mike and Madame Chair as a
28 revised agenda.

29
30 MR. WILSON: I'll second that motion.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
33 motion to adopt and seconded by Richard. If there's no
34 discussion.....

35
36 MR. O'HARA: Question.

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK:call for
39 the question. All in favor say aye.

40
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.

44
45 (No opposing votes)

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
48 Review and approve previous meeting minutes. Those of
49 us that were at AFN didn't quite get our packets that
50 were sent to our homes, but hopefully a majority of you

1 had a chance to go over the booklet. So approval of
2 previous meeting minutes. The minutes that we're
3 approving are for the fall meeting that was held in
4 Naknek February 12 and 13. It's on Page 5 of your
5 book. Do the board members need a few minutes to go
6 over the minutes?

7

8 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'll move
9 to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
12 motion to approve the meeting meetings February 12 and
13 13, 2013 that were held in Naknek.

14

15 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by Dan
18 Dunaway. If you need a -- all in favor say aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: No opposition.
23 Any opposition.

24

25 (No opposing votes)

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It's been
28 approved. The minutes have been approved for February.
29 Number 7, 20 year service awards.

30

31 Donald.

32

33 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. We
34 have two members from our Bristol Bay Regional Advisory
35 Council that are being recognized for their service on
36 this Regional Advisory Council, Mr. Pete Abraham from
37 Togiak and Mr. Dan O'Hara from Naknek. Our member from
38 the Federal Subsistence Board, Charlie Brower, will do
39 the presentation.

40

41 Mr. Brower.

42

43 MR. BROWER: Good morning. I'm honored
44 to be here, Madame Chair, to make a presentation on
45 behalf of the Federal Board and Chairman. Donald will
46 be these things ready. I do believe there's two people
47 for recognition. I'll wait for him to unravel the
48 stuff. I think I'll stand right here if one falls.

49

50 Thank you, Madame Chair. On behalf of

1 the Federal Subsistence Board and Chairman Tim Towarak
2 and the Office of Subsistence Management, we'd like to
3 make a couple presentations recognizing a couple of
4 your Council RAC members for their service. The first
5 one is Peter Abraham. Please come up.

6

7 Peter has served on the Bristol Bay RAC
8 for 20 years since the inception of the program. In
9 addition to serving on the Council, Pete is employed as
10 a refuge information technician with the Togiak
11 National Wildlife Refuge. Pete has served as an RIT
12 educating and protecting the resources in this region.
13 He works tirelessly protecting the resources and
14 subsistence related issues.

15

16 So on behalf of the Federal Subsistence
17 Board here's a plaque presented to Pete Abraham on
18 October 29 in recognition of 20 years of service to the
19 Bristol Bay Subsistence Advisory Council and a lifetime
20 of dedication to subsistence in this region.

21

22 Thank you.

23

24 MR. ABRAHAM: I did it.

25

26 (Applause)

27

28 MR. BROWER: Also, Pete, here's a small
29 token for your hard work. It's a brownie.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 MR. BROWER: It's a knife.

34

35 (Applause)

36

37 MR. ABRAHAM: I like that. Thank you.
38 You should do this more often to me.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 (Taking pictures)

43

44 MR. BROWER: The next presentation is
45 to Dan O'Hara. Would you please come up.

46

47 MR. O'HARA: Should I raise my hand?

48

49 (Applause)

50

1 MR. BROWER: Dan has served on the
2 Bristol Bay RAC since the inception of the Regional
3 Advisory Council. He has served on the RAC for 20
4 years. Dan has served as the mayor for the Bristol Bay
5 Borough among other civil responsibilities. He has
6 volunteered tirelessly, serving his region on important
7 subsistence related issues.
8
9 On behalf of the Federal Board and Tim
10 Towarak, we present you with this plaque. It reads:
11 Presented to Dan O'Hara on October 29 in recognition of
12 your 20 years of service on Bristol Bay Subsistence
13 Advisory Council and a lifetime of dedication to
14 subsistence in your region.
15
16 Thank you.
17
18 MR. O'HARA: Thank you.
19
20 MR. BROWER: We also have a small
21 token. It's also another knife. You did well.
22
23 MR. O'HARA: Thank you. Maybe I'll
24 catch a caribou or something.
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 (Taking pictures)
29
30 MR. O'HARA: Did you get my good side?
31
32 (Laughter)
33
34 MR. BROWER: These guys are lucky.
35 When I first made my presentation, I was carrying my
36 little pocket knife and I opened the box and put it in
37 there and took the real knife and here you go.
38
39 (Laughter)
40
41 MR. O'HARA: That's a real knife.
42
43 Thank you.
44
45 MR. BROWER: Thank you, Madame Chair.
46
47 MR. MIKE: We have two more, 10 year
48 service award.
49
50 MR. BROWER: Oh, okay.

1 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. In addition
2 to 20 years of service, we're recognizing 10 years of
3 service and those members are Dan Dunaway and Nanci
4 Morris Lyon. So we have a 10 year service award for
5 Mr. Dunaway.
6
7 MR. BROWER: Again, Madame Chair. Dan,
8 would you come up. The certificate reads a certificate
9 of appreciation presented to Dan Dunaway in recognition
10 of his contribution to the Federal Subsistence
11 Management Program as a member of the Bristol Bay
12 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council for years 2003 to
13 2013.
14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.
16
17 (Applause)
18
19 MR. BROWER: Also, Madame Chair,
20 there's one for Nanci Morris Lyon.
21
22 MR. O'HARA: She'll be here a little
23 later this morning.
24
25 MR. BROWER: Should we wait?
26
27 MR. MIKE: Yeah, we can wait.
28
29 MR. BROWER: Okay. Thank you.
30
31 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Brower. He's
32 a member of the Federal Subsistence Board to do the
33 honor of presenting these 20 years awards to Mr. Pete
34 Abraham and Dan O'Hara. We recognize Mr. Dunaway also
35 for 10 years of service. Give them all a round of
36 applause for dedicated services.
37
38 (Applause)
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Well,
41 thanks again for your services. Twenty years and 10
42 years is a long process. You have worked well and
43 served well for this Council.
44
45 Next on our agenda is number 8,
46 reports. The first one is Council Member reports. Is
47 there any of the Council Members that have reports.
48 Dan.
49
50 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Off the

1 top of my head I don't really have much of anything. I
2 do sit on the Nushagak Advisory Committee and this fall
3 we had a meeting and reviewed a number of items for how
4 the ACs and the whole Advisory Committee process works.
5 So I haven't heard the outcome of that. That's about
6 all I can think of right now.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MR. ABRAHAM: Togiak and the area over
11 there, this is the first time we ever had a lot of
12 permits being issued over there. I don't think nobody
13 ever really got that many moose over there. Of course
14 there was some interference again this year. This is
15 the second year. The State of Alaska with the
16 helicopter was flying over there a second time. We had
17 some complaints by local hunters. I think there was
18 some kind of issue over that some time ago.

19

20 That's all I got for Togiak.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Pete.
23 Dan.

24

25 MR. O'HARA: Yeah. Of course I think
26 the biggest concern we have is the king salmon, you
27 know, reduction in the kings. I really haven't talked
28 to Slim Morris yet about what they got in the branch,
29 Alakanuk up there. I think we were a little better
30 this year in Naknek than most years, but still I think
31 something that we would have a great concern about.

32

33 I think one of the things -- I sit on
34 the Sea Grant Program, which they do a lot of research
35 and good programs. I asked them -- and we should make
36 this aware here on our Council as well, Madame Chair,
37 that we have not -- when we were shut down, the Kvichak
38 was not on cycle for about eight years and we were all
39 inside the Naknek River and Egegik and Ugashik all got
40 pulled in and no one fished the Kvichak for all those
41 years. Finally it's back on cycle again. Next year
42 will be a down cycle and then we should go back to the
43 high cycles.

44

45 When we asked the biologist why we had
46 this decline for eight years and Kvichak, the biggest
47 producer, did not produce, they have no answer. They
48 do not know. State of Alaska has not been interested
49 in looking into finding out why it failed, but we know
50 that starting in Naknek all the way down to Moller they

1 have eel grass and it's a concern that I have and I
2 think we should look seriously at how this eel grass is
3 doing because this is where your little fish migrate
4 out for a year and then they go out in the high seas,
5 then they come back.

6

7 Also I think some of the processors
8 have encouraged the fishermen if they catch a live king
9 to throw it back overboard. Ocean Beauty does about
10 800,000 pounds a day. That's close to a million.
11 Alaska General Seafoods, AGS, does a million pounds a
12 day. Some of that skinless, boneless. They take their
13 kings that they get and they don't process and sell
14 them. They process them and put them on a caravan and
15 ship them up to Kipnuk and different places, you know,
16 for subsistence use, which I think is pretty remarkable
17 that they would do that because the people in Western
18 Alaska are really declined on the kings.

19

20 So I think we have our work cut out for
21 us on that. Continually dealing with the North Pacific
22 Council on the bycatch, which has been greatly reduced
23 on the Bering Sea side, which we appreciate very much.
24 We did not see a caribou in Naknek last year at all. I
25 don't think to speak of. Those are some concerns we
26 have.

27

28 Thank you, Madame Chair.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan.

31

32 Do you have anything, Lary?

33

34 MR. HILL: I don't really know what to
35 say about this. This is my first time here, which is
36 no excuse, of course. I could have asked a question.

37

38 In our area, one of the issues that was
39 kind of a surprise to us, and it might be covered under
40 the reports with the Lake Clark update under agency
41 reports, but with the chumming issue. Now we can't do
42 any fishing around our fish cutting tables because it
43 might lure the fish in and we might catch the rainbow
44 trout and that's an advantage, so it's called chumming.
45 I think that might be covered under the Lake Clark
46 update. And the caribou are coming back.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Lary.

49

50 Donald.

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
2 I'm requesting the folks that are participating on
3 teleconference please mute your phone. We can hear
4 some background noise. Please mute your phone if
5 you're able to.
6
7 Thank you.
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Richard.
10
11 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Nothing real official. I don't really have any news
13 from different councils and things that have been going
14 on. Just local stuff. We really noticed this last
15 season in our fall moose hunt over there that the
16 population is getting very slim it seems. We're really
17 having a difficult time trying to score moose over in
18 there. We've spend -- a lot of people have spent a lot
19 of time out trying to get a moose and a lot of it's not
20 happening. So I'd be really interested to see if
21 there's any new news for us here coming with our
22 biologists on our area over there because it sure seems
23 to be an area of concern.
24
25 The full two weeks of September
26 hunting, one calf, two cows. I mean realizing that,
27 you know, it was still pretty warm. Not a whole lot of
28 moose moving around. But even in the later part of the
29 month there wasn't a whole lot of sighting of anything
30 going on there. There was a few moose taken but a lot
31 less than historically. It's a concern that we have.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
34 Richard.
35
36 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. I'd like to
37 add something about our moose population also. In my
38 area, Lake Iliamna area, out of all of our population I
39 think we've only got maybe one bull moose and that was
40 it for the whole season.
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other
43 comments.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my
48 official business was attending the January Federal
49 Subsistence Board meeting and that's when we witnessed
50 our first two -- or Native representatives and it was

1 neat to have Charlie and -- I can't remember who
2 the.....

3

4 MR. MIKE: Tony Christianson.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Attending there
7 and I know just from my observation that -- you know,
8 like the experience that Lary is having coming into a
9 new setting like this even though you have an
10 experience with your environment, your subsistence
11 activities, it's different to go into a new setting
12 like this and not really knowing what to expect or even
13 what to say. I noticed that the two new Federal Board
14 subsistence personnel did a lot of listening, which was
15 good. I do appreciate the two new Federal Subsistence
16 Board people, like Charlie. I'm glad that he was able
17 to attend our Council meeting.

18

19 I heard that Bristol Bay RAC was the
20 only one that didn't get cancelled. The other RACs
21 have moved up to November with the shutdown and all the
22 confusion, relaxation, whatever.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Things got moved
27 in. We were able to squeeze in our Council here, which
28 was good. Again, welcome. My husband and I do quite a
29 bit of subsistence fishing and hunting. My preference
30 is not to shoot. I'm just an onlooker. We noticed
31 this year that we had moose up in our lake system, our
32 five chains of lakes. So we were able to harvest our
33 moose and we noted that the communities, like
34 Aleknagik, were successful in harvesting moose last
35 year. The hunters had a harder time harvesting the
36 moose this year, but I don't know where. Maybe all the
37 other village moose came over to the lake system. We
38 were happy that we were able to harvest our moose.

39

40 As far as fish resources, we were able
41 to harvest what we needed. With both of us retired, we
42 thought we'd have all the time in the world to do
43 whatever we wanted to do, but we're finding that
44 different. But we're enjoying our retirement. Thank
45 you, Council members, for your reports. I guess that's
46 part of my Chair report too.

47

48 I'm going to give Donald his comments
49 under the Chair report right now.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
2 think you covered everything pretty well, including the
3 government shutdown. One thing to remember before we
4 complete these agenda items, all our Regional Advisory
5 Councils we will not be planning for Regional Council
6 meetings during the first week of October due to --
7 it's just a lot of work trying to rearrange and
8 reschedule these public meetings that were planned a
9 year in advance. From now on we will not schedule any
10 RAC meetings during the first week of October. That's
11 the new fiscal year for the Federal government.

12
13 Madame Chair. As for the Bristol Bay
14 Regional Advisory Council, the nomination cycle is
15 coming up and we have four members that their terms
16 will be expiring at the end of 2013 and that will be
17 Molly Chythlook, Alvin Boskofsky, John Jones, Sr. and
18 Dan Dunaway. We have applications on the table. Also
19 I will remind you again later on in the season to
20 remind you folks that your term is coming up and you'll
21 need to reapply.

22
23 As far as travel issues, we're
24 scheduled for a two-day meeting and if for some reason
25 people need -- we get done early or by tomorrow, I'll
26 need to call our travel folks and make the travel
27 arrangements, so we'll get that taken care of.

28
29 Thank you, Madame Chair. That's all I
30 have.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

33
34 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I was just
35 wondering how we were going to have a meeting with the
36 Federal shutdown, so I really appreciate Donald. That
37 had to be a lot of hard work to get that done, so we
38 want to thank him for that. It was Molly Chythlook,
39 Dan Dunaway, John Jones and who was the fourth person
40 up for renewal?

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Alvin.

43
44 MR. O'HARA: Oh, Alvin. Okay. Thank
45 you, Madame Chair.

46
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

48
49 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
50 Donald, I'm just looking at this Page 4 in our book and

1 from what you were just saying on term expirations this
2 page doesn't quite seem to agree or maybe I'm reading
3 it wrong. Page 4.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway,
8 can you restate your question. What's your confusion?

9

10 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair.
11 Donald. On Page 4 it lists the terms and the members,
12 but it would seem to indicate that terms -- like I'm
13 reading my term to expire 2014. It shows, like Nanci
14 expiring 2013, Dan O'Hara, Pete Abraham. It shows
15 Alvin Boskofsky as expiring 2014. Maybe you could help
16 me out.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MR. MIKE: I'm sorry. I was reading
21 the wrong line. So that would be 2013. That's my
22 mistake. So Pete Abraham, Dan O'Hara and Nanci Morris
23 Lyon. Their term will be expiring at the end of the
24 year. I think we have reappointments for those seats,
25 right?

26

27 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: I can't answer
28 that.

29

30 MR. MIKE: Okay. I'm just putting you
31 on notice and I'll double check on reappointments from
32 the Secretary's Office. Just for clarification. I'll
33 contact you by either phone or email.

34

35 Thank you, Madame Chair.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan,
38 for noticing that. Any other business under the Chair
39 report.

40

41 MS. MORRIS LYON: That's all I have,
42 Madame Chair. Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess one
45 thing that I'd like to bring up is the first week of
46 October is great, but close to AFN is another issue,
47 but we were able to make it to this meeting. I guess
48 the majority of the board weren't at AFN. I guess what
49 I would like to request is keep those dates in mind
50 with the weather and trying to get back. Next year the

1 AFN location is going to be in Anchorage, so it's not
2 going to be such a big deal to try to get back. That's
3 just my comment and suggestion. Dan.

4
5 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I like the idea not
6 meeting in October. We're all scrambling to try to get
7 our fall work done, you know, and then those people who
8 go to AFN, of course, that's the middle of the month.
9 We all should be home right now doing the last little
10 post hole we're supposed to put in the ground or
11 something and that's okay because this is important.
12 Are you looking at November, Donald?

13
14 MR. MIKE: We have a meeting schedule
15 calendar in your meeting materials on Pages 188 and
16 189. For the next fall meeting the window opens August
17 17th and closes October 18th. That's our current fall
18 meeting cycle.

19
20 Madame Chair. Kathy will be explaining
21 the meeting cycle we have right now.

22
23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
24 Kathy.

25
26 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair. For
27 the record, this is Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle. I just
28 wanted to explain for next year's meeting cycle what
29 we're looking at in particular was that first week of
30 October given what the history was for this year and
31 moving things around. We usually -- that week can be
32 unpredictable as far as budget goes, so we thought in
33 terms of next year's schedules if we could leave that
34 clear, that would be great.

35
36 I certainly appreciate the Council's
37 comments in terms of things that you need to get done
38 in the fall as well. So the possibility of moving it
39 back -- and the one concern that we have at OSM for
40 moving it back into November is next year -- we have
41 alternate year cycles for the regulatory proposals and
42 this year we're on the wildlife cycle, so the Board
43 will meet on those proposals in April. Next year is
44 going to be the fisheries cycle, so the Board is going
45 to meet on those in January.

46
47 So we do not want to push next year's
48 meetings back into November because that affects our
49 ability to incorporate your comments into those
50 proposals and prepare those for the Board. So if the

1 Councils could, we would like to keep your meeting
2 cycle in that window from August through October, as
3 Donald has stated.

4

5 Any questions for me?

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, Kathy.
8 When was your fisheries cycle?

9

10 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: We now have the
11 alternate years, so one year we do wildlife proposals
12 and the next year we do fisheries proposals. So this
13 year we're in a wildlife cycle and during the wildlife
14 cycle the Board has rescheduled their meeting to
15 address the wildlife proposals into April because there
16 wasn't any -- we were able to produce the regulations
17 books and get the information out to the public in
18 time.

19

20 With the fisheries proposals, due to
21 the fact that fishing starts earlier than most of the
22 hunting activities, the Board has maintained that
23 January meeting cycle to hear the fisheries proposals.
24 That's why it's important for the Councils to meet
25 earlier preceding a fisheries year or during that
26 fisheries cycle.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thanks for the
29 explanation. Any questions for Kathy. Dan.

30

31 MR. DUNAWAY: Not so much a question as
32 a comment. That really helped because I thought our
33 window was going to be wider and, for us, if we could
34 push into like late October or even the first week or
35 so in November, it would work a lot better for people
36 like Nanci and Tinny who often have pretty late fall
37 activities and sometimes it's just hard. Since I
38 understand the fisheries schedule there, at least I
39 understand what we're doing.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Through the Chair.
44 Thank you, Dan, for that comment.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Kathy, since I'm
47 still involved with meetings, our first week in
48 November and first week of December is not good for me.

49

50 Thank you.

1 Any other questions, comments.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
6 Kathy. Under reports, we're down to number 3, Council
7 Coordinator.
8
9 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
10 completed this agenda item, so we're under number 4.
11
12 Madame Chair.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
15 down to number 4, annual report reply from Federal
16 Subsistence Board.
17
18 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The 2012
19 annual report was approved at the last meeting back in
20 February, I believe. This Council has provided three
21 issues to be presented to the Federal Subsistence
22 Board. One was the Chignik fishery information and
23 issue number two is stocks of concern. Issue number
24 three is Bering Sea bycatch. Issue number four is the
25 moose management plan for Unit 17. You'll find on
26 Pages 14, 15 and 16 the Federal Subsistence Board
27 provided its response, so if you have any questions we
28 can address those. We have Staff here to address those
29 questions if you do have any questions on those
30 particular issues.
31
32 Thank you, Madame Chair.
33
34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any
35 questions or comments from the Council.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If not, let's
40 move down to number 9, public and tribal comment on
41 non-agenda items. This is the time for public
42 comments. Whatever you have in your heart to bring to
43 the Council here, this time is open.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
48 anybody running up to the Council. I think there's
49 another time in our agenda, latter part, which will
50 probably be better because by that time you'll have a

1 little bit more information after the reports and
2 whatnot to be better prepared for this section. Just
3 in case you might have a burning issue or a comment, we
4 have this open. I need to call Joe up. I have to go
5 home with him tonight. He's got his hand up.

6

7

(Laughter)

8

9

MR. CHYTHLOOK: Good morning, Council
10 members and all the Fish and Wildlife folks and some
11 Fish and Game folks. Madame Chair. I sit on the AFN
12 board for the last several years and one of the
13 concerns that AFN keeps bringing up is their, I guess,
14 concerned about the Federal Subsistence Board and even
15 the State of Alaska Board not listening to concerns of
16 rural Alaska people in particular. I just wanted to
17 bring that up. I think it's probably kind of a
18 recurring issue on AFN every year it seems like.

19

20

We just got done with the AFN
21 convention up in Fairbanks. Then I noticed that one of
22 the things that -- I guess in answer to that concern,
23 because throughout the year AFN representation has gone
24 both to the State and Federal officers or down to
25 Washington and also to State, but primarily in talking
26 with our senators and others on trying to address that.

27

28

This last Saturday afternoon there was
29 kind of a public hearing on subsistence put out by Lisa
30 Murkowski and Begich and they heard reports from
31 different areas in the state about their concern and
32 then somebody -- I guess ideas of how concerns might be
33 addressed. I'm just suggesting that maybe our Council
34 and Federal Subsistence Board and then personnel from
35 Federal folks probably might be receiving some of this
36 stuff and hopefully, you know, a Council such as ours
37 throughout the state of Alaska and working with
38 agencies will be able to address some of them.

39

40

I realize that state of Alaska is a big
41 area and we have many different concerns in different
42 parts of the state. Throughout my time and work here
43 in Bristol Bay, I think we've been able to work things
44 out amongst ourselves here pretty much in Bristol Bay,
45 but in other parts of the state, especially Western
46 Alaska and then maybe even up north in Southeast Alaska
47 there's still a lot of concerns about not addressing
48 subsistence properly. I noticed that Ahtna group also
49 has a concern that they're working on.

50

1 It seems to be that there's a lean
2 towards more tribal involvement and management of
3 resources and I think that was the main thrust of the
4 hearing or part of it in Lisa Murkowski's and Senator
5 Begich's forum this last weekend. So I don't know
6 where it will go, but I just want us to be aware that
7 probably in the future both Boards, Federal Subsistence
8 Board and Alaska Board of Fish and Board of Game will
9 probably be hearing more about this.

10

11 I'm sure if you followed AFN at all
12 and some of the concerns that were expressed by AFN
13 subsistence report, that a lot of this stuff came on.
14 I guess as a member of AFN board, I just want to share
15 that information to you folks so that you have a head's
16 up. If there's a way and a need to address it, like in
17 the past, we'll be prepared to do what we can to
18 address the issue because rural Alaska, you know, is
19 probably the last one to -- it seems like we're always
20 the last ones to get response from a lot of different
21 agencies when it comes to subsistence.

22

23 Thank you for your time.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. Dan.

26

27 MR. O'HARA: Joe, appreciate that. Are
28 you still chairman of BBNC?

29

30 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Yes.

31

32 MR. O'HARA: You never told us that
33 when you introduced yourself.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MR. O'HARA: I sat on the board with
38 him for about 31 years, so I know and he's my friend
39 because I have too many secrets on him.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 MR. O'HARA: Joe, I really appreciate
44 that. I think as an example of what you're talking
45 about as far as rural Alaska goes, with the last
46 election you have -- all the power is in the urban
47 areas anymore; Fairbanks and Anchorage and Wasilla and
48 Palmer and Kenai. They're young, very bright
49 Republicans who are very conservative. They were done
50 this year on time. There was no overruns. Their

1 program was all written up before they ever got to
2 Juneau. Unfortunately the Legislature assassinated our
3 fish board member, literally.

4
5 I happened to be down there as mayor
6 lobbying on some Bristol Bay issues with John Walsh,
7 our lobbyist, and when Bob Penney came to town and
8 started handing out big bills and the urban legislators
9 were threatened by their constituents because of the
10 Kenai lack of fish. That is not our problem. Vince
11 helped them considerably and they just absolutely -- I
12 sat in the chambers when both the House and the Senate
13 met together and we lobbied.

14
15 We were invited into Caldwell's office
16 and he said I'm sorry, guys, but we just can't support
17 your board member and I said we've got a good Board
18 member. We have the biggest resource in Alaska and
19 we've got a good Board member and for you to do this is
20 absolutely wrong. He said my constituents said this
21 and I just said -- I just was pretty disgusted.

22
23 But you've got to give guys credit like
24 Chuck Kopp and what's his name there, the senator, Fred
25 Dyson. Gary Stevens from Kodiak lobbied all through
26 the Legislature trying to keep Vince on there. Fred
27 Dyson is from Anchorage, but he said, look, guys, he
28 said I fished Bristol Bay and I know exactly the rural
29 needs out there. So my constituents might be unhappy
30 about it, but we've got a good board member there and
31 he lost by one vote. By just one vote in both the
32 House and Senate.

33
34 So this is -- we were called in the
35 next day. The governor called John Walsh and I into
36 his cabinet. He wasn't there, but they were very, very
37 unhappy because they wanted Vince to stay on there. He
38 was appointed by the governor. The governor pretty
39 much stated that we would have a board member out of
40 Bristol Bay. Fortunately we do have one here out of
41 Dillingham. What's his name?

42
43 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Fritz Johnson.

44
45 MR. O'HARA: Fritz Johnson, yeah. I'm
46 happy we accomplished that. But we really have our
47 work cut out for us. All over rural Alaska is going to
48 have to start standing and pretty much coming in as one
49 voice. It's just a big job ahead of us. I really
50 appreciate your comments.

1 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan. And I
2 appreciate -- you reminded me of what happened in
3 Juneau this last year because we were down in Juneau
4 about that same time. That group from Cook Inlet came
5 down and took over and bought a lot of votes from the
6 Legislature there to fill that Board of Fish seat.
7 This is unfortunate because politicking about our
8 livelihood is probably what hurts rural Alaska more so
9 than anything else.

10
11 But I was also -- I just wanted to
12 remind myself that I was also pleased with the new
13 leadership appointees on the AFN board this year. A
14 couple of young women. One from Arctic Slope, Tara
15 Sweeney, and then one from Bethel area, Ana Hoffman.
16 I've approved them for the last several years. I think
17 they're going to make a difference.

18
19 Also, one other note, I noticed also,
20 Madame Chair, at the hearing there was a couple of real
21 sharp young folks that spoke on behalf of rural Alaska.
22 We do have -- in response to some of the younger folks
23 that are opposed to rural Alaska, we do have some
24 young, smart, up-and-coming leaders in different parts
25 of our state and different regions I think which will
26 help us to address some of these concerns we have. We
27 just need to work together with other regions that have
28 similar concerns.

29
30 Thank you again for reminding me.

31
32 MR. ABRAHAM: Madame Chairman. Joe.
33 It seems like there's a communication gap somewhere. A
34 critical communication gap. Johnny and I -- when
35 Johnny first started and I, we had a hard time
36 connecting these gaps together. Johnny got called
37 names and I got called some names. We were threatened.
38 But connecting them -- connecting the village and ADF&G
39 and U.S. Fish and Wildlife, that was the hardest part.
40 But once we connect those things together and these
41 start working together and easier.

42
43 Right now in Bristol Bay area when
44 U.S. Fish and Wildlife was going to open a moose
45 season, they work with the villages, see if it's safe
46 to travel, safe to hunt. These simple things like this
47 here, communicating from the bottom up is very useful
48 because some people way up there don't even hear or see
49 anything from the bottom, whereas most Natives lives in
50 these subsistence areas.

1 (In Yup'ik)

2

3 MR. ABRAHAM: Thank you, Madame Chair.
4 Pete is right on. I think we're fortunate that through
5 the years, as mentioned by Pete, that we've had some
6 good folks working in villages to convey to the public
7 what management issues are all about. I guess Pete and
8 John have been working with Federal agencies locally
9 here, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and Fish and
10 Wildlife Service for years. I know Madame Chair and I
11 spent some time with the State of Alaska program.

12

13 As mentioned by Pete, when we first
14 started and holding meetings in different parts of our
15 region, we were questioned similarly, why are you
16 working for State of Alaska Fish and Game and I think
17 it was through our all combined working together that a
18 lot of our folks within our region have a better
19 understanding of how management can be improved and
20 that is through participation by folks such as you and
21 our different Advisory Committee members, grassroots
22 people.

23

24 Prior to working for State of Alaska I
25 spent quite a few years sitting on Nushagak Advisory
26 Committee and then after retirement, because I feel
27 still compelled to have a voice in the system, I'm back
28 on Nushagak Advisory Committee. Even on AFN board
29 level I think the response that our people are looking
30 for is that -- you know, we do have two systems in
31 place. We have State of Alaska, we have Federal
32 Subsistence Board.

33

34 But what's lacking -- this is my
35 observation. What's lacking, we don't have people
36 coming and listening at RAC meetings. I don't know how
37 it is in some other regions, but I suspect that if you
38 were to go up wherever else that the majority of the
39 audience in RAC meetings is folks like us, either
40 retired State workers or retired State workers become
41 Federal Subsistence Board management team and whatnot.
42 Somewhere along the line communication needs to be
43 really started, I think.

44

45 I know on Nushagak Advisory Committee
46 because local committees we try to advertise and get
47 input. Because of the fishery and local interest we do
48 have a little better attendance at times depending on
49 the issue. It seems like there's a break in
50 communication between our public that should be here

1 supporting what we're doing to address subsistence on
2 both levels.

3

4 So this is just, I guess, a comment
5 towards Staff, whoever is responsible for communicating
6 to our public that we have important issues that come
7 before us from time to time that need to be addressed
8 and public participation is important. We can ask
9 State Legislature, we can ask Congress, we can ask the
10 President to fix it, but if nobody participates, it's
11 still broken in my opinion.

12

13 Thank you for your time and the public.

14

15 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. I'd like to
16 address something that Joseph has talked about. We as
17 sort of semi-retired and sort of elderly people, you
18 know your communities. You watch the younger people
19 start to come up as leaders. I would like to suggest
20 that each one of us, when you see someone who maybe is
21 a little shy, but becoming a leader, becoming involved,
22 nurture them, encourage them.

23

24 Membership on these kind of boards
25 shouldn't be determined by how long you can be on here
26 and you die in the office before anybody can replace
27 you.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Here here.

30

31 (Laughter)

32

33 MR. HILL: That's called attrition. So
34 I would ask each one of you -- you elderly sort of
35 people like myself -- I'm almost an elder -- to find
36 these people and encourage them. Sometimes that's all
37 it takes. It's important. In my community, I try to
38 encourage young leaders to come out to become involved
39 in the -- their problem is, like a lot of us when we
40 were young, is the speed at which things get done,
41 which is very slowly, and the frustration they see
42 where a rural area is not being represented in a lot of
43 the areas that affect us.

44

45 So if you find these people or even if
46 they're not involved in the community, seek them out,
47 encourage them. That's the old way. The elders find
48 the young people they think would be good at this sort
49 of thing and encourage them to become involved. Mentor
50 them, follow them.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

4

5 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Just a
6 comment. As I'm listening to our local needs, the
7 connection between basically our local people and the
8 Federal system. We have liaison positions that are
9 filled and I don't see those liaison people here today.
10 If it's a budget thing. You know, this kind of
11 conversation would be great for them to hear because
12 that's probably what's, you know, as a connection
13 between the entities. That would be a good thing for
14 them to be here I feel.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

17

18 MR. CHYTHLOOK: That's all I have,
19 Madame Chair. Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
22 you. Donald.

23

24 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. I
25 just want to remind the participants on teleconference
26 please mute your phone. It disrupts the discussion at
27 this Council meeting. If you have a mute function on
28 your phone, please mute it.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

33

34 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thanks. To
35 reiterate what Donald is saying. Some of those folks
36 that are on the phone, somebody is banging around and
37 being extremely disruptive and rather rude to our
38 public when they're up here and I'm starting to get
39 pretty offended if they don't mute their phone or cover
40 it up, please.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
45 comments. I'm going to ask for a 10-minute break.
46 Before I do, I guess we haven't heard from John Jones.
47 Are you online?

48

49 MR. MIKE: John Jones, Sr. from Chignik
50 Lagoon, are you on?

1 (No response)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess not. So
4 let's take a stretch before we get into our next agenda
5 item, which will be interesting, customary and
6 traditional use determination.
7
8 MR. O'HARA: We have old business.
9
10 MR. PAPPAS: Hey, Donald, this is
11 George Pappas.
12
13 MR. MIKE: Go ahead, George.
14
15 MR. PAPPAS: What are the instructions
16 for muting a phone for folks who don't have a mute
17 function. Is it *6 or do you know what it is? Maybe
18 that will help. Thanks, Donald.
19
20 MR. MIKE: *6.
21
22 (Off record)
23
24 (On record)
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: For next comment
27 requests, we have blue forms back there for you to fill
28 out. Fill them out if you're interested in making any
29 comments and bring them up to me. Donald.
30
31 MR. MIKE: I just wanted to remind
32 participants on the teleconference if you have a --
33 please mute your phone. If you don't have that
34 capability, do *6 to mute your phone and *6 again to
35 unmute. Please remember to mute your phone. If you
36 don't have that capability, maybe you could place -- a
37 low tech solution to that is place a pillow over it.
38
39 Thank you.
40
41 (Laughter)
42
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Down to
44 old business. We're going to have the customary and
45 traditional use determination. Glenn, our friend
46 Glenn.
47
48 DR. CHEN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 Council members. My name is Glenn Chen. I'm the
50 subsistence branch chief for the Bureau of Indian

1 Affairs. The Office of Subsistence Management has
2 asked me to provide this presentation to you on the
3 customary and traditional use determinations and a
4 proposal presented by the Southeast Advisory Council.

5
6 A caveat before I begin. I'm not a
7 social scientist or an anthropologist. I'm a fisheries
8 biologist, so I lack the technical expertise on how to
9 do C&Ts, but I will try to answer questions as best I
10 can if you have them.

11
12 If this seems like deja vu, it indeed
13 is because the Council reviews C&T and the process that
14 we used back in 2011 was part of the Secretary of
15 Interior's mandate to the Federal Subsistence Program
16 to review C&Ts and how we do them and do this review in
17 conjunction with the Councils.

18
19 During that review in 2011, while most
20 of the Councils indicated that they liked the process
21 that we used, the Southeast Regional Advisory Council
22 did have some different perspectives. What they did
23 was they convened a subcommittee to address this
24 question and the subcommittee then presented their
25 ideas to the Council and then the Council came up with
26 some different suggestions as to how C&T should be
27 done.

28
29 Just as a reminder, what most of the
30 Council members already know, C&Ts were brought over
31 from the State process originally and the Federal
32 program has changed to the C&T determinations a bit
33 from how the State does them. Instead of using the
34 eight factors as criteria, they're used as factors and
35 they should be considered as whole in their entirety in
36 terms of deciding which resources are customarily and
37 traditionally used by area residents. The Board does
38 not use C&Ts to research harvest, but again to
39 recognize which fish and wildlife resources are
40 customary and traditionally used by an area's residents
41 and communities.

42
43 It's this last point that the Southeast
44 Regional Advisory Council had an issue with because
45 they thought that in some cases the Board's C&Ts
46 actually restricted subsistence users from harvesting
47 the resources that they've customary and traditionally
48 used. So they were actually proposing a modification
49 to the regulations. I'll turn your attention to Page
50 19. At the top of the page there it shows regulations

1 with the revisions that the Southeast Regional Advisory
2 Council was proposing.

3
4 So rather than have a community
5 beginning a C&T for a particular species or a suite of
6 species, the Southeast Regional Advisory Council
7 instead would propose that first of all the community
8 use area should be identified. So the geographic area
9 that they harvest traditionally either in the past or
10 present should be identified. Then all those users
11 should then have C&Ts for all the species within that
12 area. So rather than saying, well, we should go give a
13 C&T for moose or for caribou or coho salmon, the area
14 that they harvest should be identified first and then
15 all species in the area should be given a C&T.

16
17 Now in situations where there are
18 shortages for a particular species and things like --
19 species such as moose of course come to mind, there has
20 to be a process for identifying which communities
21 probably have the highest priority for that limited
22 resource.

23
24 The Southeast Advisory Council is
25 proposing that the Board uses a process already in
26 place. It's called Section .804 criteria and that
27 identified -- it helps to distinguish which communities
28 had the highest use for that particular resource. So,
29 again, in times of shortage for a particular species or
30 suite of species, the .804 process could be invoked to
31 sort out which communities should have access to the
32 resource.

33
34 The .804 process includes three things.
35 The Board looks at what's the customary dependence upon
36 a population, local residency and availability of
37 alternative resources.

38
39 So this is an action item before the
40 Council and to help the Council take action on this the
41 Southeast Council and Office of Subsistence Management
42 has proposed four alternatives for you to consider.
43 One alternative for C&T and how those might be changed
44 would be to completely do away with C&Ts entirely and
45 instead use this .804 process to decide which
46 communities have the highest dependency and should be
47 allowed to harvest a Federal resource.

48
49 Another way this Council might consider
50 changing the C&Ts is to make an area wide customary and

1 traditional use determination. Again, identify the
2 geographic area that a community or a group of
3 residents harvest and then all the species within the
4 area should be eligible as a C&T for those residents.
5 Of course, the Council can come up with your own
6 version of a different change or the fourth alternative
7 is to make no change to the current process. So those
8 are outlined at the bottom of Page 19 and the top of
9 Page 20.

10

11 There's also some other pages in your
12 book here. Page 21 provides a review of the factors
13 that the Board uses, the eight factors. And on Page 22
14 to 23 it summarizes the findings from the 2011 review
15 by all the different Councils on the C&T process.

16

17 Madame Chair, I'll stop there and take
18 questions.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any questions
21 from -- Dan.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
24 As I read through this, I was trying to understand what
25 the issue is. I think I understand a little better.
26 One question I had is if this C&T process were to be
27 abandoned, would there be a loss of data that could be
28 important later in some sort of allocation concerns.

29

30 Madame Chair.

31

32 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.
33 I don't believe there would be a loss of information
34 and data because some of the information that's been
35 collected all along and a lot of this is derived from
36 the State's subsistence surveys and so forth. Those
37 will still be retained and would assist the Board in
38 making future determinations for an area and for the
39 residents of the area and for a particular species.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan, did you
42 have your hand up?

43

44 MR. O'HARA: No, I just -- Glenn, if
45 the C&T went away and then you did it on an area-wide
46 basis and geographically areas that had a reduction in
47 species, whether it be fish or game, then the Council
48 would determine what that area would have in a way of
49 allocating the fish and game. Is that what Southeast
50 is saying? Do you understand my comment?

1 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. O'Hara.
2 What the Southeast Council is proposing is something it
3 can do, recognizing what a community has traditionally
4 harvested. Again, their recommendation is based on
5 sort of those general premises about the fact that a
6 community goes and harvests its resources in a
7 traditional area.

8
9 So, for example, the community of Sitka
10 might be harvesting fish and wildlife from Baranof and
11 local other islands in the area and those would be the
12 fish and wildlife and so forth. So they feel that that
13 community should then be allowed to continue these
14 harvests, their traditional harvest of species within a
15 geographic area, rather than say, well, if Sitka can
16 only harvest black-tailed deer but they can't harvest
17 mountain goat or they can only harvest chinook and coho
18 salmon but they can't harvest steelhead. All the
19 species within their area that they traditionally used
20 for their harvesting should be allowed to continue.

21
22 Hopefully that answered your question.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

25
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay, that kind of leads
27 me to another one. There was some efforts to
28 reintroduce some species or actually some cases -- like
29 their talking about trying to put bison in the Innoko,
30 which I don't know if there's any history there. How
31 would any sort of introduced species like this be
32 handled? Would they fall under this or would those
33 fall more under -- would they be exempt from
34 subsistence?

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.
39 That's a good question and the Board has dealt with
40 introduced species. There's been Roosevelt elk, for
41 example, introduced in different parts of Southeast
42 Alaska. On Kodiak Island there was mountain goats
43 introduced there. Those have become part of the annual
44 harvest activities of those residents, so the Board
45 does recognize introduced species as a part of the
46 customary and traditional use for area residents.

47
48 With the issue of bison that you
49 mentioned, I would imagine there would be some process
50 involved to where a C&T could be granted to area

1 residents. The question is there is no data to support
2 prior harvest. It would have to be based upon a
3 community's access to those resources, perhaps their
4 desire to harvest those resources. Those could be some
5 of the ways that the Board might handle C&T for newly
6 introduced species.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

9

10 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Glenn, just
11 a thought. Is the population increase in that area
12 maybe a reason why species by species is being sought
13 after now and they're asking for an area wide one? I
14 can see a problem, you know, if you've got such a big
15 population that you can only let so many people at it,
16 so you're only letting the communities closest to that
17 fish and game be eligible. Is that some of the
18 reasoning behind this?

19

20 DR. CHEN: Good question. Madame
21 Chair. Mr. Wilson. I think the species by species
22 approach I believe came when the Federal government
23 adopted the State C&T process, so those were then by
24 species for a particular area, so the Board merely
25 adopted those when they took over the Federal
26 subsistence management efforts. So that's been
27 retained in the current process. There's been a number
28 of committees and groups who have kind of taken issue
29 with this species-by-species approach.

30

31 Again, I'll point to an example that
32 might help to illustrate this. On the Kenai Peninsula,
33 the community of Ninilchik asked for a resumption of
34 their ability to participate in subsistence harvest of
35 fish. So, as you probably all know, subsistence
36 harvesting of fish has not been allowed on the Kenai
37 Peninsula for a number of years. In the early 2000s,
38 the folks in Ninilchik asked to be able to resume
39 subsistence harvest.

40

41 The Board's initial determination for
42 the community of Ninilchik was that they could harvest
43 salmon only and not other freshwater fish species,
44 species like trout, grayling and dolly varden, even
45 though these species were part of their round of annual
46 harvesting that they conducted before subsistence was
47 made illegal. So this was an area-wide approach.
48 Allowing people to harvest all the species within an
49 area would benefit a user group like Ninilchik.
50 Eventually Ninilchik did get the right to harvest other

1 species besides salmon, but the initial determination
2 by the Board was that they would not allow harvest of
3 species besides salmon for the subsistence.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
6 questions.

7
8 MR. O'HARA: Glenn, so who determined
9 that subsistence does not exist -- in this particular
10 issue where they were only allowed to take one species
11 of fish, fin fish, I guess it would be salmon is what
12 you talked about, but then they wanted to get grayling
13 and other fish. Did the Federal Board determine that
14 they could not do that or was that the local council
15 that made that ruling?

16
17 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. O'Hara.
18 The local Regional Advisory Council down there, that
19 would be the Southcentral Advisory Council, they
20 initially recommended -- it was a close vote, but they
21 recommended that the community of Ninilchik should be
22 able to harvest all fish from the Kenai River in
23 particular. The Board then opted to grant a C&T
24 initially only for salmon. Some of the Board members
25 felt that there was not enough evidence to support
26 Ninilchik's harvest of other species besides salmon.
27 That was later revised by the Board, so now the Board
28 did make a determination that Ninilchik folks can
29 harvest all species of fish for the Kenai River.

30
31 MR. O'HARA: I chaired this Council for
32 the first 10 years of it's existence and one of the
33 things we ran into was when we were doing C&T and,
34 Michael, I can't remember our first coordinator, a lady
35 from Unalakleet.

36
37 MR. MIKE: Helga.

38
39 MR. O'HARA: Oh, yeah, Helga. Yeah,
40 you play hockey with a bulldog, I'll tell you, she was
41 really good.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 MR. O'HARA: She took good care of our
46 Council and set us straight. She wasn't nearly as nice
47 as Molly.

48
49 (Laughter)

50

1 MR. O'HARA: I'm not running for
2 anything. I'm just making a comment, okay. I'll tell
3 you a couple issues that took place. One was we were
4 denied C&T on brown bear subsistence in Naknek, of all
5 things. I mean, you know, if a person grew up eating a
6 brown bear in Naknek, God bless them for it, and I ate
7 brown bear in Lake Iliamna where Lary and Richard is
8 from and I didn't like it at all. So that's fine, but
9 we got it.

10
11 Now here's a really tough issue. I
12 think this came from the Fish and Wildlife people that
13 they were going to make rainbow trout a non-subsistence
14 issue. Now that is -- and we won that by a 4-3 vote.
15 That's how -- I don't know how something like that
16 would fit into what you're talking about Southeast is,
17 but that was not going to work. We've always used all
18 species of finfish all up and down the southwest area.
19 For them to determine that the sports and recreational
20 people would have just the rainbow trout for their use,
21 you know -- and it was a very tough issue because
22 Channel 2 was right there with their camera. We made
23 headlines the next day.

24
25 So I don't know. How does that thing
26 you're talking about here, Southeast's comment here,
27 work into taking away species or bringing in species?
28 I don't know if that's a very good question or not. We
29 were the first Council to finish our C&T of the 10
30 regions because of our coordinator. So what are your
31 thoughts?

32
33 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. O'Hara.
34 The situation that you described where the Board
35 grappled with whether or not to grant the ability of
36 Bristol Bay residents to harvest rainbow trout I think
37 is exactly what the Southeast folks are wanting to
38 remedy. So, in that case, for example, if rainbow
39 trout were shown to be part of the species that were
40 harvested for subsistence within the Bristol Bay region
41 by the communities that are here, that would then be
42 automatically included as part of the C&T species.

43
44 So rather than the species by species
45 approach, for example you would be allowed to harvest
46 dolly varden but not rainbow trout, that is what the
47 Southeast Council is taking issue with, is the species
48 by species approach. So, again, they're advocating the
49 area, the geographic area that a community uses for its
50 harvesting should be identified first and then all the

1 species within that area should then be eligible for
2 customary and traditional use finding.

3

4 MR. O'HARA: Has other 10 Councils
5 addressed this other than Southeast?

6

7 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. O'Hara.
8 There's been some varied reaction from the different
9 Councils. Some of the Councils are very happy with the
10 current C&Ts and the process and the way they're done,
11 the species by species approach. I gave the same
12 presentation at the Kodiak/Aleutians Regional Advisory
13 Council meeting in Kodiak in September and while the
14 Kodiak Council agreed with a number of points that the
15 Southeast folks had, they still like their current
16 system.

17

18 In fact, they recommended that perhaps
19 the Southeast folks might be able to have a C&T process
20 entirely of their own down there. In the Southeast
21 region, for example, C&Ts could be done by geographic
22 area and all the species in that area should be
23 included. So they're advocating for allowing Southeast
24 to have their own region-specific way of doing C&Ts.

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan.

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
29 The basic nature of subsistence is you use what's
30 there, so I'm kind of sympathetic with their concerns.
31 In the past, some of the rainbow trout stuff I think
32 was -- there's an initial panic from the
33 non-subsistence folks that it would be abused. There
34 was some rather dramatic pictures taken from the lower
35 creek that really spurred that a lot. It seems like
36 it's worked out pretty smooth since that did get worked
37 out. So I have some sympathies there.

38

39 I do struggle, especially with any
40 future introductions of species. You look at black-
41 tailed deer that were introduced to Prince William and
42 the Kodiak area, but they've been there a long time and
43 they've been kind of absorbed into the subsistence
44 culture. I think goats on Kodiak were introduced. The
45 elk down in Southeast is a lot more recent
46 introduction.

47

48 I know a whole lot what's holding up
49 this whole bison -- I know one of the guys that -- I
50 think was early on in this whole idea and he was trying

1 to get bison reintroduced in the Yukon Flats because
2 they'd found -- you know, there's clear evidence that
3 they haven't been gone that long. But given especially
4 -- well, kind of in my mind it depends somewhat on how
5 a new introduction occurs. I mean there's deer
6 starting to show up in the Anchorage area now and then
7 on natural migration.

8
9 But like plopping these bison into the
10 Innoko is going to be just out of the blue and I don't
11 know how it's being funded, but I can tell from the
12 Anchorage area and other places that it's stuff I read.
13 There's a real anxiety about being a taxpayer and
14 supporting these introductions and then promptly being
15 excluded because they don't have C&T and they're not
16 eligible to take them and I sympathize with that as
17 well.

18
19 Again, it depends on the nature of the
20 introduction. Reintroduction at Yukon Flats where they
21 used to be, to me that's different than a totally new
22 introduction. I kind of view the Nushagak Peninsula
23 Caribou and probably something of a reintroduction. At
24 some time in the past caribou probably used it.

25
26 So, anyway, I kind of wanted to go on
27 record. That's still a real concern of mine and I kind
28 of hate to see some of those kinds of -- I think it
29 would be cool to introduce those bison. I've even
30 wondered about approaching someone here that if nobody
31 else can take these bison, we've got some big grassy
32 areas and we need meat, can we work something out out
33 here. I've never pushed it. Depending on how it's
34 funded, I kind of hate to see a significant segment of
35 citizens being excluded if they paid for it.
36 Especially like under some of these reintroductions are
37 done under funds from sport hunting and then they're
38 excluded and that doesn't really pass the sense of
39 fairness.

40
41 So I wanted to see how this might
42 likely affect the whole state. I think it loosens
43 ideas kind of interesting to pursue too. But having
44 those and you're out there looking for food and you
45 find food, you eat it. Sometimes different species
46 come and go either from migration or whatever
47 environmental conditions. You have great numbers of
48 rabbits for a while and then you have nothing and so
49 on. Fish, everything.

50

1 So I just kind of wanted to put that
2 out there. Thank you.

3
4 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.
5 I think it was a really good point to be made about new
6 and future introductions. I think you're right. Those
7 species like goats and black-tailed deer that have been
8 established in different areas and people already
9 include those as part of their hunting cycles, I know
10 those are easier to make C&Ts on. It will remain to be
11 seen how C&Ts might be made -- Federal C&Ts might be
12 made for future interactions like the wood bison.

13
14 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair, I have a
15 question.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay, Dan.

18
19 MR. O'HARA: I got back from Phoenix
20 here on Saturday night and I had my book waiting for me
21 in the entryway and I read this section and I marked it
22 up here because it was a point of interest, but it was
23 totally new. So I was wanting to ask Donald Mike, is
24 this something that we have to act on today or is this
25 a report or do we do it in the winter? Madame Chair.

26
27 MR. MIKE: This is an action item for
28 the Council. As far as the timeline, I'm not too sure
29 as far as if we can delay for the winter meeting. I'm
30 referring to our management staff.

31
32 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair. For
33 the Council question whether or not you need to act
34 right now or not, that might be one of the
35 considerations you might want to bring forward is that
36 you've taken a look at this and you are requesting
37 additional time at this point.

38
39 Why it is back on your agenda -- I
40 would encourage you if you can come to some
41 recommendations today, you know, that would be good in
42 terms of moving forward. If you feel that you need
43 more time to discuss this and that is your
44 recommendation today, that you would like to ask for
45 more time on that, the Council could do that.

46
47 Why this is on your agenda today is the
48 Southeast Council, when they receive the report back on
49 the previous Council meetings and the results, they
50 believe that the briefings were not consistent through

1 all the Councils, so they wanted to make sure that all
2 the Councils had a thorough understanding of what was
3 before them. I think what your discussion today is
4 getting into more depth of what the Southeast Council
5 was hoping would be discussed at the Council meetings.

6

7 So if that is the Council's wish today,
8 that you still believe you need more time to discuss
9 this, you could choose to make that your recommendation
10 today, but I would encourage you if you can have more
11 discussion, if you come up with your recommendations
12 today, that you could move those forward.

13

14 Any questions?

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If the Council
19 doesn't have any, this is more of a comment. I would
20 support more time because what Southeast is asking is
21 -- especially if I'm understanding this right,
22 identifying communities that have the highest harvests
23 and identifying harvest in geographic areas. From my
24 past work and with the funding shortage, in order to
25 answer and have clear guidelines for these two items --
26 there's other areas that I have questions about, but
27 mainly these two areas -- there needs to be some sort
28 of a survey to identify the communities -- which
29 communities have the highest harvest, although the
30 communities within the regions have an idea.

31

32 I know without having the baseline
33 surveys updated that were done in the '80s and '90s
34 under the State of Alaska, I know just from today still
35 which of our communities have the highest harvest for
36 different species. Each community doesn't have the
37 highest moose harvest. Each community doesn't have the
38 highest harvest of fish because of their harvesting
39 practices -- not practices, but harvesting or lack of
40 harvesting, availability of the resources even within
41 Bristol Bay.

42

43 So with State of Alaska and even BBNA
44 having not the budget to do in-depth research to update
45 which communities have the highest resources that we
46 may be interested in would take some time to develop
47 that through a survey. I know that from working in the
48 past even our surveys were questioned. House to house,
49 face to face surveys were questioned, but I think those
50 were the best documentation that were available at that

1 time.

2

3 So these two areas, you know, I think
4 I'd have a little bit more -- or would have a problem
5 with that if I am understanding what Glenn was stating
6 about the request from Southeast regarding why the
7 present C&T is not what they want. Reading the Bristol
8 Bay section, I kind of have a burning -- it's worded
9 wonderfully for Bristol Bay. Observe the C&T process
10 works wonderfully, which it does, because I think
11 Bristol Bay -- we have good communications with our
12 villages and good communications with our agencies,
13 both Federal and State, and that's what makes it work.

14

15 The area where it says that there's no
16 burning need for change, I think that when we discussed
17 this there was some areas that, you know, we would like
18 to see changes, but overall, perspective of the overall
19 eight criteria, you know, it's working. What I like
20 about this, the criteria, is that if there's any
21 burning need to change, we can request a change.

22

23 Then the subsistence priority is in
24 place. You know, it remains. So even though I don't
25 agree 100 percent with the contents of the eight
26 criteria, knowing that if we have any burning, a need
27 to change, we can if I'm understanding this right, then
28 the subsistence priority is in place throughout the
29 C&T.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

36

37 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, I think you hit on
38 something that's pretty good there. When you look at
39 Southwest Alaska, we all pretty much agree on a lot of
40 issues. In other words, Togiak has herring and a
41 different timeframe for salmon than the rest of Bristol
42 Bay. We had a big strike in '81 -- I think it's '91. I
43 think it might have been the last one we had. Even
44 Chignik called up and said, you know, we sympathize
45 with you and your strike, but we've got to go fishing.
46 At least they called us by region and, of course, they
47 could go fishing, but we weren't dealing with their
48 price.

49

50 And then, you know, like Dillingham

1 area and Naknek area and Lake Iliamna and Lake Clark
2 and all those regions, you've been a biologist for
3 years there, Dan, and known how the region works
4 together. I'd like to hear from our other Council
5 members. I only have one vote and I don't necessarily
6 want to kill this, but I think it's something I want to
7 look at.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

10

11 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. If I'm
12 understanding this right, they're asking for another
13 tool for the Federal Subsistence Board to use instead
14 of species by species being kind of a blanketed thing.
15 Instead of, you know, dictating who gets to use what
16 species, they want to be able to use all species. Just
17 as something in a toolbox there for them to -- and I
18 would believe that once it got there, you know, if it
19 was blanketed, that you would have the biologist, you
20 would have everybody there participating and giving
21 them the info they need to determine if one region is
22 -- the population is up where it's usable and those
23 kind of things.

24

25 One of the things I'm kind of afraid of
26 is when we -- we've been a dozen years now, I think,
27 down here on 9E and below where we haven't been able to
28 harvest caribou. You have a population there that are
29 growing up without the use of caribou. To say, okay,
30 you take a survey, who is using what right now, well,
31 right now that population is very small. It's not
32 useable, so it gives you a false indication that nobody
33 is using it. That's the same with a lot of species
34 throughout the state.

35

36 So it would just be my -- my comfort
37 zone says go blanket this thing so that you have that
38 option to -- you know, you don't eliminate a generation
39 coming up that hasn't been able to use it now, but it's
40 been something they've used 20 years ago, 30 years ago
41 and the population is finally back. So that's my main
42 concern here on this one. I'll gladly take any
43 comments.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Glenn.

46

47 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Wilson.
48 If I could respond to that particular point, Mr.
49 Wilson. If you look on top of Page 19 and, again, that
50 little subsection paragraph there at the top, this

1 contains the Southeast Regional Advisory Council's
2 recommended new language and you'll notice about midway
3 through that paragraph it says as far as the time of
4 use for this particular species and resources they've
5 referenced both past and present uses.

6

7 So I think that's a main point that
8 they wanted to capture. There might be situations that
9 you mentioned where the current species population
10 doesn't allow harvest at the moment, but they've been
11 used in the past. So the Southeast Council wanted to
12 capture both past and present uses in the revised
13 language.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess, you
16 know, the first criteria, number one, says a long-term
17 consistent pattern of use. I think when C&T -- that's
18 kind of vague. There's no -- and so when a C&T is
19 developed, I guess that's when somebody could say,
20 well, if I lived in Dillingham for five years, I
21 qualify to harvest whatever, and in the past I think
22 it's been caribou.

23

24 So is there a consistent time period?
25 Like, for instance, if I move up to Barrow or some
26 other area, is there a certain -- I guess what I'm
27 trying to ask is what is long-term consistent pattern
28 of use? It seems like in the past they've used your
29 length of residency in one area.

30

31 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Being a
32 fisheries biologist and not a social scientist, I'll
33 try to answer the question as best as I can. As I
34 understand it, C&Ts are not based on individuals. So,
35 for example, your scenario of having just moved to
36 Barrow doesn't really matter. What the C&T is based
37 upon is the community that you live in. So the
38 community of Barrow has C&T for certain species and as
39 long as you're a resident of that community, whether
40 you moved there yesterday and decided to become a
41 permanent resident or you've been there for your whole
42 entire life, you're still a member of that community
43 and you're therefore eligible to harvest those
44 resources. So it depends on the community you reside
45 in and not your individual person.

46

47 So there's been a lot of discussion
48 about making C&Ts for individual people within a
49 community, but the Board has maintained that it's for
50 the community and not for an individual person in the

1 community.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. So beyond
4 the control of the community or area. So if I've used
5 caribou in Bristol Bay, I can go somewhere else and be
6 able to qualify for C&T for that species. Is that how
7 I'm understanding you?

8

9 DR. CHEN: So in the scenario of
10 caribou that you mentioned, the C&T for people living
11 in Bristol Bay they would have access to caribou in
12 certain game units. That's the way the C&T stands
13 right now. If you desire to go over to the 40 Mile
14 area and harvest caribou on the eastern part of the
15 state, people, I don't believe, from this area have C&T
16 to harvest those caribou, so you would not be eligible
17 to harvest caribou in the eastern part of the state.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Now I'm mixed
20 up. When you first told me I could go somewhere and I
21 shall be eligible for a resource, C&T resource, and now
22 you tell me if I go elsewhere, I wouldn't be eligible
23 for C&T on whatever resource. I guess we'll get a
24 little bit more information.

25

26 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. I guess I
27 misunderstood your question. If you decided to move to
28 a different community and that community had caribou
29 for that particular area, yes, you would be eligible to
30 harvest caribou in that different area, but if you were
31 a Bristol Bay resident and you wanted to hunt caribou
32 in a completely different part of the state that you
33 didn't have C&T for, then you could not harvest caribou
34 under Federal regulations. Hopefully that clarifies
35 it.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: One more. So
38 I'm a resident of Bristol Bay and I move to wherever.
39 Now I'm a resident of that location. Am I eligible for
40 C&T within that region?

41

42 DR. CHEN: That's correct, Madame
43 Chair. You would be eligible for the C&T for your new
44 residence area, that's correct.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other
47 questions, comments.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Did Glenn fix
2 that? Okay. Thank you, Glenn.
3
4 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Before I sit
5 down, this is an action item before the Council, so I
6 guess I've heard a couple options proposed. Mr. O'Hara
7 proposing that this be deferred for further Council
8 deliberation and discussion and so forth.
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I need a
11 motion.
12
13 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Kathy.
16
17 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair, if I
18 may. If the Council should choose to defer on this
19 action at this point, what I would like to ask the
20 Council for, if there's any additional information that
21 they need to make their decision, if there's more that
22 we can provide you, please let us know so that we have
23 that information available to you the next time you
24 meet. I just wanted to add that.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
27
28 MR. O'HARA: Along that same line,
29 Madame Chair. I think that we have advisories to the
30 Council, Lake Clark, Iliamna, the Chigniks -- what are
31 they called?
32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: SRCs.
34
35 MR. O'HARA: SRCs. I think -- you
36 know, I don't know when they're going to meet again,
37 but I'd like to hear a little more from the entire
38 region. I appreciate Bristol Bay making their comment
39 here about how that C&T is working fine in our area and
40 I'm not afraid to change. You know, we're in the same
41 suit of clothes we wore 10 years ago, so there's
42 nothing wrong with change, but this information has
43 come pretty suddenly to me and I certainly -- if we
44 could have some -- if you could help us get to these
45 other advisories to give us comment on what their
46 thoughts are along this line, I think in the February
47 meeting or whatever we're going to have we could
48 address it at that time.
49
50 Thank you, Madame Chair.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan.
2
3 MR. DUNAWAY: This is kind of the Dan
4 and Dan show.
5
6 (Laughter)
7
8 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm kind of along
9 the lines with Dan for added information. I think
10 Glenn helped me understand what's driving the issue in
11 Southeast, but if there was even more information there
12 as well as maybe some sort of an analysis of how this
13 might affect long term in a broad area is one concern.
14 I don't want to have kind of unforeseen circumstances
15 or consequences popping up in a year or two.
16
17 Also, in some ways, it sounds like it
18 might simplify it and that's pretty appealing. I think
19 it's an excellent point that you bring up. We haven't
20 heard from the SRCs yet and they're a pretty important
21 part of this. So I'm inclined to -- I guess I'd say if
22 our comments and testimony could be on the record for
23 the Board to review, but then we'd have more time to
24 develop our understanding and position on this would
25 appeal to me.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Kathy.
32
33 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair, if I
34 may. The Councils will be meeting again during their
35 winter cycle before the Board meets to discuss this.
36 It will be on their April agenda.
37
38 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. With respect
39 to this issue, I'm curious. Which allows more freedom,
40 the all species or the geographic areas? Species
41 change their patterns. For our area, all the moose
42 seem to have moved over to this area. So I'm wondering
43 if geographic area might be more limiting than species.
44 Just a question.
45
46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.
47
48 MR. MIKE: Thank you. I apologize for
49 interrupting, but again I want to remind the
50 participants on teleconference please mute your phone.

1 We're hearing background noise. If you can hit *6 to
2 mute your phone and *6 to be recognized by the Chair.

3

4 Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Glenn.

7

8 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Hill.

9 That's a very good point about the fact that species
10 change their distribution ranges constantly in response
11 to environmental and other factors. I think the
12 approach of allowing a community to harvest within a
13 particular geographic area might be more inclusive of a
14 broader range of species and activities.

15

16 For example, I've been privy to looking
17 at some of the harvest information that's been done for
18 community areas and particularly looking at the map
19 that they produce where people have traditionally
20 harvested the resources. It's interesting to note that
21 they've traveled long distances across waterways, up
22 rivers and so forth even before modern transportation
23 was available, so a lot of these areas are quite broad.
24 That was in response to the fact that species move
25 around in the area. One year they're found in this
26 drainage and another year found in another drainage and
27 another year they're found across the bay in other
28 parts of the area.

29

30 Based on those traditional maps that
31 I've seen, the harvest area has been quite large. If
32 this Council would support that approach, that might be
33 able to encompass some of those variations that you're
34 talking about. So species moving from different areas
35 based on different years and so forth. The broad
36 geographic area allowing people to harvest within that
37 area might accomplish what you're seeking.

38

39 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Glenn. So a
40 broad geographical area including all species, in the
41 past when these areas were traveled on foot, by canoe
42 or dogsled, you had to be able to subsist to get to
43 that species. The other thing with the geographical
44 area, now with modern transportation you can get there
45 a lot faster so you don't need to -- say you go after
46 moose. You don't need to kill a bunch of ptarmigan,
47 eat a bunch of fish. You can get there in a matter of
48 days.

49

50 So that's a concern. So you go out

1 after one species, you come back with a sled load of
2 fish or ptarmigan or caribou and you only meant to
3 collect a moose. So that I think will need to be
4 watched closely by the people that watch the
5 populations of any particular species. So we have to
6 be careful that one area doesn't get overused.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other
9 comments.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I think we need
14 to, I guess, make a motion to see what the Council
15 needs to do. I guess my question to Kathy would be
16 have we given you enough reasons why we might want to
17 defer or may not want to defer?

18

19 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: I think the record
20 will clearly reflect the comments that have been made
21 today, but if anyone would like to provide a summary or
22 if there's anything additional in the motion that's
23 made today to help guide us in providing you the
24 information that you need, that would be appreciated.

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We're missing
27 Nanci. She's usually good about making motions. Dan,
28 do you have any.....

29

30 MR. O'HARA: I think we should think in
31 terms of our advisories, this group that meets and
32 advises to us. That Kathy's follow-through on making
33 sure that these advisory councils to the Bristol Bay
34 Council be up to speed on this particular issue. Then
35 BBNA, you know, have a lot of contact with their
36 constituents throughout the region. Then for the
37 Federal Subsistence Council to address this issue in
38 the February meeting and that will be a motion.

39

40 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
43 motion -- Donald, did you have a comment.

44

45 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
46 Sorry to interrupt. I neglected to add if we have any
47 public that wish to testify on this particular issue
48 either on teleconference or sitting out in the public.

49

50 Thank you.

1 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I'll
2 withdraw that motion until we get done with all the
3 other business.

4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Right now
6 we're giving the public that's sitting out there or
7 even listening in, if you have any questions or
8 comments regarding the C&T that we've been discussing,
9 please come forward or let us know from your location
10 on the phone.

11
12 Frank Woods from BBNA.

13
14 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods from BBNA. I'm
15 wearing multiple hats. Number one, I'd like to echo
16 what Dan said. Number one, we need more information.
17 I think the main issue here is Richard's comment about
18 population size and how it's being allocated.

19
20 If you look statewide, every resource
21 that we have available in Alaska is fully allocated.
22 In Statehood, we went from 140,000 and now we're at
23 730,000. The resources in heavily impacted areas of
24 tourism, highly populated areas, those populations are
25 pushing and expanding. The balloon effect is having --
26 they're having real impact on resource and having
27 really wars over territory. If you look at Ahtna and
28 Southeast, the Interior, Fairbanks, they're asking for
29 more. In these highly populated areas and highly
30 impacted by tourism, they're having a hard time
31 accessing resource.

32
33 In the last Board of Game -- Susie was
34 here this morning and she passed out the joint Boards
35 that we attended. Nushagak Advisory, I'll put my
36 Nushagak Advisory hat on. As we had subsistence use
37 procedures before the joint Boards and non-subsistence
38 use areas proposed at a State level for the joint
39 Boards to address.

40
41 What came out of those is that there's
42 a lot of opposition from the urban railbelt and the
43 non-subsistence use areas to derail the subsistence use
44 policy that we have operating under. Nothing against
45 Southeast, but I think it would be in our best interest
46 to allow them to have their own regulation process
47 because what we deal with here locally works really
48 well. Like Peter said, we all sit at the table and we
49 sit down at a biologist, a manager's level and a
50 resource user level and we all work together and try to

1 keep it the best we can.

2

3 What I see Southeast doing, is I see
4 that proposal -- and especially the Tongass National
5 Forest, you've got all the Park Service down there and
6 there's a lot of Federal lands that aren't being
7 accessed by the public and the non-subsistence area
8 people have a hard time -- they're going out farther
9 and farther and farther in having access to a resource.
10 That should be their issue.

11

12 As we review this, we have to keep in
13 mind that the rural preference subsistence priority is
14 for the regions that aren't being able to access them.
15 And Molly had a really good question of asking if I
16 move to Anchorage, am I now a qualified subsistence
17 user. No. Because my zip code will be 99501 and I
18 live in a populated area that's a non-subsistence zone
19 and that's just for Federal lands.

20

21 The reason I'm commenting today is I
22 would just be real careful on how we attack this.
23 Number one, I see Southeast as a different area and I
24 see Richard's comment that this, as a highly populated,
25 highly utilized area, are going to be asking for more
26 and more and more. As the population in Alaska grows
27 from 750, in the next 10 years it might hit a million.
28 We're going to have to start sharing that. What's
29 going to happen is they're going to ask for more and
30 more until there's nothing left.

31

32 I appreciate your comments, Mr. O'Hara,
33 that we do need more information, where this is going
34 to be coming from, how it will be impacting Bristol
35 Bay. Because them areas are trying to move out here
36 now. Under State regulations, that's totally
37 acceptable, but under Federal regulations, the rural
38 preference subsistence priority, I think that we have a
39 higher standard, so I'll shut up from there. Thanks.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
42 Frank. Are there any questions, comments for Frank.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't see any.
47 Do you want to turn your microphone off. Thank you,
48 Frank. Anybody else from the audience, C&T, or anybody
49 from the phone.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess not. So

4 we're done with this agenda. We'll be breaking at.....

5

6 MR. O'HARA: No. We have to have a

7 motion on this.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Oh, yeah, that's

10 right. Sorry, sorry. We need to act on this.

11

12 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Donald, do

13 you have the motion? Could you read that back to us?

14

15 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

16 The motion was to defer the C&T briefing from the

17 Southeast Regional Advisory Council. The Council

18 wishes to hear from the SRCs, the ACs, BBNA and local

19 regional Native corporations or local tribes and to

20 address this at your March meeting.

21

22 MR. O'HARA: I so move, Madame Chair.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a

25 motion to defer by Dan. There was a second by.....

26

27 MR. O'HARA: The other Dan.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK:Dan

30 Dunaway. A motion by Dan O'Hara and a second by Dan

31 Dunaway.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Call for the question.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has

36 been called. All in favor say aye.

37

38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.

41

42 (No opposing votes)

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,

45 hearing none, that's carried. Thank you.

46

47 Donald.

48

49 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.

50 The Southcentral Regional Advisory Council will be

1 addressing this issue too next week at their meeting in
2 Anchorage and they've invited the Chair of the
3 Southeast Council and I'll bring the action taken by
4 the Bristol Bay Council forward to that meeting.

5
6 Thank you, Madame Chair.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
9 We'll move down to new business. Wildlife proposals.
10 The first proposal is Statewide WP14-01. It's on Page
11 34 of your book.

12
13 MR. FOX: Thank you, Madame Chair. For
14 the record, I'm Trevor Fox. I'm a wildlife biologist
15 with the Office of Subsistence Management here. As you
16 mentioned, this analysis begins on Page 34 of your
17 meeting book.

18
19 Proposal WP14-01 was submitted by Kevin
20 Bopp of Nome and it requests the establishment of new
21 statewide provisions for Federal trapping regulations
22 that require trapper identification tags on all traps
23 and snares, establish a maximum allowable time limit
24 for checking traps and snares, and establish a trapping
25 report form to collect data on non-target species
26 captured in traps and snares.

27
28 The proposed requirements could lead to
29 more humane trapping methods under Federal regulations,
30 however these regulatory provisions would not likely be
31 manageable on a statewide basis due to vast differences
32 in land ownership, population concentrations and
33 habitats. Regulations of this nature would be better
34 suited in response to issues on an area-specific basis,
35 like similar restrictions currently under State and
36 Federal trapping regulations.

37
38 Some examples are on the Kenai National
39 Wildlife Refuge there's some Refuge special use permit
40 requirements and then also under the State regulations
41 in Unit 1C there's trapping requirements of 72 hours
42 near Gustavus.

43
44 Alignment issues would require a
45 substantial increase in law enforcement and public
46 education efforts. Also, requiring trappers to check
47 traps during inclement weather could lead to health and
48 safety issues. In many instances, Federally qualified
49 subsistence users could simply trap under State
50 regulations to avoid these additional restrictions.

1 As far as the harvest report forms, the
2 information gathered on the incidental harvest of non-
3 target species could provide useful information, but it
4 would be an unnecessary requirement for Federally
5 qualified subsistence users. The report would require
6 additional time commitments for the Federal users and
7 Federal staff, which is currently unwarranted. Similar
8 reports would be more useful in areas with specific
9 issues with the capture of non-target species, such as
10 areas with threatened or endangered species or
11 significant user conflict issues.

12
13 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
14 oppose WP14-01.

15
16 Thank you, Madame Chair.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. Do
19 we have any comments, questions.

20
21 Richard.

22
23 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I will be
24 in opposition of this proposal also. I can really see
25 it being -- as a statewide proposal, it would really --
26 like the gentleman there just said, it would really put
27 a hamper on management and law enforcement and
28 trappers. I just don't see that being able to work
29 here in this region.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other.

32
33 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Lary Hill,
34 Lake Iliamna. I don't see anywhere in this booklet
35 where -- unless I just didn't read it anywhere, any
36 comments from the Lake Clark National Park SRC. We had
37 a meeting before this and we voted to oppose this
38 proposal.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
45 Yeah, I'll be opposed to this. We get wild
46 fluctuations in weather and it can just be flat
47 impossible if you get a big rain storm in the middle,
48 though we should encourage trappers to be as
49 responsible as possible.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

4

5 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. I just want

6 to clarify for the Council. We just got completed with

7 the analysis by Mr. Trevor Fox and this is an

8 opportunity for the Council to ask the analyst on the

9 content of the analysis and later on the Council can

10 discuss what their position is at that certain time

11 when we reach the proper procedures of doing the

12 analysis review.

13

14 Thank you, Madame Chair.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess at this

17 time we can move to the agency comments. The first one

18 up is Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

19

20 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah, this is Drew

21 Crawford with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in

22 Anchorage. I'd like to let you know that the State

23 also opposes Wildlife Proposal 14-01, but we agree to

24 the Federal assessment of this proposal and their

25 conclusion not to support it. Over.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank

28 you. Federal agency comments.

29

30 MR. HAMON: Madame Chairman. Members

31 of the Council. My name is Troy Hamon. I work with

32 Katmai National Park and Aniakchak National Monument.

33 Aniakchak National Monument SRC met in the first half

34 of September and after discussion they also opposed

35 this proposal for the same reasons that we've been

36 hearing. Concerns about burdens to the subsistence

37 user were the primary comments.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank

40 you. Native, tribal, village and others.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.

45 InterAgency Staff Committee comments. Kathy.

46

47 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair. As

48 you can see on Page 35, the ISC also opposed it.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank

1 you. The advisory group comments.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Neighboring
6 Regional Councils.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Local fish and
11 game advisory committees.
12
13 (No comments)
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: None. Moving
16 on. National Park Service Subsistence Resource
17 Commission.
18
19 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. That was
20 already covered by the Staff.
21
22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Were there any
23 written comments?
24
25 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 There were three written public comments and you can
27 find those comments on Pages 42 and 43.
28
29 Miki and Julie Collins from Lake
30 Minchumina opposed the proposal and stating briefly
31 it's physically impossible to check your traplines
32 every other day.
33
34 The Ahtna Customary and Traditional Use
35 Committee opposes the proposal and they state it will
36 be cumbersome, unnecessary and burdensome for federally
37 qualified trappers.
38
39 On Page 43 in our meeting materials,
40 there were two words missing. The last sentence says
41 it is a shame that people who know nothing about
42 trapping want to impose regulations on the -- and the
43 last two words that are missing should say on the whole
44 state. That was by Mr. Donald Woodruff of Eagle,
45 Alaska. He opposes the proposal and citing that it's a
46 safety issue and very dangerous for the trapper.
47
48 On Page 35 you'll see where the rest of
49 the Regional Advisory Councils made their
50 recommendations. Southeast opposes the proposal.

1 Kodiak/Aleutians opposes the proposal. Northwest
2 Arctic oppose. North Slope Regional Council oppose.
3
4 Thank you, Madame Chair. That
5 concludes the written public comments.
6
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. At this
8 time do we have any public testimony regarding this
9 proposal.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
15 we're to the Regional Council recommendation, motion.
16 Behind your little yellow name tag there are discussion
17 and justification bullet points. Okay, Dan.
18
19 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Hill, the advisory
20 group there in Lake Clark opposed, did they?
21
22 MR. HILL: Yes. I thought I would see
23 it in this booklet at this time, but my recollection is
24 that we did oppose it.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess
27 we can move to vote on this proposal.
28
29 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll move to adopt
30 Wildlife Proposal 14-01. My understanding is if we
31 vote no, that opposes it, just to make sure we're
32 clear. Thank you.
33
34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
35 motion by Dan Dunaway to oppose.....
36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: To adopt.
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I'm sorry. To
40 adopt the proposal WP14-01.
41
42 MR. WILSON: I'll second it.
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard Wilson
45 seconded Dan Dunaway's motion. Discussion.
46
47 (No comments)
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Call for the
50 question.

1 MR. O'HARA: Question.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: All in favor of
4 adopting this proposal say aye.
5
6 (No aye votes)
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Opposition say
9 aye.
10
11 IN UNISON: Aye.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: So it failed.
14
15 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Just to be
16 clear on the motion, for the justification, the Council
17 agrees with the public comments that were received on
18 this proposal, is that correct?
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes. Okay. The
21 next proposal, it's regional proposal, is WSA13-01. Do
22 you have that too, Trevor?
23
24 MR. FOX: Yes, Madame Chair. I would
25 recommend -- if the Council wishes to take up -- or if
26 I can use my presentation and talk about 14-21 and WSA-
27 13-01. They're basically the same request. The
28 special action would be for this regulatory year, so it
29 would affect the winter season for moose in 17A this
30 year. Proposal 14-21 is a full proposal, so it
31 wouldn't go into effect until the next regulatory
32 cycle. So basically the information is all the same.
33 It's just one would take effect this winter and one
34 would be a full proposal if that's fine.
35
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any.....
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It sounds like
41 that would work.
42
43 MR. FOX: Okay. Thank you, Madame
44 Chair. So the emergency Special Action WSA13-01 begins
45 on Page 44 of your meeting book. Proposal 21, that one
46 begins on Page 52. Both of these were submitted by the
47 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council and they request
48 an extension of the to-be-announced winter season and
49 an increase in the harvest limit for moose under
50 Federal hunting regulations in Unit 17A.

1 The proposed regulatory changes would
2 align with recent changes to State regulations and
3 follow recommendations of the Unit 17A moose management
4 plan. Federally qualified subsistence users are
5 required to have a State registration permit during the
6 fall and winter moose seasons and could harvest moose
7 under the recently changed State regulation regardless
8 of the Board's decision on these proposals.

9
10 However, if adopted, Federally
11 qualified subsistence users would be provided with
12 additional harvest opportunity under Federal
13 regulations, which include the use of the Federal
14 designated hunter regulations.

15
16 The moose population continues to
17 increase, as illustrated in Figure 1, and is within the
18 estimated carrying capacity for the area. The proposed
19 changes would provide the Togiak National Wildlife
20 Refuge manager with the flexibility to adjust the
21 length of the winter season and the harvest limit to
22 more effectively manage the population.

23
24 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
25 support WP14-21 with modification to delete the
26 regulatory language found in the Unit 17A may-be-
27 announced season and delegate authority to the Togiak
28 National Wildlife Refuge Manager to open and close the
29 season and set the harvest limit for moose via a
30 delegation of authority letter.

31
32 As far as the Special Action, the OSM
33 preliminary conclusion is to support WSA13-01. As I
34 mentioned, the proposed regulatory changes are
35 consistent with recommendations of the Unit 17A Moose
36 Management Plan, which state that when the moose
37 population is increasing and approaching carrying
38 capacity, more liberal harvest regulations that allow
39 for a longer season, increased harvest limits, and
40 potentially allowing for the harvest of cows should
41 help to reduce the population to more sustainable
42 levels.

43
44 The proposed regulatory changes would
45 also align with recent changes to State regulations to
46 increase the harvest limit and the may-be-announced
47 season. Federally qualified subsistence users would be
48 provided with additional opportunity to harvest moose
49 under Federal regulations, including the use of Federal
50 designated hunter regulations. The moose population

1 continues to increase and is within the estimated
2 carrying capacity. As I mentioned, these would provide
3 the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge manager with extra
4 flexibility to manage the population.

5
6 Thank you, Madame Chair.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
9 Going to the agency comments. ADF&G, Alaska Department
10 of Fish and Game.

11
12 MR. CRAWFORD: This is Drew Crawford
13 again with Department of Fish And Game in Anchorage.
14 The State also supports Wildlife Proposal 14-21 and
15 Wildlife Special Action 14-01. Both of these will
16 align the seasons and bag limits, which was recently
17 passed the February 2013 Board of Game meeting in
18 Wasilla. Over.

19
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. The
21 Federal agency comments.

22
23 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. The
24 InterAgency Staff Committee has no additional comments.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
29 Native, tribal, villages and others.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: This is a good
34 example of our lack of local people attending such an
35 important meeting as this. Okay.
36 The InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

37
38 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. No additional
39 comments. We're double checking, but, again, no
40 additional comments.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. Sorry to
45 interrupt. As far as the ISC, the InterAgency Staff
46 Committee, they have not looked at the Special Action
47 yet. The protocol for the Special Actions is to go
48 through the team field and then it goes through the
49 leadership team and then usually goes to the
50 InterAgency Staff Committee to vote on the emergency

1 Special Actions.

2

3 As far as this one, we had time to take
4 it to this Council for recommendation. Sometimes we
5 don't have time, but we did in this instance. After
6 the Council's recommendation, it will go to the
7 InterAgency Staff and they'll, at that time, vote on
8 it. If they're unanimous with the Special Action, not
9 the full proposal, with the Special Action, then it
10 could be implemented. If it's not unanimous, then it
11 goes to the Board, but that's just for the Special
12 Action.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thanks for the
17 information there. We're down to advisory group
18 comments. Frank.

19

20 MR. WOODS: Thank you, Madame Chair.
21 Frank Woods, Nushagak Advisory Committee chair. We
22 approved the Moose Management Plan. We agreed with all
23 the thresholds. We're real close with our villages,
24 Manokotak, Togiak and Twin Hills basically with that
25 plan. There were some parts that were hard to get
26 over, but we agreed with the plan for the conservation
27 of the resource.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Frank, I want to
30 thank the advisory groups that worked tirelessly on
31 this. I know there was meeting sessions with the
32 advisory and also with our fish and wildlife groups
33 people. So thank you. Thank you for this work. Than
34 you for your involvement in this one.

35

36 MR. WOODS: There's a lot of people
37 that put a lot of effort in it and I'd like to thank
38 the Board of Game for addressing this on a cooperative
39 kind of a stance. Even though Togiak didn't get
40 everything, they got quite a bit with the protections,
41 the corridors. The list goes on of what they asked
42 for.

43

44 It's sad to see -- like you said, I'd
45 like to echo what you said. It's sad to see them not
46 here at the table commenting on something. It's their
47 resource in their front door.

48

49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
50 Frank. The next up is National Park Service.

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Summary of
4 written comments.
5
6 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. There were no
7 written comments received on this agenda item.
8
9 Thank you.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Public testimony
12 at this time from the present folks and also the ones
13 that are on teleconference.
14
15 (No comments)
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Hearing none.
18 Seeing none. Moving on to Regional Council
19 recommendations. Dan.
20
21 MR. O'HARA: Could I ask for some
22 information prior to the motion if I could.
23
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes.
25
26 MR. O'HARA: Mr. Aderman, Andy, could
27 you come up here. While he's coming up, this moose
28 population -- Pete and I were on this Council when this
29 came about and the population in this area, in the
30 Togiak area was maybe 100 to 140 moose and now it's up
31 to 1,200 over the time that we've been here. For the
32 audience to know that we struggled with -- but here's
33 another indication too, Madame Chair. The fact that
34 Togiak, Twin Hills, Manokotak and Dillingham all agreed
35 that they would watch this population and we had a
36 little incident take place where somebody got a little
37 excited and went up and shot a couple of moose and left
38 them. That was not good publicity.
39
40 But what I want to hear from you, Andy,
41 and I appreciate you coming up today, was just advise
42 this group on -- I do not believe that we have much of
43 a predator type situation on that. Could you address
44 that a little bit if you would, please.
45
46 MR. ADERMAN: Through the Chair. Mr.
47 O'Hara. My name is Andy Aderman with Togiak National
48 Wildlife Refuge. There are certainly predators in 17A,
49 primarily brown bears and wolves. Brown bears have
50 been there I think for quite a long time. I think the

1 wolves are more recent and it's probably in relation to
2 the moose building up and increasing. There's always
3 kind of a natural lag. I guess more to the point of
4 your question it hasn't -- it didn't control the growth
5 initially. Now there's probably a little bit more
6 predation going on. I don't have good information on
7 that. I still have fairly high survival on our radio
8 collared moose.

9

10 Calf numbers have been pretty good.
11 Calf recruitment has been pretty good, but it's not as
12 good as it was 10 years ago. That's to be expected.
13 You can't just continually build, build, build at the
14 same rate. What we are seeing is this population
15 growth, while it is still increasing, it's slowed down.
16 So that was really the impetus behind getting the folks
17 together and kind of revising the plan and lowering
18 that carrying capacity estimate because we'd like to
19 see it in that real productive state if we can. To do
20 that, we need to harvest some cows. Just shooting
21 bulls isn't going to get it done.

22

23 MR. O'HARA: Thank you, Mr. Aderman. I
24 think there's a basic difference between the eastern
25 part of Bristol Bay and the western part of Bristol Bay
26 as far as handling game management on their own local
27 level. For instance, the snow that you have in the
28 Nushagak area, I think there's a lot more wolves taken
29 over here than there are on the east side where we may
30 not have as much snow. I'm sure that Togiak has some
31 pretty fast snowmachines and I bet you the wolf
32 population and these type of things is more affected.

33

34 We know this is just a natural thing
35 that takes place and I thank you very much for -- I've
36 often wondered about that predator type thing. Thanks.

37

38 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll let Pete.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Pete.

45

46 MR. ABRAHAM: Yes, I remember we had
47 only three moose left in Togiak valley and we worked
48 together. It was the toughest part of trying to tell
49 the people please leave these alone until in the
50 future. Andy was one of the toughest guys, I think.

1 We'd keep asking him how many, how many, how many.
2 When we got up to 600, it was one of the most exciting
3 falls that we had. The first moose hunting season over
4 there. A lot of effort from the people that worked
5 together.

6
7 I understand something at the time.
8 When you tell -- when the people understand each other
9 for different reasons you work together and the effort
10 is high. That shows us the Native people can work
11 together along with the agencies. That shows right
12 there the number, that we worked together.

13
14 Quayana.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan
17 Dunaway.

18
19 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Molly. Yeah,
20 Pete said it really well. In my time here, I've kind
21 of been able to see this grow. I'd also like to give
22 some credit to the Aleknagik village for their buy-in
23 as well.

24
25 As the secretary for the Nushagak
26 Advisory Committee, I also sat in on numerous meetings
27 we had last winter to work this out and it was really
28 pretty cool. We had the Federal agencies, the State
29 agencies and members of the various communities. So at
30 that level we did have pretty good participation. I
31 think Pete was on some teleconference and some of the
32 other AC members from Togiak were on teleconference or
33 attended in person. It is mighty exciting to see
34 everybody working together, converging on a solution.

35
36 I think Togiak -- I even heard it in
37 Manokotak this weekend when I was over there. People
38 are excited about the number of moose. I think they
39 were rewarded for their cooperation. So I'm in strong
40 support of this. Like typical, not everybody gets
41 everything they want, but they have a whole lot more
42 than they did when I first moved here.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. I have a
47 question. In your opinion, what is the carrying
48 capacity for moose in this area?

49
50 MR. ADERMAN: We don't know it exactly,

1 but we've seen it. As I just mentioned, it's starting
2 to slow down, so we think we're getting pretty close to
3 it. We've set an upper range of 1,200. We'd like to
4 keep that population between 800 and 1,200. 1,200
5 would probably be more the upper end of that range.

6

7 MR. HILL: Okay. It would be good if
8 you could do this and bring your level down to a
9 comfortable level to prevent what happened in our area
10 with the caribou herd where it increased so much they
11 ate themselves out of all food and just died off. So
12 I'd encourage you to keep a close eye on it.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

19

20 MR. O'HARA: Our Federal Board member
21 here today, you can pass this good message on that some
22 agencies are working together pretty well.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Andy.

27

28 MR. ADERMAN: Yeah, I guess I'd just
29 like to reiterate something. Board member Brower
30 mentioned it in his presentation to Pete. His work as
31 an RIT for the Refuge has been instrumental really in
32 getting the population to grow. Not only in the Togiak
33 area, but adjacent Unit 18, Y-K Delta Region, Goodnews
34 Drainage, they've got moose and it's just a repeat of
35 what happened in the Togiak, delayed 10 years. So
36 they're really happy and Pete has been the secret
37 weapon if you will.

38

39 (Laughter)

40

41 MR. ADERMAN: We sent him over before
42 the meetings and everything is all lined out and we
43 have our meetings and it's another success story.

44

45 MR. O'HARA: Nothing like a good
46 dictator, you know.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I think that's

1 what happens when people work well together. We'll
2 notice that in Bristol Bay in the areas where there's
3 bilingual people going to the communities and making
4 sure that the leaders, the elders understand exactly
5 what's happening with any of the resources because
6 those are the people that the younger generation is
7 going to look up to. If the leaders, elders, the
8 Council members understand that the agencies and people
9 are working together and understanding any regulation
10 that happens.

11
12 I've been proud of Bristol Bay for this
13 reason because I think that instead of -- at the very
14 beginning of my work it was a battle, but I think now
15 people have grown to respect each other and understand
16 each other and I want to thank Andy for his work and
17 the outreach that the RITs do.

18
19 There was a mention earlier about our
20 expectations for the RITs to be here, but I think
21 another expectation that we need to look into is having
22 our Advisory Council chairmans. I think the main
23 reason why you don't see Togiak and other chairmans
24 here is because they don't have the funding in place
25 for them to travel. I think that would be one of the
26 positive outreach for the Advisory Council chairmen to
27 be included, to be expected, to be funded to attend
28 something like this.

29
30 Thank you. Thank you, Andy.

31
32 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Is there any
35 more questions.

36
37 (No comments)

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. Dan
40 O'Hara, do you have any?

41
42 MR. O'HARA: None.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess
45 if there's no further discussions regarding this, we
46 can go right into the voting. Dan Dunaway.

47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. I'll move
49 to adopt both WSA13-01 Special Action and -- or would
50 it be better to do them one at a time?

1 MR. FOX: Yeah, one at a time.
2
3 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll move to adopt WSA13-
4 01 and I'll be in support. Thank you.
5
6 MR. HILL: Second.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
9 motion by Dan Dunaway and a second by Lary Hill to
10 adopt WP14-01.
11
12 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. I believe you
13 misstated. It should be WSA13-01.
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Sorry. Thanks
16 for the correction. Comment period. Richard.
17
18 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Were we
19 looking to tackle WP14-21 with modifications prior to
20 13-01? Was that the discussion earlier on? Does that
21 fall into sequence better or are we okay?
22
23 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. I think either
24 way is fine. If you want to go with WSA, that's for
25 this coming winter, and then you could do the full
26 proposal afterwards. As far as OSM preliminary
27 conclusion, we had a support on the Special Action and
28 there was some additional modifications on the full
29 proposal, which is WP14-21, so that would be up to the
30 Council.
31
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Just for
33 clarification, the WSA13-01 has been adopted and
34 seconded by Lary Hill. With that clarification, if
35 there's no other comment.
36
37 (No comments)
38
39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Call for the
40 question.
41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Question.
43
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: All in favor say
45 aye.
46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition
50 to this proposal.

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none,
4 it's carried. The second proposal WP14-21. Dan
5 Dunaway.
6
7 MR. DUNAWAY: I move to adopt WP14-21
8 and I believe we have some modifications recommended.
9 My motion will be to support the proposal with the
10 recommended modifications.
11
12 MR. O'HARA: I'll second that motion.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: WP14-21 motion
15 to adopt by Dan Dunaway, seconded by Dan O'Hara. Call
16 for question.
17
18 MR. O'HARA: Question.
19
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has
21 been called. I guess all in favor -- if there's no
22 comments.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: All in favor say
27 aye.
28
29 IN UNISON: Aye.
30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.
32
33 (No opposing votes)
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Carried. Thank
36 you. The next proposal is WP14-22, caribou. I guess
37 you can take care of it as you wish.
38
39 MR. FOX: Thank you, Madame Chair.
40 WP14-22 begins on Page 64 of your meeting book. This
41 proposal was submitted by the Bristol Bay Subsistence
42 Regional Advisory Council. It requests changes to the
43 Federal subsistence caribou hunting regulations in
44 Units 9A, 9B, 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, and 19B. The
45 proposal requests the establishment of permit
46 requirements for all of the
47 units and that the to-be-announced season in Units 17A
48 remainder and 17C remainder be shortened from August 1
49 through March 31 to August 1 through March 15.
50

1 The proposed changes would align with
2 recent changes to State regulations, which require a
3 State registration permit to hunt caribou from the
4 Mulchatna Caribou Herd. It would also align the
5 potential dates of the to-be-announced season in Unit
6 17A remainder and 17C remainder with other seasons
7 within the herd's range.
8

9 As you may recall, this was also
10 addressed earlier. We had temporary Special Action
11 WSA13-02, which included some public hearings in
12 Dillingham and Bethel. The Federal Subsistence Board
13 approved temporary Special Action WSA13-02, so what
14 we're talking about now is what the regulations are
15 this regulatory year, which requires that State
16 registration permit.
17

18 The Federal Subsistence Board also
19 rejected a second temporary Special Action WSA13-03.
20 This also had public hearings in Dillingham and Bethel.
21 That temporary Special Action requested the closure of
22 Federal lands throughout the range of the Mulchatna
23 Caribou Herd to non-Federally qualified users.
24

25 As far as the regulatory history
26 affecting the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, State and Federal
27 regulations were liberalized as the population
28 increased in the 1990s. As the population began to
29 decline, the Alaska Board of Game reduced harvest
30 limits from five to two caribou in 2006 and further
31 restricted the caribou harvest in 2007 to no more than
32 one bull and no more than one caribou taken from August
33 1 through January 31st.
34

35 In 2007, the Federal Subsistence Board
36 also reduced harvest limits from five to three caribou
37 in much of the herd's range. Then in 2009 the Alaska
38 Board of Game eliminated the nonresident harvest on the
39 Mulchatna Caribou Herd to ensure subsistence
40 opportunity was being provided.
41

42 In 2010, the Federal Subsistence Board
43 took action on proposals to have a consistent harvest
44 limit of two caribou, with no more than one bull to be
45 taken and no more than one caribou to be taken from
46 August 1 through January 31. The Board also made
47 consistent seasons that ended on March 15.
48

49 Then the last regulatory cycle in 2012
50 the Federal caribou season for the portion of Unit 18

1 south of the Kuskokwim River was changed from August 1
2 through March 15 to a split season on August 1 through
3 September 30 and then the second part of the season
4 from December 20 to the last day of February. This
5 season in the portion of Unit 18 will be addressed on
6 the next proposal that comes up, WP14-26.

7
8 As far as the biology of the herd, the
9 Mulchatna Caribou Herd declined from 1996 to 2008 and
10 estimated bull to cow ratios have been below the
11 management objective since 2001, but recent composition
12 surveys have shown some improvement in the bull to cow
13 ratio. The herd size peaked at approximately 200,000
14 animals in 1996 and the last finalized photo census in
15 2008 provided a minimum count of approximately 30,000
16 caribou, which is at the low end of the State's
17 management objective.

18
19 Preliminary results from the 2012 photo
20 census suggest the population may still be around
21 30,000 caribou, but as far as I know that hasn't been
22 finalized yet. In addition, some preliminary data show
23 that the number of two and three-year old cows that
24 have given birth increased in 2013 and calf weights
25 have been good, which suggests the caribou are not
26 nutritionally stressed.

27
28 The proposed changes would allow for
29 more responsive inseason management for the Mulchatna
30 Caribou Herd, which continues to be low. The State
31 registration permit has requirements to report harvest
32 within five days of taking a caribou, whereas the
33 general harvest tickets have a requirement to report
34 harvest within 15 days of taking the bag limit or the
35 close of the season.

36
37 Harvest reporting is an important
38 aspect of harvest management, especially with
39 fluctuating populations like the Mulchatna Caribou
40 Herd, and reporting would likely improve as reporting
41 rates are higher with registration permits, which
42 typically have higher reporting rates. Aligning
43 Federal and State regulations would help reduce any
44 regulatory complexity for users and law enforcement.

45
46 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
47 support Proposal 14-22 with the modification to delete
48 regulatory language found in just the Units 17A and 17C
49 portion and include a delegation of authority letter to
50 the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge Manager for

1 specific inseason management authorities. In Unit 17A
2 within all drainages west of Right Hand Point, delegate
3 the authority to open and close the season and set the
4 harvest limit.

5
6 I think I'll just stop there. If you
7 have any questions, I'll do my best to help.

8
9 Thank you, Madame Chair.

10
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

12
13 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Trevor, the
14 opening and closing method that you would have in the
15 Togiak area there, is there a calendar date when -- is
16 it throughout -- just from December to the March? The
17 reason why I'm asking is, I believe over there in 9C
18 we're under a January 31st. There's no EOs until that
19 point in that special harvest area. Is that the same
20 as is going to happen here or do you have a broader
21 window of doing that? Is that the way the proposal is?

22
23 MR. FOX: Mr. Wilson, through the
24 Chair. Yes, it's a little different. Unit 17A
25 remainder and 17C remainder, the season isn't open
26 unless it's announced by the Togiak National Wildlife
27 Manager and there is a broader season. It can be
28 announced between August 1st and March 15th, so it is a
29 little bit different. It's a to-be-announced season,
30 not a season that's always coming up. If that helps.

31
32 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We're
35 down to the agencies. Alaska Department of Fish and
36 Game.

37
38 MR. CRAWFORD: Madame Chair. This is
39 Drew Crawford, Department of Fish and Game in
40 Anchorage. The State also supports Wildlife Proposal
41 14-22. Adoption of this proposal will reduce confusion
42 of subsistence caribou hunters by realigning State and
43 Federal caribou hunting regulations in Units 9A, 9B,
44 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, and 19B. Over.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It sounds like
47 you're fishing, commercial fishing, and you're talking
48 to another fisherman.

49
50 Thank you.

1 Federal agencies.
2
3 (No comments)
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Native, tribal,
6 village.
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency
11 Staff Committee.
12
13 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. The
14 InterAgency Staff Committee has no additional comments.
15 Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
18 Advisory group comments. Frank.
19
20 MR. WOODS: Madame Chair. Members of
21 the RAC. The Advisory Committee passed and approved
22 this. We had heavy discussion on -- every year we get
23 emergency order requests from upriver. The Nushagak
24 River communities agrees that in the next Board cycle
25 they're going to request an extension of the existing
26 caribou season to March 31st because of the sometimes
27 delayed winters, the delayed migratory pattern of the
28 caribou. There's a change in climate. I think there's
29 a change in shift and the majority of the herd is on
30 Unit 18 and when they do come through it's later in the
31 spring to March 31st. That's my AC hat.
32
33 I have a personal one. I'll do that
34 now so I don't have to waste anybody's time. I would
35 disagree with the March 15th deadline. I like the
36 Togiak -- it used to be March 31st and up to three
37 caribou in the Federal season satisfied -- you know, I
38 don't see any studies on amount necessary for
39 subsistence use from the surrounding communities of
40 Twin Hills, Togiak, Manokotak, New Stu or anybody has
41 addressed the need for amount necessary for subsistence
42 use from the users.
43
44 I know there's a shortage and there's a
45 shortage because the caribou herds have moved north and
46 they're not migrating and they're not changing
47 patterns. The small caribou population of 17A is at
48 the Cape Constantine level. It's up by Kwethluk on a
49 migratory pattern and the Nushagak Peninsula is managed
50 differently on a Federal season.

1 In 17C the majority of users are along
2 the Nushagak. My day job is to collect all that
3 information and the requests come to me directly at my
4 office in BBNA. Again we had an extension request.
5 Emergency orders every year I'll probably get -- right
6 around the 15th of March I'll get the same request.

7
8 In the future, if this comes up -- you
9 know, like the Moose Management Plan that 17A has, they
10 call and like maybe Joe talked about and alluded to at
11 the subsistence level that AFN has, is do an MOU with
12 the existing villages. It might be March 15th that the
13 Naknek 9B herd might be accessed or, you know, there
14 might be -- there's going to be a change this year that
15 I think we need to address at some time.

16
17 You pass this now, the Alaska Board of
18 Game, if they take on the March 31st date, will have to
19 review this again. And that's fine, but if you had a
20 floating MOU like Togiak has, we wouldn't have to
21 change the dates. You just give us a 30-day window,
22 here we are, we adjust the seasons with the MOU we have
23 in place with the State, the Feds and the tribal
24 entities and it's done.

25
26 That's my personal opinion, Madame
27 Chair. Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Pete.

30
31 MR. ABRAHAM: Madame Chairman. As for
32 Togiak area for 17A, the caribou in that area has moved
33 out toward Cape Dillingham or that's where they hang
34 out. Those that -- a portion from behind Twin Hills
35 that move down that way. But Andy Aderman, all them
36 guys, the staff, they don't believe me because -- they
37 tell me I need to put a radio on them. But I watched
38 those caribous that started from 80 and then become
39 hundreds and then people in Togiak, Twin Hills hunted
40 them and then it went down like 75, 80. Finally they
41 moved on. They went down to Cape Dillingham way. But
42 when they start hunting them, they moved toward the
43 other side of Goodnews and Quinhagak area, but they
44 keep coming back.

45
46 I don't mind the 15th in that region
47 there because 31st would slaughter the caribou in that
48 area there. I think last time I estimated a count down
49 there it was a little over 200, 250 at most. But after
50 seven hunters they moved up north again. They're

1 probably down there again now, scattered. Maybe when
2 they come back March 31st will be all right again.

3

4 That's all I have to say. Qu yana.

5

6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Richard.

7

8 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I think I'd
9 like to just get refreshed a little bit from our
10 biologist on why we moved from March 31 to March 15 in
11 this proposal. What was some of the basis behind this?
12 I need to be refreshed. Thanks.

13

14 MR. FOX: Thank you, Mr. Wilson,
15 through the Chair. I believe that -- what I think is
16 it's just to make a more consistent set of regulations
17 throughout the herd's range. If the Council has
18 different recommendations on having different season
19 lengths, that's fine, but I think the basis is just to
20 have -- or the reasoning for it is just to have a
21 consistent hunt structure throughout the Mulchatna's
22 range.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Andy, do you
25 want to come to the mic.

26

27 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, Madame Chair. Andy
28 Aderman, again with Togiak Refuge. Member Wilson. I
29 think another factor that played into it, this herd has
30 been sort of in two different groups. You know, one
31 that winters primarily in Unit 18 in the Lower
32 Kuskokwim. The other over on this side. When the
33 conditions are right, they're in the second half of
34 March. Long daylight and really good travel
35 conditions. There's a lot of caribou getting killed.
36 I think that had some bearing on it as well. We've
37 seen those conditions sometimes over on this side.

38

39 MR. WILSON: Andy, is that like a
40 conservation concern? Is that why you're saying what
41 you are?

42

43 MR. ADERMAN: Yes. You know, besides
44 the season shrinking, harvest limits went down, same
45 day airborne went away, all the things that were
46 increased in order to try and maximize harvest, but
47 then we know this herd has been in decline since late
48 '90s. Yeah, you kind of have to tighten your belt, I
49 guess, so to speak when you're faced with that.

50

1 MR. ABRAHAM: Madame Chairman.
2 Richard. I think Bethel area 18 over there, when --
3 like as far as like Nelson Island, that's way over
4 there in Newtok, starts harvesting the caribou there,
5 they were overharvesting the caribou. That's when they
6 had an emergency closure after too many people are
7 going after them. They went to March 15 and we just
8 follow that -- follow along there with that 15 in this
9 region over here. That was a proposal, what, two years
10 ago maybe and we just followed with 18. Qu yana.

11
12 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. So I guess
13 one of the hiccups I have about this proposal is that
14 it blankets all of 17, 18 and 9 together, where over on
15 the east side the herd is very -- when it comes
16 through, it comes through very little. The opportunity
17 that we have there, to shorten it up 15 days for us on
18 that side would seem like it would be kind of a
19 hindrance because there's very little caribou being had
20 over on that side. Especially the way the State has
21 their emergency order in a special harvest area on 9C.
22 They can't open that until January 31.

23
24 Well, the caribou have already migrated
25 down out of 9B, which is in the State area and it
26 enters -- and it doesn't stay there very long. I mean
27 you're only able to get one. And it moves into this
28 special harvest area and the majority of them move in
29 there, so they're like untouchable and then they open
30 them up for a short period of time from January 31
31 through now it would be March 15th, which is a pretty
32 small window actually for the residents in that area
33 there.

34
35 That's one of the reasons why I have a
36 problem with this. You know, I could see if we could
37 move up to December 31 as an opening possible date for
38 that area. But it's just different issues. I see that
39 there's different concerns, you know, north and west of
40 us here as opposed to east here.

41
42 So, just comments. Thanks.

43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.

45
46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
49 One of the overriding parts of this proposal to my
50 understanding was switching this caribou hunt from a

1 general hunt with a harvest ticket to this State
2 registration hunt. Because what I heard in our
3 Advisory Committee meetings was that -- and especially
4 up in Unit 18 and some of these parts, the range of
5 this caribou, there was extremely poor participation
6 with the harvest tickets.

7

8 With the depleted herd that had gone --
9 I heard numbers as high as 250,000 to down in the
10 30,000 range, they just were not getting the harvest
11 data they need to monitor this herd, yet in those same
12 areas they have registration hunts for moose and
13 participation and reporting is way up in the high 90
14 percent.

15

16 So the very same folks that hunt moose
17 and participate well with the registration moose hunts
18 weren't for caribou. So the hope was going to a
19 registration hunt we would get better harvest data.
20 There's been a lot of hope that this herd is coming
21 back. Was it Lary or somebody said that it seems like
22 they're coming back.

23

24 I'm a little disappointed to hear that
25 preliminary counts aren't as encouraging as we were
26 hoping. So that's one of the overriding understandings
27 I have of this. The count appears to be still pretty
28 low. I think overall the herd I want to believe is
29 still healthy. I heard of a few more caribou being
30 taken up in the lakes this fall than I'd heard in the
31 past.

32

33 I'm really sympathetic to the needs and
34 the frustration that especially New Stu has that the
35 caribou show up right after the closure, just like
36 everything. But with this low count and the
37 vulnerability the herds can have in that late March
38 period, I'm inclined to strongly support the existing
39 recommended March 15 deadline for a little while
40 longer. Kind of what Frank was saying. I think we
41 still need to conserve this herd.

42

43 I know it's frustrating because really,
44 say in your case, Richard, from January till say mid
45 February like the season really isn't open. You've got
46 so little daylight. Sometimes travel conditions you
47 just don't have the right kind of snow and stuff.

48

49 I'm going to be supporting this
50 proposal. As it is, I kind of hate to get into messing

1 into season dates when we've got all these other parts
2 of this proposal, reporting and better data information
3 concerns.

4

5 Thank you, Madame Chair.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

8

9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. If I
10 remember right, one of the reasons why we went with --
11 we as in just my input here from the east side there on
12 the registration portion of this was that the State and
13 the Feds we wanted to work together and try to get
14 better reporting data. In the agreement, we say, okay,
15 we agree to put our people under another restraint and
16 let's all go to registration and get that reporting.

17

18 On their side, there was supposed to be
19 better data. I mean this was supposed to be updated
20 data for us to have here, like today, on the State part
21 in the area that is of concern here and I'm not seeing
22 that here today. In this discussion, it's like it
23 would be nice to have those updated data here to help
24 us because that's the reason why I believe we went to a
25 registration hunt
26 was so we can all participate in getting better
27 knowledge out there.

28

29 Once again the community raising their
30 hand, saying, okay, we'll back off 15 days or whatever,
31 we'll do what we can, but the agencies aren't doing
32 their part.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

35

36 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair. To
37 help the process move smoothly we can go through the
38 presentation procedures for the proposal. The
39 discussion ongoing right now fits perfectly under
40 discussion and justification portion of the procedures.

41

42 Thank you, Madame Chair.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
45 Donald. Let's see, the next folks would be the
46 neighboring regional Councils and I don't see any of
47 that there.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Local fish and
2 game Advisory Committee. I don't know if Frank covered
3 that earlier.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: National Park
8 Service Subsistence Resource Commission.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't see
13 anybody moving. The summary of written comments.
14 Donald.

15
16 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. There were no
17 written public comments received on this and I want to
18 remind the Council to recognize any teleconference
19 participant if there's any public wishing to testify on
20 this proposal.

21
22 Thank you.

23
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We're down to
25 the public testimony. Those of you that are on
26 teleconference you're welcome to use this section as
27 well as the people that are present here. We have
28 Gayla from BBNA.

29
30 MS. HOSETH: Good afternoon, Madame
31 Chair. My name is Gayla Hoseth and I participated in
32 the public hearing that we had this summer in regards
33 to the Special Action request that AVCP submitted. Our
34 frustration was that there were two different
35 teleconferences that went on at the same time. Just
36 for future reference it would be nice if we had one
37 teleconference where we could all call in and hear
38 everybody's issues at the same time. We ended up
39 calling in to Bethel and listening in on theirs, but
40 there was just a handful of us here in Dillingham. So
41 just for future, that was my only public comment was
42 regarding the public comment process. Thanks.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
45 Gayla. Any questions, comments for Gayla.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thanks for
50 bringing that up. Thanks for reminding us. Anybody

1 else. Joe. I have to go home with him.

2

3 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Mrs. Chythlook.

4

5 (Laughter)

6

7 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I guess, you
8 know, on the caribou I have observed caribou for quite
9 a while. I remember being on the Nushagak Advisory
10 Committee when the Mulchatna Herd was really low in
11 numbers and then North Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd
12 was fairly high. Back then I was an air taxi pilot and
13 I remember hauling folks from Togiak and Manokotak or
14 wherever to go down to Pilot Point or Egegik to harvest
15 four or five caribou at a time and numbers were
16 probably between 10 to 20,000.

17

18 Then, of course, somewhere in the '70s
19 the Mulchatna Caribou Herd disappeared. I think it was
20 right around '78 and we had a concern, Nushagak
21 Advisory Committee at the time. However they showed up
22 a year or so later. Come to find out that they mixed
23 with another herd further northeast somewhere or
24 northwest, I guess, somewhere up in that area.

25

26 So when it comes to caribou management,
27 I think it's good to know that perhaps managers at best
28 are at the mercy of where caribou decide to go
29 whenever. We say we manage caribou, but in my opinion
30 we just monitor it. So I guess when it comes to trying
31 to rebuilt it -- this Mulchatna Caribou is what we're
32 talking about and it's sort of a mix, I think, between
33 North Alaska Peninsula and some of the other caribou we
34 had behind Togiak in the Kilbuck Mountains.

35

36 I'm struggling with the idea somehow
37 that we're calling it Mulchatna Caribou when there used
38 to be distinct caribou herds at one time and now we're
39 lumping everything together. When it comes right down
40 to use of caribou, those of us who used to historically
41 use our caribou, like, for instance, in Unit 9 folks
42 from that way enjoyed harvesting as well as other folks
43 when that caribou number was beyond what it is today.
44 When Mulchatna Caribou decided to move out of the area,
45 all of a sudden both the State and Federal Boards
46 decided somewhat arbitrarily that, well, because the
47 numbers are down now we need to restrict the harvest of
48 this resource for subsistence use and stuff.

49

50 Back even when the numbers were up in

1 the 20 to 30,000, when it was building up, there was no
2 concern. I remember the harvest was maybe up to five
3 caribou at one time. This was like everywhere else,
4 even down here at 9 and Unit 17 and on up. I guess as
5 we make regulations -- I guess I have to also realize
6 that probably there's more use now today than back in
7 the '70s and '80s.

8

9 Again, getting back to those of us who
10 live in the area and need it, I tried hunting last
11 March. There was a small herd between there and
12 Aleknagik and I knew they were there but I couldn't
13 find them. I couldn't go back because it was March 15
14 the next day.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 MR. CHYTHLOOK: You know, at one point
19 this same caribou herd was open until April 15 and I
20 thought we did okay by that. Anyway, these
21 restrictions, I guess, are somewhat bothersome when you
22 can't really tell anymore which caribou is which,
23 whether it's part of North Peninsula or Mulchatna or
24 Kilbuck. I wish the biologists could give us a more
25 definite number. They say that the numbers of this
26 herd is right around 30-some thousand, but I don't even
27 know if that's a fact or not.

28

29 Anyway, because of the fact Dan O'Hara
30 and I are more than three score and 10 years old, we're
31 starting to remember the good ol' days.

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Anyway, I just thought
36 I'd mention that. I think at best when we say we're
37 helping to manage a resource such as caribou in
38 particular -- moose I think is more predictable, but
39 caribou has been very unpredictable through the years.
40 So whatever action you guys take I agree with.

41

42 Thank you, Madame Chair. I'm sure I'll
43 be able to go home with you tonight.

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any more
46 public comments.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.

1 We're to the Regional Council recommendations, motions.
2 Richard.

3
4 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I think I'd
5 like to hear a little bit from maybe Lake Iliamna area
6 about this particular proposal, the date changes, and
7 maybe Dan here if we can.

8
9 MR. HILL: Mr. Wilson, through the
10 Chair. Lary Hill, Iliamna. The changes in the date
11 would make a difference. Going back to the past
12 probably five years, the caribou don't move back into
13 our area until really the end of March. It's been
14 getting later with the kind of conditions there are.
15 The food isn't as exposed. To change it by two weeks
16 would definitely preserve more caribou.

17
18 We also have the problem with the State
19 hunts in the area. Throughout the years they've killed
20 off the biggest and best of our caribou. The sport
21 hunters especially want the biggest animals they can
22 get, so they're killing off all the best animals. The
23 caribou that came out of the peninsula were the large
24 what I called mountain caribou. They were almost as
25 big as a moose. They were much sought after by the
26 sport hunters. The subsistence hunters couldn't
27 compete with them, we couldn't go as far, so we had to
28 wait for the caribou to come to us. That's not
29 happening now. So changing the date by two weeks would
30 definitely preserve more caribou in our area.

31
32 I would oppose it. That's because it's
33 difficult to get when you cut it off by two weeks when
34 they're just getting into our area by about the 15th of
35 March.

36
37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

38
39 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, the Mulchatna Herd
40 comes down past Koliganek and Stu and then they go to
41 -- this year they went as far as Levelock and after
42 Christmas everything warmed up, two days of rain, two
43 days of snow, two days of cold. Very few people got on
44 the west side of the branch and the Kvichak where you
45 could get the caribou without a permit and Naknek area
46 was closed. Then, of course, by the time we got able
47 to hunt they had moved away.

48
49 So I'm in agreement with Richard, I
50 guess. I don't know if you can keep 17 on, 18 over

1 here on these dates that you'd like and do 9A and B
2 over in our area. Would that involve C as well? Yeah,
3 okay.

4
5 This is emergency order permitting
6 system is fine because animals are down. We take them
7 March the 31st. That's what I would support.

8
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard, did you
10 want a biologist with a little bit more in-depth
11 information on that. Was that your request or was it
12 just a request from Dan?

13
14 MR. WILSON: It was a suggestion.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Suggestion to
17 obtain more information.

18
19 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. That was my
20 suggestion is that, you know, the reason why we went
21 forward with the registration was because we want more
22 info from all departments and from the locals to be
23 able to keep track of this herd. As this proposal here
24 stands, it's all blanketed in one. We've got all 17,
25 18 and 9. Realizing that, you know, there's different
26 issues on both sides of Bristol Bay here. It suits
27 well for here on this side. This is something that's
28 going to work -- apparently it's something that needs
29 to work over on this side because of overharvesting,
30 but we have the issue on that side of underharvesting
31 because of timelines and the movement of the caribou.

32
33 They are Mulchatna Herd and the last
34 place they go is where we're at and the boundary line
35 is the Naknek River and it's just the very last point.
36 It's the first place to leave and the last to get, so
37 our little timeline is pretty small.

38
39 So as this proposal stands, I would
40 oppose it, but if there's a way to split this thing or
41 make new ones or something is up to the Board.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It sounds like
44 there's two issues in one, combined in one. If I
45 understand Dan O'Hara, he's opposed to 19A, B and C
46 caribou versus the other units.

47
48 MR. O'HARA: No. The proposal for the
49 Togiak and that area is all good. They're happy with
50 those dates and everything is fine. It's just over in

1 9A, B and C we would go for the 31st and I think that
2 would include Lary's concerns as well. You know, we
3 could make a motion and amend it to that or vote it up
4 or down. It's fine with me.

5
6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Andy Aderman.

7
8 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
9 I guess just to be clear this proposal is not trying to
10 cut out two weeks of your caribou season. March 15th
11 is the end date in your area. The only area that this
12 proposal would cut out two weeks is the local area
13 right here, what's called 17A and 17C remainder. It's
14 that may-be-announced season. Right now the regulation
15 says it goes out to -- or it could be a season that
16 opens and goes out to the end of March. All we're
17 going to do is change that March 31 to March 15.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: But that's just
20 for Togiak.

21
22 MR. ADERMAN: That's basically between
23 Wood River and Right Hand Point in 17A. That area
24 that's north of the Nushagak Peninsula. It's a may-be-
25 announced season if Mulchatna Caribou is moved in
26 there. It's been in place for a long time to protect
27 Nushagak Peninsula Caribou if they move off the
28 Peninsula. It's just a housekeeping part of the
29 proposal. The main thing is to switch from the general
30 hunt using harvest tickets to registration permit.

31
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

33
34 MR. O'HARA: Andy, how does the
35 emergency order work for the State? I don't see a
36 State biologist here today, so I guess we don't get
37 that information. I know that the Feds can go ahead
38 and do an emergency order if requested by the Advisory,
39 you know, should animals come in there after March
40 15th.

41
42 MR. ADERMAN: Speaking for the Federal
43 side, it would depend on what authority is delegated to
44 the Refuge Manager or the Federal Manager. If this
45 gets changed to March 15, the Federal Manager just
46 couldn't open up a season. It would have to go through
47 the Federal Subsistence Board.

48
49 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. This is Trevor
50 Fox with OSM. As Andy said, within the scope of the

1 delegation of authority letter that would have to be
2 within the confines of what's in the letter. If
3 there's a need to harvest past what's in regulation,
4 say members of the community weren't able to harvest
5 enough caribou during the existing season or there was
6 some weather impacts or something like that, then there
7 could be an emergency special action put in and that
8 could extend a season.

9

10 So there are ways to go about it beyond
11 a delegation of authority letter. Our emergency
12 special action is more similar to an emergency order
13 where circumstances come up, a season needs to be
14 closed or expanded or something along those lines. So
15 there are ways of going about that.

16

17 To step back for a minute, as Andy
18 mentioned, this isn't taking away from existing
19 seasons. If you turn to Pages 68 and 69, you can see
20 the existing Federal regulations. It's a little hard
21 to look at. If you look on 67 and 68 with the existing
22 Federal regulations because that includes changes from
23 WSA13-02, which put the State registration into effect
24 this year.

25

26 But if you look at 68 and 69, the
27 proposed Federal regulations are basically everything
28 that's in regular italics. The bold language is what's
29 being proposed, so you see the season lengths on the
30 right-hand column there, August 1 through March 15th.
31 That's what's in regulation now. As Andy mentioned,
32 the only one that's being proposed to be reduced is
33 that 17A remainder and 17C remainder and that's just,
34 you know, the may-be-announced season, so it can be
35 within that range. That's just setting the scope for
36 that delegation of authority.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
43 This overall, the biggest change really is going from
44 the harvest ticket to the registration. This is our
45 very first season of even operating under the State
46 rules of the harvest registration, so they haven't had
47 -- they're generating the data right now. It hasn't
48 been in effect long enough to produce any data yet.
49 I've got a registration ticket at home and I haven't
50 even -- except for during moose season, haven't really

1 hunted. I'll probably wait until later. This is our
2 very first season under that scenario.

3

4 We start messing with all the season
5 dates in here, we're taking things out of alignment
6 with the State, creating more confusion versus trying
7 to keep things aligned with one relatively small area
8 being changed. Yes, that March 31 change to March 15
9 is just not popular, like Frank said, with a lot of our
10 members in the Advisory Committee. Still recognizing
11 that our herd is small, I think -- and I agree with Joe
12 too. We just watch what the caribou do.

13

14 I've talked to several caribou
15 biologist say who knows what they're doing. But I
16 think to the extent we can protect them a little longer
17 to help them get their momentum back up, I think we
18 should be extremely cautious in going down a route of
19 other changes to the seasons.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

24

25 MR. O'HARA: Maybe we could think about
26 this over lunch. It's 12:30. Not that I want to stop,
27 but it might be a good time to discuss it a little bit
28 off record. I think you brought a lot of light to the
29 situation there, Mr. Dunaway. Some of us from my areas
30 maybe talk it over a little bit.

31

32 Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I think
35 that's a good idea. When we come back, I'd like to get
36 Frank Wood's comments on -- Frank to do extensions. I
37 know that the communities have requested extensions for
38 caribou that I've observed in the past and it hasn't
39 been easy. People will call in the last minute and the
40 biologist will have a time trying to decide what
41 they'll do.

42

43 Let's break for lunch now. How much
44 time do we need for lunch?

45

46 MR. HILL: I just wanted to make a
47 quick comment, Madame Chair. I think trying to manage
48 the caribou herd is like trying to manage commercial
49 fisheries.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It's 12:30 now.
2 Be back at 1:30. We'll break for lunch.
3
4 (Off record)
5
6 (On record)
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Let's get
9 started. We're still dealing with WP14-22. Donald.
10
11 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 Our member Nanci Morris Lyon from King Salmon has
13 joined the Council and we can acknowledge her presence.
14
15 Thank you, Madame Chair.
16
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Hi Nancy.
18 Welcome.
19
20 MS. MORRIS LYON: Hi everybody. Madame
21 Chair. I appreciate it and I apologize for not being
22 there in person and hope to be later on here today or
23 tomorrow.
24
25 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Anything
26 else?
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If not, let's
31 continue with this proposal. Donald.
32
33 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.
34 Just for the benefit of member Nanci Morris Lyon, the
35 Council is deliberating on Wildlife Proposal 14-22.
36 They were going over the proposal itself, just for your
37 reference, Nanci.
38
39 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Donald.
40
41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: When we left off
42 just before lunch Dan O'Hara requested that we would
43 discuss amongst ourselves this proposal before we vote
44 on it. Any new comments, information. Richard.
45
46 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. It seems
47 like everything is pointing towards if we were to act
48 on this here, we would like to -- I think Unit 9B and C
49 be withdrawn from this proposal to simplify things if
50 that's possible. Up for discussion, I guess.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Who could answer
2 this request? Andy Aderman.

3
4 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, Madame Chair. I
5 think you guys can do whatever you want with the
6 proposal. I think under State regulations you're
7 already required to get a registration permit in those
8 areas 9B and a portion of 9C. I don't know what the --
9 I guess I'm not sure where that would leave you if
10 there's not a similar Federal regulation. I guess you
11 can still get the harvest permit, but it would be
12 confusing.

13
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

15
16 MR. WILSON: Nobody else wants to talk
17 here.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MR. WILSON: It just seems, like I
22 mentioned earlier, that if we were to be excluded from
23 this particular proposal, at least it would be able to
24 -- you know, we could have discussion on the rest of it
25 for 17 if that's the wishes of the Board. This
26 proposal does not fit Unit 9, so that's the suggestion
27 that I have.

28
29 MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.

32
33 MS. MORRIS LYON: I believe it's just
34 kind of a point of order, but FYI I believe the
35 proposal is already written and, Richard, I think
36 that's doable, but what we have to do is make a
37 recommendation to the Council and the proposal as
38 written, so we have to recommend that those units would
39 be removed, I believe. Thanks, Madame Chair.

40
41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

42
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
44 In my recollection and experience both on the Advisory
45 Committee for Nushagak and here, we've tried to bring
46 -- especially some of these regulations for a single
47 population into alignment over the range of that
48 population and that's what some of these regulations
49 did in the past.

50

1 Also, one of my personal interests in
2 participating in this Council is to minimize the amount
3 of confusion between State and Federal regulations. In
4 my previous work, that confusion between the two
5 agencies caused a lot of anxiety. It didn't
6 necessarily cause real problems, but it caused
7 confusion and some anxiety of problems and I don't
8 always -- I don't feel like fracturing the regulations
9 is very helpful to the general public.

10

11 Also, again, in the biological sense of
12 trying to encompass the entire population because there
13 was a time when Unit 18 had a much more liberal caribou
14 season than the rest of us and it was like, well, we're
15 trying to conserve why aren't they up in Unit 18. I
16 think some of this was only recently aligned in the
17 last three, four years. Apparently it passed muster
18 with the Board of Game, so I'm a little surprised that
19 at this point we're raising this Unit 9 issue at this
20 time, but I don't really know how Unit 9 Advisory
21 Committee's viewed it when these regulations were
22 adopted.

23

24 I'm strongly in favor of keeping things
25 aligned. I'm strongly in favor of getting better
26 harvest data through the registration permit hunt
27 system. At this time, I think with this recent
28 tentative population estimates showing limited
29 increase, if any, I'm very hesitant to liberalize any
30 season. So I'd favor adopting this proposal as written
31 and with the recommended modifications.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other --
36 okay.

37

38 MR. FOX: Thank you, Madame Chair.
39 Just to give a quick update and maybe clarify. So this
40 year since we already -- the Board already approved
41 Special Action WSA13-02, as far as we're looking at
42 Unit 9, they already require a State registration
43 permit this year. So, in the future, this is looking
44 beyond that.

45

46 If the recommendation is to oppose
47 that, it would just take away that State registration
48 permit in the future and just to clarify the season
49 dates. It's not changing the season's dates in Unit 9.
50 The proposal doesn't look at any of the season dates.

1 It's August 1 through March 15th regardless of this
2 proposal. I know there was some confusion over that
3 earlier. I just wanted to clarify.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

8

9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Yeah, that
10 helped. I didn't do all my homework before I got here
11 on this proposal. I had a lot of different thoughts to
12 it. Bringing to light that it probably -- you know, if
13 we chose not to go with this, then the registration
14 portion of everything is wiped out. If anybody's got
15 any other comments on it. I can kind of see where it's
16 going. Thanks.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other
19 comments on this proposal. You must have had a good
20 discussion over lunch. I thought it was going to be
21 more complicated. It really sounds like we're
22 discussing urban and rural here even with the caribou.

23

24 I guess we're ready if there's no more
25 discussion, comments, to do a vote.

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: There's no motion.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Excuse me. We
30 need a motion. Dan Dunaway.

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
33 In that case, I'll move to adopt WP14-22 with the
34 modifications recommended in our workbook here.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's
39 been a motion.

40

41 MR. WILSON: Second.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: A motion by Dan
44 Dunaway and seconded by Richard Wilson. Discussion.

45

46 MR. O'HARA: What page in our workbook
47 are you referring to, Dan?

48

49 MR. HILL: 65.

50

1 MR. FOX: Also Page 80.
2
3 MR. O'HARA: Question.
4
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has
6 been called. All in favor with the modification of
7 this WP14-22 say aye.
8
9 IN UNISON: Aye.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.
12
13 (No opposing votes)
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Carried. The
16 next proposal is WP14-26 caribou. Trevor.
17
18 MR. FOX: Thank you, Madame Chair.
19 Proposal WP14-26 begins on Page 86 of your meeting
20 book. Again, we're sticking with the Mulchatna Caribou
21 Herd, but this is just affecting Unit 18 that portion
22 to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River. The
23 reason this is being brought up is it's a crossover
24 proposal as residents of Togiak, Twin Hills and
25 Manokotak have a positive C&T use determination for
26 caribou in that area.
27
28 The proposal was submitted by the Yukon
29 Delta National Wildlife Refuge and requests that
30 Federal caribou regulations in Unit 18, as I said, that
31 portion to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River be
32 changed to require a joint State/Federal registration
33 permit. Upon further clarification, the proponent
34 changed this to just a State registration permit. It
35 would also eliminate the one bull harvest restriction
36 and eliminate the split season to have a continuous
37 season from August 1 to March 15th, as in other areas
38 with the Mulchatna Caribou Herd.
39
40 Additionally, the proponent asks that
41 the Yukon Delta National Wildlife manager be given
42 delegated authority to close or re-open Federal public
43 lands to all users for this hunt if needed for
44 conservation concerns and that would be after
45 consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and
46 Game, the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge manager, and
47 the chair of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional
48 Advisory Council.
49
50 The proponent requests a change in the

1 hunt structure and season dates in order to align
2 Federal subsistence regulations with recent changes
3 made to State regulations, which included the change
4 from a general hunt to a State registration permit.
5 The proponent states that a registration hunt would
6 allow Federal managers to better manage the season,
7 have a better understanding of season harvest estimates
8 and maximize harvest opportunities for Federally
9 qualified subsistence users.

10

11 Since the Mulchatna Caribou Herd is
12 currently near the bottom of the State's management
13 objective, a registration hunt would allow Federal
14 managers to close Federal public lands to all users to
15 in order prevent localized overharvest.

16

17 I already went over all the biology and
18 the regulatory history in the last analysis.

19

20 If adopted, this proposal would require
21 the registration permit in this portion of Unit 18. As
22 I mentioned, the one bull harvest would be eliminated
23 and the split season would be eliminated, making it a
24 continuous August 1 through March 15 season.

25

26 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
27 support Proposal WP14-26 with modification to
28 administer the hunt via a State registration permit
29 only, retain the harvest limit restrictions, and
30 delegate authority to open or close the season via a
31 delegation of authority letter. The modified regulation
32 can be found on Page 94.

33

34 Thank you, Madame Chair.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Agency
37 comments. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

38

39 MR. CRAWFORD: This is Drew Crawford
40 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. We're
41 going a different route on this one. The State's
42 recommendation is do not adopt. We support elements of
43 this proposal, but feel we are best incorporated in
44 Wildlife Proposal 14-22 with amendments.

45

46 Now I'll share the reasoning here.
47 Wildlife Proposal 14-26 aligns the Federal season in
48 Unit 18 with Federal hunts in other portions of the
49 Mulchatna Caribou Herd range and with State seasons in
50 Unit 18. We support these changes. Wildlife Proposal

1 14-26 requires a use of State registration permit in
2 Unit 18. We support this and recommend adopting this
3 component in Wildlife Proposal 14-22. Wildlife
4 Proposal 14-26 increases the bag limit to two caribou
5 in Unit 18. We're not opposed to this change even
6 though we normally recommend taking action throughout
7 the Mulchatna Caribou Herd's range when possible.

8
9 Justification is that the original bull
10 limit was based on a poor calf survival, poor calf
11 recruitment and a declining bull ratio. The bag limit
12 restriction was imposed to increase bull survival,
13 increasing the bull ratio and allow additional harvest
14 of older cows that were prevalent in the population
15 based on population composition and age structure.
16 Calf recruitment and the fall bull ratio have increased
17 to 38 calves per 100 cows and 29 bulls per 100 cows in
18 the western portion of the herd that is hunted on Unit
19 18.

20
21 Even though the bull ratio is below the
22 management objective, we feel that it has improved
23 enough to give deference to the challenges faced by
24 hunters during the winter season when they attempt to
25 distinguish bulls from cows in an effort to avoid
26 exceeding the one bull bag limit. With the current
27 recruitment rates, we believe that the bull ratio will
28 continue to increase to objectives even if the bag
29 limit is liberalized. Additionally, the more liberal
30 bull bag limit may serve to reduce the cow harvest,
31 which is increasingly focused on younger cows based on
32 changes in the population age structure and aid in our
33 effort to increase population size and harvest
34 potential.

35
36 With regards to the modified change
37 that was recommended, it's delegating authority to
38 close and open caribou hunting seasons on Federal lands
39 to the Refuge Manager without consultation with the
40 Federal Subsistence Board, we oppose this delegation of
41 authority for three reasons.

42
43 The current Federal system provides
44 adequate measures to close Federal lands by Wildlife
45 Special Action if a conservation concern exists.
46 Delegating this authority to the Refuge Manager does
47 not improve the Federal government's ability to respond
48 to conservation concerns and further removes local
49 subsistence users from the decision-making process.
50

1 Additionally, improved performance of
2 the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, which are acknowledged by
3 this proposal in the form of season and bag limit
4 liberalizations, argues against the point that
5 additional conservation measures are needed at this
6 time.

7
8 Third, closure of the Federal lands
9 without a single closure of State lands will increase
10 the complexity of the hunt for local users and likely
11 result in an increase in the number of violations as
12 locals attempt to differentiate State and Federal
13 lands. The State has no intention of closing State
14 caribou hunting seasons given recent herd performance.
15 Over.

16
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
18 Let's move on to Federal agency.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Nobody. Native,
23 tribal, village.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: InterAgency
28 Staff Committee.

29
30 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. No additional
31 InterAgency Staff Committee comments. Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.
34 Advisory group comments.

35
36 (No comments)

37
38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Neighboring
39 Regional Council.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Local fish and
44 game Advisory Committees.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: National Park
49 Service Subsistence Resource Commission.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Summary of
4 written reports.
5
6 MR. MIKE: There's no written comments
7 received on this proposal, Madame Chair. Thank you.
8
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
10 Donald. Public testimony. Frank.
11
12 MR. WOODS: Madame Chair and RAC
13 members and the public. I'm going to speak for myself.
14 I am a user of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. When I hear
15 that this whole herd and this range is being totally
16 utilized out of area and this is one proposal that's
17 out of our area and they allocate that and the State
18 doesn't recognize that the old information from 2008 is
19 not adequate enough for me to make a decision on how
20 and where and what the population is doing, from calf
21 mortality to cow/bull ratio. We lost our biologist
22 here in the last year. Jim Woolington retired and I
23 really don't have any idea when he's going to be
24 replaced.
25
26 It's kind of hard to sit back and
27 restrict more hunting without any adequate information.
28 The Mulchatna ranges all the way to the Kvichak and
29 above and beyond, right below Igiugig, where you hunt
30 your special Unit 9 section all the way up to Lime
31 Village and all the way across to Bethel.
32
33 With that said, I'd like to -- I would
34 support this proposal in the sense that it almost
35 matches what regional regulatory authority would do.
36 It would put it in the hands of the people that would
37 be managing the resource for the surrounding villages
38 in Unit 18. Togiak Refuge borders the Delta Refuge and
39 I think that along with 17A Moose Management Plan
40 that's almost what I think that this proposal is trying
41 to do. I would support that.
42 It would be similar to active management within the
43 region within time.
44
45 I agree a little bit with Dan Dunaway's
46 -- we need adequate information. That's already done.
47 The State registration permit will be always there.
48 Herd-wise, we'll always have a registration permit to
49 collect data that would be pertinent to harvest
50 opportunity and then change of season, whatever it may

1 be.

2

3 This proposal would actually start
4 looking at what I'm -- my own personal feeling what we
5 should be doing, is starting to provide in-region
6 regional authority within the boundaries of that. Say
7 like if Unit 9 wanted their own season, that would be
8 separate from ours. Unit 18 is a whole different
9 region. I'm speaking on behalf of the Mulchatna Herd.
10 This has become so big that I think that we can't unify
11 and try to manage it with one blanket approach.

12

13 So I would be in support of this
14 proposal, Madame Chair and RAC. Just in the fact that
15 it's doing that specifically. What I see in this whole
16 herd population is the State manages for all Alaskans.
17 What I hear on the March 15th deadline is that, you
18 know, we have an influx of users that aren't being
19 identified here.

20

21 We're the rural Advisory Committee, but
22 when you have an urban population that can fly into
23 those regions from March 15th to March 31st, that's
24 what the State is scared of. The State is scared of
25 that mobile group of hunters and population that has
26 the methods and means to harvest during that time and
27 that's why I agree with Dan's March 15th date is from
28 March 15th to March 31st there can be a whole Kenai
29 influx of airplanes coming in and harvesting caribou at
30 that time or there might be a whole Anchorage fleet
31 going up the Lower Kuskokwim or up past Lime Village
32 and harvesting in that area.

33

34 So the State doesn't recognize that
35 there's a different -- you know, the population in
36 rural Alaska is really dependent upon this resource,
37 but there's competition. It's almost allocative that
38 we have to address on the RAC level at some point. I
39 see more and more and more getting encroached. At some
40 point we have to have -- you know, they say this whole
41 system is broken. It isn't broken until it's fixed.
42 You know, it's broken until it's fixed and I think that
43 me and Donald we sat back and we talked about a caribou
44 summit, we talked about reasons on why we should be
45 meeting more regularly.

46

47 Like right now we don't have a map on
48 the wall. If I had a map on the wall, you know what I
49 mean, and if we could sit down and see the population
50 and Jim Woolington -- we've done this with our State

1 meetings on a real detailed basis and went through this
2 over and over and over. What we haven't done here is
3 identify what this would do. The State recognizes that
4 this will be a conflict for their interest. I can't
5 speak for Unit 19, but as a Mulchatna user, I can't
6 see it being beneficial for them not to allow this to
7 happen.

8

9 Thanks.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
12 Frank. Richard.

13

14 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Somebody
15 help me out here. I'm looking at part of this
16 proposal. It says it wants to eliminate one bull, a
17 single bull harvest and to increase it to two caribou,
18 so that's meaning that they can get two bulls then, is
19 that correct?

20

21 MR. FOX: Mr. Wilson, through the
22 Chair. The proposed regulation does do that. They did
23 have a one bull season before. So you see the proposed
24 language on Page 89. It's getting a two caribou
25 harvest limit and taking out that language no more than
26 one caribou may be a bull, no more than one caribou may
27 be taken August 1 through September 30th and December
28 20th through January 31st.

29

30 As far as the OSM recommendation, we
31 recommended our modification that would raise it back
32 to two caribou or take it to -- I'm sorry, I need to
33 step back. It was two caribou. They took away that
34 additional language that would restrict it to one bull.
35 That's what the proposal is. So instead of having that
36 stipulation where one caribou may be a bull, no more
37 than one caribou may be taken and those additional ones
38 putting it at two caribou. The OSM recommendation is
39 to keep those stipulations in place. If that helps.

40

41 MR. WILSON: So was the answer yes?

42

43 MR. FOX: Yes, so you were correct.

44

45 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. It's the
46 Mulchatna Herd we're talking about here. We're talking
47 about it's most northern migration. We're all trying
48 to look at trying to increase this herd. Everywhere
49 else except for this proposal now we're under one bull
50 until January 31. Now if we allow this up in the

1 northern part of it, picking on the same herd, if we
2 allow one community to take two bulls, what's that
3 going to do for our count. I mean we're trying to
4 increase a bull count and stuff. That would be my
5 hiccup on this one, is that they're asking for possibly
6 two bulls when nowhere else in this area can we take
7 two bulls.

8

9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

10

11 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 I hope Drew Crawford is still listening. I tried
13 following all of the State comments, but it might be
14 easier to say what does the State think of the
15 recommended language that appears in the RAC booklet on
16 Page 94? Are they comfortable with that?

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess we're
19 hoping to get some additional comment from the State of
20 Alaska with Dan Dunaway's question. Hello, State of
21 Alaska.

22

23 MR. CRAWFORD: Hello. This is Drew
24 Crawford. Dan, State's position would still be do not
25 support this one.

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Drew, it sounded
28 like you supported most of it except some of these
29 little wrinkles. It looks to me that the
30 recommendation in our book here seek to resolve some of
31 that, getting rid of the joint Federal permit and
32 leaving it as a State permit.

33

34 The other side of it is if you -- if
35 the State is uncomfortable with that, did the State
36 have some alternative language they could put in front
37 of us because I sure couldn't follow it all and it's
38 going to be pretty hard to even evaluate everything you
39 provided to us.

40

41 Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Excuse me. I
44 need to remind the teleconference participants we're
45 starting to hear more banging and noises, so mute your
46 phones so that we can have a better meeting here.

47

48 Thank you.

49

50 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah, looking at this,

1 Dan, the do not adopt is the formal State position.
2 The parts of this proposal related to the caribou
3 themselves, the State really has no trouble with from
4 me reading what I'm seeing here. The one part that
5 specifically the Staff recommended was they want to see
6 the State permit portion of this proposal in Unit 18
7 adopted as a component in Wildlife Proposal 14-22 and
8 the portion of the component that our Staff really
9 didn't want to oppose was the delegation of authority.
10 Over.

11
12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan, did you
13 have any additional?

14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: No, Madame Chair. I
16 think that's good enough. Thank you.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Number 6,
19 Regional Council recommendation, motion. Discussion,
20 comments. We need to adopt the proposal. Dan.

21
22 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thank you, Madame
23 Chair. I'm trying to make up my mind here. I raised
24 my hand a little quickly. I share Richard's concern on
25 -- when we get into this, well, we're conserving and
26 they should too. I'm disappointed that the State
27 doesn't have more thorough participation in these
28 things and I have been for years. Not to be taking it
29 out on Mr. Crawford. He's got to do what he's
30 provided, but I wish they could be here and be a little
31 more nimble because I couldn't absorb everything they
32 said.

33
34 If this proposal -- especially with the
35 modified language recommended would bring things into
36 closer alignment, I'm overall inclined to support it
37 with that one concern for the kind of unequal
38 treatment. There again, if we had a little higher
39 numbers in our preliminary counts, I'd be probably
40 whole hog for it because it is awfully tough. I'll
41 tell you, I've been with the Fish and Game caribou
42 biologist swear he was shooting a cow and it was a
43 bull. It didn't matter, but it's like, well, if you
44 can't tell, why should I have to.

45
46 So I guess I'm going to wait for
47 recommendations from other members here.

48
49 Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.
2
3 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Yeah, as
4 written, I have a hard time supporting this one because
5 it's asking to open the bag limit to two bull and the
6 rest of us are trying to be conservative. So just
7 under that it's worth -- it's lacking my support.
8
9 MR. ABRAHAM: I oppose it.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
12 comments from the Council. Pete just opposed.
13
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We need a
15 motion.
16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair. I
18 think I'm inclined to oppose this, but I think to go on
19 the record and we move to adopt and then vote on
20 whether we want it or to oppose it will nail the record
21 down for the Board better. So I'll move to adopt with
22 the recommended modifications.
23
24 Thank you.
25
26 MR. HILL: Second.
27
28 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Okay. There's been a
29 motion to adopt. Was there a second?
30
31 MR. HILL: Lary Hill. Second.
32
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Second by Lary
34 Hill. Discussion, I guess.
35
36 MR. O'HARA: We're under discussion
37 now. So we're opposing -- we made a motion, but we
38 probably will not support it. Can we come back and
39 make a recommendation to support one animal for them or
40 just leave it opposed?
41
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Is there
43 somebody that would answer this. Donald.
44
45 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The way I
46 understand Robert's Rules, the motion has been made to
47 adopt the proposal and we're under discussion, so I
48 think we're still open for amendments on this proposal.
49
50 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I'll make

1 an amendment to the motion that we do allow the harvest
2 of one caribou and we'll need a second for that. Could
3 I hold off on that motion? I need a little
4 clarification. Are we saying that we would allow one
5 harvest and is this a registration type hunt as well,
6 I'm asking that question, and if that is a good enough
7 recommendation or a good enough amendment to that
8 motion.

9

10 Dan, did you understand what I'm asking
11 here?

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. I'm
14 thinking -- I'm trying to figure out here if the
15 existing situation under 14-22 would remain the same.
16 This is where a regulatory specialist would be very
17 helpful. I get a little bewildered trying to keep it
18 all straight. And I'm not clear myself. What I was
19 also going to entertain was that if -- I would be
20 willing to consider that a friendly amendment to my
21 motion and it might make things easier if the second
22 would also find that. Maybe we need to clarify what
23 the regulation would say or does say.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Trevor.

28

29 MR. FOX: Thank you, Madame Chair. So
30 in WP14-22 that included adding that State registration
31 permit requirement for this portion of Unit 18, so that
32 was part of your recommendation there and that includes
33 the two caribou with no more than one may be a bull, no
34 more than one caribou may be taken August 1 through
35 September 30th and December 20th through January 31st.
36 So some of that is covered in 22. One of the other
37 differences in 26 is making it a continuous season
38 instead of having a split season as it currently is
39 under regulations. 22 did not address the split
40 season. 26 addresses the split season. Hopefully that
41 helps.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I'd like to -- I
44 don't know what Joe's comment was going to be. He
45 worked for the regulatory proposals. I don't know if
46 he was going to enlighten us on something regarding
47 this, but the comment period is closed.

48

49 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. We, as
50 Council members, we can ask him to come back up.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay, we'll
2 bring you back up so I can go home with you tonight.
3
4 (Laughter)
5
6 MR. O'HARA: You owe me, Joe.
7
8 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Madame
9 Chair. I guess my only concern is consistency. And if
10 it's the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, you guys had a hard
11 time dealing with Unit 9 when it came to consistency
12 and then to go off on a little tangent because of where
13 the caribou is now and the user groups up there I guess
14 maybe the RAC wanting kind of a special deal for them.
15 That's probably why the State of Alaska is having a
16 hard time supporting this. That's just my guess. I
17 just thought I'd mention that.
18
19 If you can't make a special concession
20 for one area, why should you do it for any other area
21 where the Mulchatna Caribou is roaming? So that's just
22 my comment.
23
24 Thank you.
25
26 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Joe. So
27 you're recommending that we couldn't do 9A, B and C
28 because it just wasn't consistent and it's mostly State
29 land. So your public comment is stay consistent with
30 this one as well and just leave it like the proposal
31 reads itself.
32
33 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Yeah. I guess, you
34 know, when you passed that last proposal, I thought you
35 took care of trying to make everything consistent and
36 you did pass that proposal. It seems like if you --
37 this is kind of like opening it up again and that's why
38 I decided maybe I ought to make a comment on it.
39 Because when you passed that last proposal on 18 just
40 as well as the others, you took an action, I think to
41 conform with what the Board of Game has done already.
42
43 This regulation that you're discussing,
44 I don't think the Board of Game has acted on yet. I
45 noticed that it's talking about Federal land, but even
46 though we have Federal land in 17A we try to be
47 consistent all the way across the board with State and
48 Federal regulations when it comes to caribou and I
49 don't see this any different than our area for the same
50 herd of caribou.

1 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Joe. We
2 thank you for coming up. One of the first things that
3 we have to deal with as Council members is
4 discussion/justification. Is there a conservation
5 concern. How will your recommendation address that
6 concern as Council members. I'm not necessarily -- I
7 like working -- you know, the State and Federal can
8 walk hand in hand, it's always the greatest, but I
9 think -- the one thing I was thinking of here was the
10 fact that it's not a matter of them getting one more
11 caribou than us, it's getting one more caribou period
12 that we can't afford to get. If we have to differ from
13 State and Federal regulations, that's fine with me. I
14 guess that's why I was going to make a friendly
15 amendment that we just stay with the conservation side.
16 So that was my concern.

17
18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
21 Thank you very much, Joe. Yes, my interest, like I
22 said earlier, was consistency across the board here.
23 If Dan O'Hara's recommendation on the amendment would
24 be to have the bag limit consistent with the other
25 areas, I'm supportive of that. If we would like to see
26 and recommend consistent seasons across the area, I'm
27 supportive of that as well, just like Joe said, and I
28 think that would make it hopefully simpler. It may be
29 more acceptable to the State as well. That's my
30 comment.

31
32 Thanks.

33
34 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I could use
35 that wording as an amendment to your -- make a motion
36 that we amend it to that wording that you said there.

37
38 I so move.

39
40 MR. DUNAWAY: I would regard that as a
41 friendly amendment and I'm grateful for all these
42 fantastic people that can record this stuff to get it
43 down so that they at least capture our intent.

44
45 Thank you very much.

46
47 I believe, what I understand of
48 Robert's Rules, if the second also agrees that it's a
49 friendly amendment, we could move on. As long as we
50 all agree what our intent is here. But that can switch

1 it around to whether we want to vote for it or against
2 it. I was ready to vote against it, but if we change
3 the text of the motion to ask for consistency with the
4 rest of the areas, I'd be inclined to support it.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess before
9 we vote, Donald, do you want to read.....

10
11 MR. MIKE: It's been a lengthy
12 discussion. I'll try my best and I'll ask Staff to
13 help me out too. The amendment by Mr. Dan O'Hara to
14 allow for one caribou, which includes the registration
15 part of the proposal and the season will be consistent
16 throughout Unit 18 and Unit 17, is that correct?
17 Consistency across the region for the Mulchatna Caribou
18 Herd.

19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: One bull.

21
22 MR. MIKE: One bull.

23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: And then the same season
25 dates. Yes, with one bull over the same season period
26 that's allowed in the rest of the area and the same
27 season dates as in the rest of the area. I might add
28 that Joe only looked like he was asleep.

29
30 (Laughter)

31
32 MS. KENNER: Mrs. Chair, this is Pippa.

33
34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Hi, Pippa.
35 You've got the floor.

36
37 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa with OSM in
38 Anchorage. I'm an anthropologist. Mr. Mike mentioned
39 that he would appreciate Staff support if we felt like
40 we could be helpful.

41
42 I think that one of the things that
43 Drew Crawford was pointing out is that if the Council
44 wishes to modify or support this proposal, Proposal 26,
45 the State will not support it, but if the Council
46 decides to oppose or to recommend not adopting this
47 proposal, instead reopen discussion and deliberation on
48 Proposal 22 and then modify Proposal 22 where they
49 would list a portion of Unit 18, the season becomes
50 August 1st to March 15th, that may make the regulations

1 consistent with existing State regulations. Therefore,
2 the State will support your decision on Proposal 22 and
3 most likely the proposal will go on the consent agenda
4 and not even be discussed at the Board meeting. It
5 will just be adopted.

6

7 So what I heard is the Council members
8 appeared to be reaching consensus that the only change
9 they wish to make in Unit 18 is to make the season
10 consistent with the State season and to leave the other
11 aspects of the existing regulation in Unit 18 the same
12 and not to change them.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

15

16 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. This Council
17 is addressing the amendment on the table for now, as
18 far as Mr. O'Hara made the amendment for one bull
19 caribou and to keep the same seasons throughout the
20 Mulchatna Caribou Herd's range and that would also
21 include the requirement of a State registration hunt
22 for this hunt, is that correct?

23

24 MR. DUNAWAY: (Nods affirmatively).

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

27

28 MR. DUNAWAY: This is real helpful,
29 Pippa. Thank you. I can see where it might be a
30 cleaner vehicle to take our actions in 22 than 26. I'm
31 kind of interested in what the pleasure of the rest of
32 the Council is here. It would be a cleaner way.

33

34 Thank you.

35

36 MS. KENNER: Mrs. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Is it Pippa?

39

40 MS. KENNER: Yes, it is.

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

43

44 MS. KENNER: In the explanation that I
45 just gave was very -- I believe what I heard Council
46 members say a couple of times during the past
47 discussion is that the Council -- it appears the
48 Council wishes to leave the language in the regulation
49 as it is and therefore consistent with State
50 regulations and that would be for Unit 18, that portion

1 to the east and south of the Kuskokwim River, two
2 caribou by a joint ADF&G and Federal registration --
3 excuse me, two caribou by State permit, no more than
4 one caribou may be a bull and no more than one caribou
5 may be taken August 1st through March 15th.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
8 -- we adopted and then.....
9

10 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The amendment
11 was still on the table for discussion. If it's okay
12 with the Council, I can have Staff together and work
13 with the Council members and work on an amendment and
14 read it out loud to the Council and see if that
15 amendment will suit its needs and purposes for the
16 intent of this proposal.

17
18 MR. O'HARA: Let's take a break.
19

20 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Would you
21 like to stand down and we can come up with the amended
22 language for the Council's consideration on this
23 proposal?

24
25 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll
26 stand down for about five minutes.
27

28 (Off record)
29

30 (On record)
31

32
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We'll have
34 Donald have the floor to read the amendment.
35

36 MR. O'HARA: Before you do let's take
37 it off the table.
38

39 MR. MIKE: Okay.
40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.
42

43 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Through
44 discussion there was an amendment on the table and
45 through the maker of the motion and concurrence of the
46 second the amendment will be taken off the table.
47

48 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I agree
49 that it be taken off the table.
50

1 MR. HILL: I concur.
2
3 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The maker of
4 the motion on the amendment, Mr. Dan O'Hara, took the
5 amendment off the table and concurred by the second.
6 We're back on the main motion.
7
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess
9 we need a motion. No, not a motion. I guess we're
10 back on the main motion. Okay. Dan.
11
12 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
13 Thank everybody else for all the help. As we reviewed
14 this more carefully, it's my current understanding --
15 my original motion was to adopt WP14-26 with the
16 modification recommended by OSM as appears on Page 94.
17 Our concern here is to try to get maximum consistency
18 across the entire range of this Mulchatna population.
19
20 It's my understanding that this
21 modified language would make the season dates
22 consistent from August 1 to January 31 -- or August 1
23 to March 15th. It would make the bag limits consistent
24 that one caribou may be a bull, no more than one bull
25 could be shot from August 1 through January 31, a total
26 of two caribou. The language would further remove a
27 joint Federal and State registration permit to be
28 strictly a State registration permit.
29
30 There's still a question of this season
31 delegation of authority to the Federal agency and I'm
32 not sure if just that lined out language on Page 94
33 would clearly remove that delegation or not. I'm
34 getting a head shake from Mr. Fox, a well-named game
35 biologist.
36
37 (Laughter)
38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: So I'm kind of open for
40 advice here if I'm at liberty to or have support for
41 adding to my motion to delete that delegation of
42 authority or if we need to back all the way up and
43 start from scratch. Can anybody advise me?
44
45 Thank you.
46
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Trevor.
48
49 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. To add that
50 additional -- to delete the delegation of authority,

1 that would have to be an amendment to the original
2 motion to adopt the OSM modification.
3
4 Thank you.
5
6 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. Am I at
7 liberty at this point to modify my original motion?
8
9 MR. O'HARA: I think we should take it
10 off the table and then redo the motion again. That's
11 up to you, Madame Chair.
12
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I think
14 with what Mr. Fox told us we can if it's okay with the
15 rest of the Council members.
16
17 MR. O'HARA: We have to make sure the
18 second concurs.
19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. I'll
21 withdraw my original motion with the permission of my
22 second.
23
24 Thank you.
25
26 MR. HILL: Okay.
27
28 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair.
29
30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh.
31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll start the process
33 over here. I'll move to adopt Wildlife Proposal 14-26
34 incorporating the OSM recommended modified language and
35 in addition deleting the delegation of authority
36 letter, the language that appears in the second
37 paragraph under the OSM preliminary conclusion.
38 Deleting that part of open or close the season via
39 delegation of authority letter only in appendix 1. My
40 intent here would be to, again, align seasons, bag
41 limits and permitting process with what we supported in
42 Proposal 22.
43
44 Thank you.
45
46 MR. WILSON: I'll second that motion
47 with modifications.
48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a
50 motion and seconded by Richard to I guess accept this

1 proposal with modifications. Is there any further
2 discussions, questions.
3
4 MR. O'HARA: Call for question.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: All in favor of
7 WP14-26 with modifications say aye.
8
9 IN UNISON: Aye.
10
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.
12
13 (No opposing votes)
14
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Carried. Whew.
16 That was -- yeah, thanks. Next on the agenda is draft
17 2014 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. I guess the
18 person that was going to be helping to do the
19 presentation with Courtenay is on the plane and will be
20 here this evening. So what I'll suggest is to pick
21 this up first thing tomorrow morning if it's okay with
22 the Council.
23
24 (Council nodding in agreement)
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Then because
27 it's not quite 4:30 we can start on the agency reports.
28 We'll jump down to 12, agency reports. The A section
29 is OSM. Starting off with number 1, budget update.
30
31 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair. Did
32 you want me to start now or wait for the other Council
33 members to come back?
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Start now.
36
37 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Thank you, Madame
38 Chair. Tom Kron and I will be presenting the OSM
39 briefing to you jointly. I will start out with the
40 budget update. If the Council members want to follow
41 along, I will start on Page 143 of the Council book.
42
43 On the budget update OSM, as you can
44 see by the table illustration in your book, OSM is
45 continuing to see a decrease in funding. For 2013 what
46 you see there is a reduction of the funding and the
47 sequestration amounts that we received this year. We
48 do not have the budget yet for 2014. As you are
49 probably all aware, the Federal government is under a
50 continuing resolution at this point through January

1 14th of 2014. So we will be operating at a reduced CR
2 budget through that time, but we do not have a budget
3 for next year yet.

4

5 We do expect that if -- depending on
6 how Congress chooses to proceed we may be extended in
7 our sequestration cuts for this year as well. So we're
8 anticipating that amount as well in our budget
9 planning. Basically what we're expecting is to
10 continue to see a decline in our budget.

11

12 Are there any questions for me on that.

13

14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any questions.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my
19 question would be the effects of the budget cuts for
20 this Council. I know that one time we had discussed
21 one face to face and one teleconference type of
22 meeting. Is that still on? I guess just update us on
23 what effects for this Council with these budget cuts.

24

25 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: What I can tell
26 the Council right now is we're extremely supportive of
27 the Councils and trying to maintain the level of travel
28 that we have supported in the past with the Councils.
29 As you know, this year we have continued to support the
30 two meetings for each Council.

31

32 The one thing that we have put in place
33 to ask some of the Councils -- we've asked the Councils
34 to look at possibly having your meetings in more hub
35 communities because this reduces the amount of travel
36 costs. So that is one thing a lot of Councils have
37 adopted, but we have maintained the two meetings per
38 year this year.

39

40 We do not know what's coming for next
41 year in terms of budget, but we do know that we're
42 going to have to be as frugal where we can to stretch
43 the budget further and continue to set priorities. So
44 for the Council, your discussion in terms of what --
45 the Council's priorities too would help provide
46 information to the Board and to OSM as far as moving
47 forward with where those decisions are made.

48

49 One thing that has resulted from the
50 budget cuts so far is we have not been able to send the

1 amount of Staff from OSM and to support the amount of
2 Staff that you're used to seeing at your Council
3 meetings. That is one cut. What we're trying to do is
4 make sure that all Staff are online and available to
5 you during your meeting so that you continue to have
6 the support. Now it would be online versus in person,
7 so that is one place that you may see a big difference
8 in having support for your meetings, but that was one
9 way we thought that we could continue to provide your
10 meetings and support them in a way that we could with
11 the decreasing budgets.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

14

15 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, Kathy. What do you
16 mean by hub areas? There's only two hubs in Bristol
17 Bay. That's Naknek and Dillingham. So that's okay?

18

19 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: We've asked every
20 Council to look at their own individual circumstance
21 and that's yours.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

24

25 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.
26 I think the exercise we just went through in the last
27 hour and a half shows the value -- and we're all
28 smiling -- shows the value of the face to face and the
29 support staff here. I think it would be way too easy
30 to become polarized and entrenched and not at all happy
31 with each other. You know, some of this stuff is just
32 extremely difficult to do without being face to face.
33 So I just wanted to point out the value. We want to
34 save money and we need to. I wonder where we'd be
35 right now if we were all trying to do this long
36 distance.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
41 comments. Do you have any more on budgets?

42

43 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: I have nothing
44 else on budgets. If you'd like, I can move to staffing
45 update.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes.

48

49 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: All right. I
50 don't know how many of you know Gene Peltola. He used

1 to be the manager out at Yukon Delta National Wildlife
2 Refuge and he was selected in August -- in August he
3 started as our new Assistant Regional Director in OSM.
4 So he's on board right now. There's a little bio of
5 Gene in your packets there, but we're really happy to
6 have Gene on board. He brings a wealth of information.
7 Born and raised in Alaska, has worked and lived in
8 different areas of Alaska too, so he brings different
9 perspectives to the table.

10

11 Jeff Brooks is another new member of
12 our staff. I don't know how many of you know Jeff.
13 Jeff used to work in the National Wildlife Refuge
14 system. Jeff has come to us and we are extremely
15 pleased to have Jeff on staff. He's a social
16 scientist. He also has some economic background to him
17 and Jeff has provided some valuable input in the
18 wildlife proposals that you're reviewing right now.
19 Once again, a welcome addition to the staff.

20

21 Derek Hildreth has come to us. He was
22 a fisheries biologist over at the Anchorage field
23 office and he's replaced Michelle Chivers, which many
24 of you may have known Michelle. She was with the
25 program for many, many years. He's getting up to speed
26 and he's working with us on the permitting and he's
27 working a lot with the different refuges and the other
28 agencies that help issue permits for the Federal
29 Subsistence Management Program.

30

31 Some of the departures we have, Helen
32 Armstrong, who was our lead anthropologist with OSM and
33 the division chief for anthropology has retired. Helen
34 was a wealth of knowledge and was in the program from
35 its inception. So she definitely knew the history and
36 she will be sadly missed. Right now with the budget
37 cuts that we're experiencing, all positions that become
38 vacant what we need to do is prepare a waiver request
39 to refill those positions. Unfortunately, we have not
40 received a waiver approval to refill her position at
41 this point. So I wanted to let you know that.

42

43 Stephen Fried was our lead supervisory
44 fisheries biologist and Steve also retired and is
45 sending us emails from back east where he's very happy
46 right now. We have received a waiver approval to
47 refill Steve's position and OSM is in the process of
48 working on that right now and hopefully we will be able
49 to advertise that one soon.

50

1 Andrea Medeiros, who was for over 12
2 years our outreach coordinator for OSM, has received a
3 promotion. She's now working with the region external
4 affairs division. As we prepared your Council packets
5 without Andrea's assistance for the first time in 12
6 years, she was sadly missed. We have applied for a
7 waiver request to refill Andrea's position. We have
8 not received an approval for that yet.

9

10 So those are the changes in Staff at
11 this point. Any questions.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We're fine.
16 Nothing we can do with that. If you're done with that,
17 you can move on to -- oh.

18

19 MR. KRON: Madame Chair. I'll be doing
20 the tribal consultation update. Again, it's just a
21 briefing. It's not an action item.

22

23 The tribal consultation implementation
24 guidelines are going through their final draft with the
25 Federal Subsistence Board. The Board reviewed them in
26 August. The tribal consultation working group consists
27 of various groups of Federal Staff, tribal members and
28 members of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
29 corporations. Once the implementation guidelines have
30 been accepted by the Board, the working group will
31 focus its attention on crafting the ANCSA consultation
32 policy and implementation guidelines.

33

34 Consultation occurred this past fall on
35 September 11th and 16th. If there are no questions
36 there, I can move on to the regulatory cycle update
37 real quickly.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

40

41 MR. O'HARA: Fill us in a little more
42 on the corporations staff. Are you dealing with like
43 BBNC? So where does your Native corporations come into
44 your tribal consultation? What do they do?

45

46 MR. KRON: I'll start, Madame Chair,
47 Dan. The Board earlier adopted a policy for
48 incorporating input from Native corporations from
49 tribes and right now they're working on trying to work
50 on the ANCSA corporation part. Here in Bristol Bay I'm

1 not exactly sure of how they're handling that. Maybe
2 Kathy knows.

3

4 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: If I can add to
5 that. When we schedule, we've been scheduling tribal
6 consultations on the wildlife proposals and on the
7 rural determination process. We've held tribal
8 consultations already on that. What we do during that
9 consultation is we'll set up a separate consultation
10 meeting with tribal groups and an email goes out
11 statewide and there's some contact follow-ups on that
12 as well in terms of when that's going to be, how it's
13 going to operated. Some of the tribes have been able
14 to come in in person too.

15

16 What we do in conjunction with that is
17 we hold another consultation for the ANCSA
18 corporations. During that consultation the tribal
19 entities can attend that as well. So we have one for
20 tribal and then one for tribal and corporations, so
21 that's how we're addressing that at this point.

22

23 MR. KRON: Madame Chair, I will move
24 on. On Page 145 to the regulatory cycle update. I
25 think as you all know, you just finished reviewing the
26 wildlife proposals for the Bristol Bay area. Those
27 will go before the Board this coming April 15th through
28 17th, when the Board has scheduled their meeting. At
29 the same time here there will be discussion at this
30 meeting and then again in your meeting in the winter in
31 March about fish proposals that you'd like to submit.

32

33 Again, this current fall/winter period
34 we're working on wildlife. Next fall/winter period
35 we'll be working on fisheries. The fisheries start up
36 earlier in the year, so we're probably going to be
37 looking at a January timeframe for the Board meeting a
38 little over a year from now.

39

40 That's the discussion on the issue,
41 looking at differences between the wildlife and the
42 fisheries meetings because of the differences in those
43 activities, with the fisheries meetings probably
44 occurring in the January timeframe and the wildlife
45 meetings for the Board occurring during the April
46 timeframe.

47

48 Thank you, Madame Chair.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any comments

1 from the Council.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Moving
6 on. Who's going to do the MOU. Okay, Kathy.

7

8 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: I'll move on to
9 the MOU, Madame Chair. What I wanted to let the
10 Council know is the State and the Federal Subsistence
11 Board met on this item at the last Board work session
12 in June. At that point the State of Alaska was not
13 ready to sign a draft MOU with the modifications that
14 the working group provided them and that was vetted
15 through all the Councils and the ACs as well.

16

17 So the decision at that point, the
18 State offered to take this back, work on a more
19 simplified language to the MOU, which we have not
20 received yet. We're continuing to work with the State
21 and see when we will get that language and are hoping
22 that we'll have something to present when the Board
23 meets again at its work session in January. If that
24 occurs, then we could provide the Councils an update at
25 your winter meeting.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: What was the
28 State's issue on the MOU again? I think it was covered
29 last time we met.

30

31 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: The reasons given
32 for not being ready to sign the MOU at that point was
33 that the State was looking for -- and the ACs were
34 recommending to the State to look for a more simple
35 language. They did not see a substantial change from
36 the previous MOU and they would like to see the State
37 and the Board working in that direction. So at the
38 meeting the State offered to prepare a more simple
39 language and then start the discussion again with the
40 MOU workgroup so we could have something prepared for
41 your review.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
44 comments, questions.

45

46 MR. HILL: Could you go into what that
47 MOU is about? This is my first time here with this
48 board and if you'd just give me a short opening to it.

49

50 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: So an MOU is a

1 memorandum of understanding. What that does is just
2 line out how both sides agree to work together. The
3 reason that it's being addressed at this point is
4 during the Secretary's review the Secretary asked that
5 we sit down and look at a series of different things.
6 The MOU was one of those. That we take a look at the
7 existing MOU and see if there's any modifications. In
8 addition, the current MOU is scheduled to expire next
9 year. So that's prompting that. Basically an MOU is
10 just how both parties intend to work together.

11
12 MR. HILL: I understand what an MOU is,
13 but what are the criteria that you're looking at? What
14 are the points that people don't agree on?

15
16 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: To answer your
17 question, at this point I don't think it's specific
18 points that are not in agreement. It's just the
19 lengthiness and maybe the wording that's been chosen in
20 the previous MOU that there's an interest in
21 simplifying that as far as moving forward. I would be
22 happy to provide you a copy with the last draft of the
23 MOU. It's several pages long. So in order to get into
24 the specifics I don't have that here with me right now,
25 but I would be happy to give you that.

26
27 MR. HILL: Yes, if you would, please.

28
29 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Okay.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other
32 comments.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Madame Chair. If
37 I can add just one more thing that I didn't have on the
38 agenda, but I just wanted to bring to the Council's
39 attention is that we have just migrated from our old
40 website to a new website and that was a result of our
41 server being shut down because it needed to be retired.
42 So we're in the process of migrating right now. If you
43 look at the website as it is, it may not appear as
44 you've used it in the past. What we're trying to do is
45 get the information up there for you that you need. So
46 if there are things there that you would like to see
47 that would help you in your decision process, please
48 let us know. We have a priority list of how things are
49 being reloaded onto the new site. Any input from you
50 would be helpful.

1 We've also just launched a new Facebook
2 site to provide information to the public on the rural
3 determination process, so that's available too. What I
4 will do -- I have a copy of the announcement here. If
5 any of you have any Smartphones, you can scan that if
6 you're on Facebook and if you want to share that with
7 others too. It's a way for us to get out information
8 as to what we're doing here.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Moving on to
13 number 6. I guess George Pappas, if you're online, we
14 need the update on fisheries.

15

16 MR. PAPPAS: Good afternoon, Madame
17 Chair. George Pappas, OSM. I have two items for you.
18 One is the update on the fishery from 2011-2013. The
19 second item is the Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposal
20 Number 40. I assume you were handed a two-sided piece
21 of paper. One has tables of harvest and the other side
22 has the proposal.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We have one
25 side, the proposal, but we don't have the other
26 information.

27

28 MR. PAPPAS: Oh. Well, I can walk
29 through this with you. Basically we were asked through
30 the annual letter from the RAC to provide information
31 on the non-subsistence fisheries. There are three
32 tables that are supposed to be on the back side of that
33 piece of paper, but we'll get that to you. The
34 information on the tables include subsistence harvest,
35 sport harvest and guiding harvest and home pack harvest
36 for the Chignik management area.

37

38 During 2010-2011, the Alaska Department
39 of Fish and Game Subsistence Division completed a usage
40 study of Chignik communities harvest and that was part
41 of the survey. They were able to project harvest of
42 subsistence for the 2011 year. The 2012 year
43 information will not be available. It will likely be
44 available December 2013 before the upcoming Board of
45 Fisheries meeting.

46

47 Just for your information, it looks
48 like 81 permits were returned in 2011 with the harvest
49 of 52 chinook, 10,578 sockeye, 1,458 coho, 1,289 pinks
50 and about 355 chums. That was from the subsistence

1 harvest. Again, the 2012 information is not available
2 yet and the 2013 information should be available spring
3 2014. All this information has been collected through
4 a request to Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

5
6 Switching over to the sport fisheries,
7 we have that in two categories. It's the sport fishery
8 and the guiding sport fishery. While the Chignik area
9 has such a low participation in the sport fishery, it's
10 not detected in the Statewide harvest survey. So
11 information has not been available from the harvest
12 survey that shows how many fish are caught by non-
13 guided anglers out there.

14
15 Now, in accordance to a rough estimate
16 or a general rule of thumb from the non-guided anglers
17 in the Chignik River, half of them are new crew out
18 there. We estimate the number to be about 30 to 40
19 king salmon per year are harvested by non-guided
20 anglers. As the folks in Chignik have seen, there has
21 been some growth in the guided activity in the last 10
22 years. In 2011, this is all from guiding log books. A
23 very good source of information for harvest.

24
25 In 2011, there were 207 angler days.
26 That means one person fishing one day. So 207 angler
27 days took place in the Chignik River and harvested 254
28 kings, 14 sockeye and zero others came out of that.
29 2012, the guided sport fishermen out of 165 angler
30 days, 61 kings, 6 sockeye and 44 coho. In 2013, the
31 information should be available in spring of 2014 once
32 they have the information processed.

33
34 Are you following along, Madame Chair.

35
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Trying to.
37 Thanks for going along slower than -- slower so we
38 could keep up.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MR. PAPPAS: You bet. I get excited
43 sometimes here. The last category of harvest would be
44 home packed from the commercial fishery. Now that's
45 easily gleaned from the commercial fisheries fish
46 ticket database. In 2011, it looks like there were 50
47 home packs and those home packs consisted of 142
48 chinook, 323 sockeye and 16 coho. In 2012, it looks
49 like there are 51 chinook, 513 sockeye, 22 pinks and
50 240 chums. Oh, home packs for 2013 we had 48 reported

1 instances of folks taking fish home from the commercial
2 harvest, which included 85 kings, 587 sockeye, 28 coho
3 and zero pinks or chums.

4
5 That's basically total harvest for the
6 last three years. More information will be available
7 before the Board of Fish and the rest of it should be
8 available in the spring. That will be from Fish and
9 Game. I'll see if we can get you a copy of these
10 tables by the time your meeting concludes.

11
12 In addition, the Federal subsistence
13 fishery was initiated this summer for rod and reel.
14 That was something new that the Federal Subsistence
15 Board passed last year. We don't have information how
16 many permits were issued and returned because they're
17 not due yet. I understand some permits were issued,
18 but they were issued just a couple days before the
19 sport fishery -- all fisheries closed.

20
21 So, for the status of 2012 and '13, the
22 Chignik River chinook returns were poor. During both
23 years the sport fishery was restricted or closed. In
24 2013, all fisheries targeting chinook salmon closed to
25 retention. This included requiring the commercial
26 fishermen to live release all chinook salmon caught in
27 seines and closure of the Federal subsistence chinook
28 salmon fishery. So when the permits went out for the
29 Federal subsistence fishery, it closed just a couple
30 days later, so we don't know if there was any harvest
31 from Federal subsistence users yet. During 2012, the
32 Chignik River chinook salmon escapement goal was met,
33 but the goal was not met in 2013.

34
35 That's all the information I can glean
36 from the Department. They've been very helpful. We'll
37 get you a copy of the tables that were discussed and at
38 the next meeting we'll probably have more information
39 to fill in on this table.

40
41 Thank you, Madame Chair. Any
42 questions.

43
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any questions
45 for George.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.
50 Thank you. Then you'll be covering BOF 40 next?

1 MR. PAPPAS: Yes. I have it right
2 here. The Board of Fisheries Proposal No. 40. This
3 came from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. This
4 is to correct a change that was made to the regulation
5 5 AAC 15.357(b)(1) which governs the start of the
6 commercial fisheries in the Chignik area. They
7 installed the word shall during the co-op years, they
8 had a co-op going there. The intent of this proposal in
9 a nutshell is to switch the verbiage to may. So the
10 area manager, if this is adopted, would be able to hold
11 off the commercial fishery for a day or two, whatever
12 it takes, in case the run is weak or in case the run is
13 late.

14
15 Department comments from the last Board
16 of Fisheries, Chignik issues were discussed. About 80-
17 85 percent of the subsistence sockeye salmon fishery
18 takes place at the beginning of the year. People want
19 to grab their fish, it's good weather, there's time to
20 put them up before the commercial activities take
21 place.

22
23 Now, as the regulations are written, if
24 you get a shot of fish through the weir and even if
25 there's not much behind it, it looks like they have to
26 open the commercial fishery and that can really impact
27 subsistence users. So I called around to a lot of
28 folks about this proposal. I have not found any
29 opposition and the Chignik Advisory Committee voted
30 unanimously to support this. The comments that coming
31 out of the Federal Subsistence Management Program is
32 also to support this proposal.

33
34 I'd like to hear if you're interested
35 in taking action so I can report to the Board of Fish
36 and saying what the Bristol Bay RAC is -- if they
37 support this proposal or not. Basically it gives the
38 area manager flexibility to adapt to the numbers of
39 fish that show up and also would provide for more
40 subsistence opportunity during years of small runs,
41 weak runs up front or late runs up front.

42
43 Thank you, Madame Chair.

44
45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Do you
46 have any comments regarding this. I guess -- no, I'm
47 sorry. We're back to the proposal guidelines since
48 this is a proposal, right? Donald.

49
50 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. The Council

1 can either support this proposal or defer to the
2 proponent if the Council wishes to do so. You don't
3 have to follow our process here on proposals.

4
5 Thank you.

6
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

8
9 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. It would
10 have been nice if we'd had some of our reps from that
11 area to be here to help us with this. I feel a little
12 bit out of place to be moving forward on this proposal
13 when we don't have our reps from down there to help us
14 out here.

15
16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

17
18 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Madame Chair. I'm
19 looking over at Dan O'Hara. If he still flies down
20 that way, he's usually pretty closely plugged in down
21 there. Yeah, I was thinking the same thing as Richard.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I think
26 this position paper we have before us it's good in that
27 they have an emergency order and that's what Bristol
28 Bay lives and dies by. We have the early fisheries and
29 then it becomes at a certain date an emergency. They
30 had a good year this year as far as sockeye goes. They
31 really did well and the year before that they did well
32 and the year before that they had a magnificent run.
33 Chignik is looking pretty healthy. I don't think I
34 want John Hanson or somebody like that helping us, but
35 this is a good piece of paper as far as I'm concerned.

36
37 Thank you.

38
39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We miss
40 Alvin. This proposal reminds me of our practices up
41 here, so I don't have any opposition for it. This is
42 going to be going to the Board of Fish and they're
43 requesting us to act on it, then I think that's our
44 obligation.

45
46 Richard.

47
48 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I might ask
49 what's our timeline on this proposal here? Is it
50 something we have to act on now or can we do it in our

1 spring session?

2

3 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. This is
4 George Pappas. The Chignik finfish December 3 and the
5 comments are due November 19th, the written comments.
6 Somebody can testify at the meeting if somebody is
7 going to be there from Chignik if they want to or they
8 can send it in writing before that.

9

10 Thank you, Madame Chair.

11

12 Oh, one other piece of information.
13 Our draft comments from Office of Subsistence
14 Management basically say support, adopts this proposal
15 to grant fisheries managers some flexibility to
16 determine if the Chignik River sockeye salmon early
17 numbers are large enough to prosecute a commercial
18 fishery and provide for subsistence opportunity during
19 years of low return rates or late run timing. The
20 Federal Subsistence Program supports regulations, allow
21 inseason modification of manager practices in response
22 to resource abundance and timing. Inseason management
23 actions tailored to the strength and timing of a salmon
24 return will assist in continuance of subsistence
25 practices and address conservation concerns.

26

27 Thank you, Madame Chair.

28

29 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I think we
30 probably should make a motion to support it and then if
31 we hear from John Hanson or Alvin or maybe we could
32 call one of the refuge people up here who is from
33 Chignik if we could have Orville Lind, we wouldn't
34 mind.

35

36 MR. LIND: Orville Lind with the Alaska
37 Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. I did
38 talk with John Jones about a week and a half ago and he
39 mentioned that it was a good deal. I also talked with
40 Terry Stepanoff and they seemed to like it, so I can
41 share that.

42

43 MR. O'HARA: One other thing, Orville.
44 The committee down there, who handles -- what
45 department of the Feds handles the -- Mary McBurney
46 used to go down there all the time and.....

47

48 MR. LIND: The SRC?

49

50 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

1 MR. LIND: The Park Service?

2

3 MR. O'HARA: Have they addressed this

4 issue, do you know?

5

6 MR. LIND: I don't know. They talked

7 about it, but they did have a meeting down there at

8 Chignik Lake not too long ago. Troy maybe.

9

10 MR. HAMON: Through the Chair. My name

11 is Troy Hamon with the National Park Service. We did

12 have a meeting with the Chignik SRC and there was not

13 discussion of this proposal at that meeting. There was

14 some other discussion of related subsistence, changes

15 that have been made through the last few years for

16 salmon fishing in the Chigniks, but this Board of Fish

17 proposal was not addressed during our meeting.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

20

21 MR. WILSON: Is it an appropriate time

22 to make a motion to support Proposal 40?

23

24 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I'll second

25 that motion.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a

28 motion by Richard Wilson and seconded by Dan O'Hara to

29 adopt this proposal.

30

31 MR. O'HARA: Question.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has

34 been called. All in favor of Proposal 40 say aye.

35

36 IN UNISON: Aye.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any opposition.

39

40 (No opposing votes)

41

42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Carried. Thank

43 you. Let's take a five-minute break. I'm falling

44 asleep.

45

46 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, Madame Chair.

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,

49 George.

50

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We still have a
6 good hour, almost 45 minutes, so we'll move on down to
7 B and these are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
8 reports. The first one is Togiak National Wildlife
9 Refuge briefing. Andy Aderman.

10

11 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you, Madame Chair.
12 My name is Andy Aderman, Togiak National Wildlife
13 Refuge. In your book starting on Page 146 is an
14 information bulletin. A few things I just wanted to
15 touch on here. The first is at the top of or near the
16 top of Page 146. We have a new Refuge Manager Susanna
17 Henry. She came on board in late May. She's currently
18 in Anchorage attending ANILCA training, so she couldn't
19 be here at this meeting. I'm sure she looks forward to
20 your winter meeting.

21

22 Togiak Refuge continues to assist the
23 Alaska Department of Fish and Game with Mulchatna
24 Caribou. This includes telemetry monitoring flights,
25 helping to deploy radio collars,
26 satellite data. We have some satellite collars out
27 there on caribou. That's one of my jobs is to get that
28 and also to get all the information into a database.

29

30 Nothing really new in the way of
31 calving areas. There continues to be two primary
32 calving areas. One up by Lime Village, also referred
33 to as the Tundra Lake calving area. The other one is
34 near Kemuk Mountain, a little northeast of Dillingham
35 here. Lesser numbers of calving caribou are seen in
36 Unit 18 in the southern Kilbuck Mountains.

37

38 As mentioned earlier, there was a photo
39 census attempted in July. I talked to the research
40 biologist with the Department yesterday. They don't
41 have an answer or that data is not analyzed yet. He
42 couldn't give me a date when that would be completed.
43 There was a composition survey done last week, so a
44 little bit later than we normally do it. I've got some
45 preliminary numbers, but I'm a little reluctant until I
46 hear back from Fish and Game to give those to you. I
47 can tell you what they are, but they're subject to
48 change.

49

50 Moving on to the Nushagak Peninsula

1 Caribou, the top of Page 148. Just kind of go back to
2 last winter, the 2012-2013 hunting seasons, which
3 occurred in the months of August and September and then
4 December 1st through the end of March. There were 9
5 taken in the fall season, 100 taken in the winter
6 season. That's the third highest harvest on that herd
7 since hunting began in 1995.

8
9 We continue to maintain radio collars
10 on this herd. We deployed four in early April. Had
11 pretty good calving by our adults and we also had four
12 two-year-olds produce calves. We only had four 2-year
13 olds that were radiocollared, which is a sign that
14 they're doing pretty well.

15
16 In early July we conducted a photo
17 census. We found a minimum of 926 caribou. That's up
18 two dozen from the year before. For the fall hunt we
19 made available 70 permits and I know of only four, all
20 bulls, that were reported taken here in August and
21 September. Those permits are still good if people
22 didn't use them or were unsuccessful. They're still
23 good for the winter hunt, which will again be December
24 1st through the end of March.

25
26 We also got a composition survey done
27 on the herd last week. The estimates are 40.3 calves
28 per 100 cows, 32.2 bulls per 100 cows. Both those
29 figures are pretty good. They're actually a decrease
30 from the year before both on the bulls and the cows.
31 We had 50 calves per 100 cows last fall. A lot of
32 those are yearlings now and they're classified as cows
33 if they're female and classified as bulls otherwise.

34
35 We plan to get with the Nushagak
36 Peninsula Caribou Planning Committee possibly here in
37 November or later to discuss management. We don't have
38 anything, I guess, real earth shaking. Just like to go
39 over the information with them and decide how many more
40 permits we want to issue for the winter hunt.

41
42 MR. HALL: Andy, I have a question.
43 Through the Chair. The Nushagak Peninsula Caribou
44 harvest, when were most of these 109 caribou harvested?
45 What time of the year?

46
47 MR. ADERMAN: Through the Chair.
48 Member Hill. Most of the caribou are harvested in
49 March.

50

1 MR. HILL: Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: I missed the bull to cow
6 ratio for this year.
7
8 MR. ADERMAN: Through the Chair.
9 Member Dunaway. For the Nushagak Peninsula Herd it was
10 40.3 calves per 100 cows and 32.2 bulls per 100 cows.
11
12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Andy, I notice
13 that there's just three communities here. Did the
14 other communities like Fox Point and Togiak drop out?
15
16 MR. ADERMAN: I wouldn't call it
17 dropping out. I think there's not an interest at least
18 for the fall to hunt. There's been a little bit of
19 interest hunting in the winter from Togiak and Twin
20 Hills in the past. Actually I sent some permits over
21 to Clark late in the season last year, but none got
22 issued. To my knowledge they have never participated in
23 that hunt even though they're part of the C&T for that
24 herd.
25
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: What is your
27 months for the fall hunt? I see and know that the
28 harvests are really low, but it's good to hear that
29 those permits are still good for winter hunt. But
30 what's the months for the fall hunt?
31
32 MR. ADERMAN: The season in the fall is
33 August 1 through September 30.
34
35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
36 you. Dan.
37
38 MR. O'HARA: Andy, did your herd ever
39 reach 1,200? What's the average numbers? Are they
40 pretty consistent or going down?
41
42 MR. ADERMAN: Through the Chair.
43 Member O'Hara. Well, right now we know of a minimum of
44 900 and it's fluctuated over the years. It got as high
45 as 1,400 total caribou, most of which were on the
46 peninsula. There were some off, as Member Abraham
47 talked about, kind of over towards Twin Hills area. It
48 started from 146 reintroduced and it climbed up to
49 about that 1,400 in '97, '98, and then it dropped down
50 to about 550 in the mid 2000s and now it's back on the

1 increase.

2

3 MR. WILSON: I just had a comment. Can
4 we take some of those back now?

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, it's a
9 good thing those caribou aren't homing. I guess my
10 other question would be the caribou that you monitor, I
11 guess you manage, you do manage, they're not fenced in,
12 they travel, especially over towards the west. So do
13 you just manage the ones that are just in that area and
14 you forget about the ones that have gone off the chart?

15

16 MR. ADERMAN: Madame Chair. I
17 neglected to say, I guess, maybe the Nushagak Peninsula
18 Caribou hunt is a Federal subsistence permit hunt.
19 It's the only one around this area. As such, it
20 prescribes the area which is essentially just the
21 Nushagak Peninsula we know that caribou have and do go
22 off or outside the hunt area. We have tried to manage
23 that through the regulation there. We keep it closed,
24 but we allow the possibility if, say, Mulchatna Caribou
25 got in there in great numbers.

26

27 Sort of the interesting thing is these
28 caribou have pretty much stayed on the Peninsula.
29 Yeah, they've gone off a couple times and we try to get
30 down there once a month, sometimes a little longer than
31 that, so they could go off and on and we'd never know
32 it unless we hear it from somebody else. By and large
33 they call that Peninsula home. It wouldn't surprise me
34 if at some point they decided to pick up and leave, but
35 so far they're sticking there. They're on the
36 increase.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: By the way, this
39 area is the first time I've heard that wolves eat
40 salmon, so I guess that's still true. Is there any
41 more comments, questions.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. You're
46 moving on?

47

48 MR. ADERMAN: Yes, if that's okay. I
49 just had one more thing I wanted to talk to. It's
50 further down on Page 148. With moose, not a real lot

1 to report there. Of course, you know the management
2 plan was signed. We are planning to conduct a moose
3 population survey in 17A if we have the conditions this
4 winter. We continue to maintain radio collar and
5 monitor them. Calf production was down a little bit in
6 our adults, but I know of at least seven out of 14
7 2-year-olds that produced calves. One of those had
8 twins, which is almost unheard of. It's like an adult
9 having triplets. It happens, but it's pretty rare.

10

11 Just an update on the 17A fall moose
12 hunt. As of last Friday there were 149 permits issued
13 for that hunt. I think the highest number for the fall
14 hunt there were 20 moose reported harvested. These
15 should have been all bulls, but there were still 39
16 permittees that hadn't reported yet, so that number will
17 likely go up by a few. The last three years I think
18 the average has been about 28 moose in the fall.

19

20 That's all I have.

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

23

24 MR. O'HARA: Andy, kind of interesting.
25 I was flying for PenAir and was down on the -- I think
26 I was down between Pilot Point and Port Heiden and I
27 picked up a couple of hunters and they said that when
28 they landed they spent the night and they were waiting
29 to get flown out to a spike camp. So they walked out a
30 ways and they saw this moose dropping a calf, so they
31 took a picture of it, you know, they thought it was
32 pretty cool. She dropped another calf and as they were
33 standing there, they saw a movement out of their eye
34 and looked over to the right and here come a 10-foot
35 bear, which was his last day. They got the bear and
36 the calf got away. We put that hide -- I mean you know
37 it's always in a burlap bag, but it must have been
38 about 150 pounds. It was a really nice animal. It's
39 interesting to have somebody talk about two calves
40 being dropped. I've seen other times when there's been
41 two calves as well.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

44

45 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Andy, when
46 you guys get out to do your surveys in the winter for
47 the moose, are you in junction with the State people
48 also and, if so, is your calendar year pretty open or
49 do you guys just have a couple of windows? In the past
50 I've heard like November, December is your primary time

1 because the bulls are still carrying their horns and
2 after that it's kind of useless sort of thing? Is
3 there pretty good windows for trying to get those
4 counts and composition surveys?

5

6 MR. ADERMAN: To your first question,
7 yes, we do work cooperatively with the State. We're
8 kind of in charge of say the 17A moose survey that's
9 primarily on the Refuge. We do help out the Department
10 elsewhere where they're sort of the lead on it.

11

12 From my experience, we generally don't
13 get the snow conditions in November or early December
14 before antler drop, so we don't get the composition
15 portion of the survey. Other than we can get a minimum
16 calf percentage. Typically when we do a survey it's in
17 February or March, so it can be a fairly wide window.

18

19 If we have snow early on in February,
20 days are still a little bit short, but the main thing
21 is just getting complete snow cover and it's tough when
22 you have it 95-plus percent of the survey unit, but
23 they're kind of along the coast and the lower rivers,
24 the Kulukak and Togiak and in between and it's not
25 completely white. We know from experience that you try
26 to count -- you can count moose but you're going to
27 miss a lot. You really need to have that fully white
28 background. So it's a little bit of art to when we can
29 actually pull it off.

30

31 MR. WILSON: So are you guys kind of
32 like on a stand-by mode once December or January rolls
33 around? You're really anxious to get out there and do
34 it. Can you like just drop in a week and get it done
35 or does budget let you do that? Is that pretty well
36 open to what you guys can do?

37

38 MR. ADERMAN: Yeah, you know, and
39 besides the ground being white it helps to have winds
40 not that strong. Yeah, line up pilots and sometimes
41 they have their own windows because they're obligated
42 to other stuff. We've generally been able to make it
43 work when we've got conditions.

44

45 MR. WILSON: I know we've had this
46 discussion a bit over on the Unit 9 side there and
47 trying to get some numbers and things. Some suggestions
48 were like -- because there were days in the spring when
49 we had full coverage, good days, like a week long, but
50 the pilot was gone, the one pilot that they had. So, a

1 suggestion there that maybe if you had some legal
2 contract, people that you go to, like over there at one
3 point it was Dale Meyers, some private -- somebody that
4 carries insurance that can go and help in these kind of
5 things. That was one suggestion I know that we had to
6 help get this done if there's something outside of just
7 the Federal or State people that can help to do this
8 who are more than willing to participate.

9

10 MR. ADERMAN: Yeah, we use private air
11 taxis to get these done. Maybe one of our observers
12 riding with that air taxi. We have to jump through
13 some hoops. We just can't hire any air taxis. Their
14 plane has to be approved. We have used Staff from the
15 Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge in the past. They've
16 assisted us in getting moose counted on the Togiak
17 Refuge and I'm sure we'd reciprocate if it works out
18 with our pilot and observer or maybe just send a pilot.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Do you have any
21 other areas you're going to highlight?

22

23 MR. ADERMAN: Not at this time, Madame
24 Chair.

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any comments,
27 questions for Andy.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank
32 you, Andy. Again, I've always appreciated your reports
33 because you list your resources by name and we don't
34 have to turn pages to get the points across to us, so
35 thank you for the layout of your report, again.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess next one
42 on our agenda -- we're going to finish our agenda
43 before 4:30 -- is Alaska Peninsula/Becharof folks.

44

45 MR. PAPPAS: Madame Chair. This is
46 George Pappas. Can I interrupt for 30 seconds?

47

48 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: You can.

49

50 MR. PAPPAS: I just spoke with Alvin

1 Boskofsky. He does support Proposal No. 40. He likes
2 the idea. A review happened last summer. Last summer
3 a shot of fish went through the weir, commercial
4 fisheries opened, there was not much behind it. The
5 subsistence users did not do well at the Chignik Lake
6 area during their traditional time to catch fish. So
7 he is in support of this. He is also in support of
8 rural communications early in the season between all
9 stakeholders to ensure that everybody understands where
10 the fish are, where the buildup is, if people meet
11 their subsistence needs, et cetera. So he is in
12 support.

13

14 Thank you, Madame Chair.

15

16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
17 George, for the update for our information.

18

19 Okay.

20

21 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you, Madame
22 Chair. I'm Susan Alexander. I wanted to just take a
23 moment to introduce myself to the Council. I'm the new
24 Refuge Manager for Alaska Peninsula and Becharof
25 National Wildlife Refuges in King Salmon. I came here
26 from three years in Arkansas, but before that in Alaska
27 for 25 years. The first time off the railbelt, so I'm
28 glad to be here.

29

30 Our summary begins on Page 152 in your
31 book and we'll just hit some of the highlights. I'll
32 let Dom fill you in.

33

34 MR. WATTS: Madame Chair. Members of
35 the Board. Dominique Watts for the record, Fish and
36 Wildlife Service in King Salmon. I presented most of
37 this moose data at the last meeting and nothing has
38 changed. We'll have our new survey data hopefully if
39 we get some snow this year for you at the next meeting.

40

41 Just some highlights from that. As
42 Richard was talking about in Unit 9, we usually don't
43 get snow cover prior to our December 10 cut off. One
44 way we've adjusted to that is trying to do population
45 surveys in February when we're more likely to have
46 snow. This year we didn't really get that at least in
47 the survey areas, but to provide additional information
48 what I started doing is composition surveys. So
49 basically what I'm doing there is going through these
50 same areas but just trying to get that composition data

1 that's going to give you an indication whether the
2 population is healthy or not.

3
4 We saw an overall population there in
5 9C and the northern parts of 9E, so basically from
6 Cinder River north a bull/cow ratio of 48 per 100 cows,
7 which is great. That's well within the ADF&G
8 management objectives. It's important to note though
9 that that 438 number is not a population estimate for
10 that area. There's a lot more moose in there. We're
11 also sticking to the Bristol Bay side. That was just
12 where we had snow. What we see is those continuing
13 chronically low calf recruitment. 18 calves per 100
14 cows I think, if I remember correctly. And we didn't
15 get any of the population surveys. Just lack of snow.

16
17 We had the Federal subsistence brown
18 bear season and we didn't have any applicants for that.
19 I don't have any new caribou data for you. Lem and
20 crew are out doing the composition surveys as we speak,
21 so nothing new there.

22
23 I'll run you through some of the bird
24 projects we accomplished this year, some inventory of
25 monitoring breeding bird surveys, Alaska land bird
26 monitoring survey. We hosted International Migratory
27 Bird Day. We had a Shorebird Festival and a Christmas
28 Bird Count.

29
30 Refuge Staff conducted Tundra Swan
31 surveys during August and I don't think they provided
32 any numbers yet, so they're still crunching the
33 numbers. They also did some ptarmigan density surveys.
34 It looks like they're coming up with one ptarmigan per
35 nine acres. I think they're still reevaluating kind of
36 the way they do those surveys.

37
38 They also started a pilot study to look
39 at baseline owl species presence abundance. They
40 completed five surveys and they detected one Boreal Owl
41 and a Northern Saw-Whet Owl and eight Great-Horned
42 Owls.

43
44 Staff in King Salmon also had a bunch
45 of volunteers and got kids together to talk about
46 cavity nesting birds. They did like an educational
47 program and then helped them build bird houses and got
48 all the wood together for them. Then they monitored
49 those as part of a nest monitoring program to look at
50 Tree Swallow nests, fledging dates and reproduction.

1 So that covers that. Thank you.
2
3 MS. ALEXANDER: Before I move on are
4 there any questions.
5
6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.
7
8 MR. DUNAWAY: The one thing I was
9 curious about, I was reading this last night, and
10 whoever did the ptarmigan surveys they used easily
11 accessed places and I was wondering if the abundance or
12 density could have been affected by hunting activity
13 because that's probably where most of the hunting
14 happens. Just curious.
15
16 MR. WATTS: Yeah. No, that's one issue
17 they were having and I think that's why they were
18 trying a new survey technique. They were hiking in
19 farther. But, you're absolutely right, they were
20 basically accessing any place you could get dropped in
21 a float plane or a gravel bar and sand blows. So they
22 were worried about that. But the other option being
23 helicopter work. It's pretty expensive, so they just
24 went with the airplane access points.
25
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Just one more comment
27 then. Well, that sounds like a lot more variety. I
28 had envisioned the few strips and beaches. I hadn't
29 thought of float access and sand blows, so that isn't
30 quite as concentrated. So, okay. Thanks.
31
32 MR. O'HARA: I didn't get your first
33 name.
34
35 MR. WATTS: Dominique.
36
37 MR. O'HARA: Dominique, okay. There's
38 a couple areas that are really hit pretty hard by --
39 the ptarmigan, for instance, the Bible Camp there at
40 Becharof Lake there's a guide that has a strip up on a
41 hill and he drops his guys off down there. That's a
42 big blow, plus three nice streams as far as fishing
43 goes and they concentrate a lot on it. They really
44 take a lot of ptarmigan out of there.
45
46 The other place is Jensen strip, which
47 it's a very big strip. It's unmaintained, but you can
48 land anything in there. I forget the young guy who is
49 a guide there and he takes a lot of people, but there
50 are still a good amount of ptarmigan in both areas as

1 much as they're hunted. If you can't get out to camp
2 and you want to go do some hunting, you can go get a
3 ptarmigan. So I do appreciate that survey because it's
4 a pretty good bird.

5
6 That owl, what kind of an owl was it
7 they found?

8
9 MR. WATTS: For the record, a Boreal
10 Own and a Northern Saw-Whet Owl.

11
12 MR. O'HARA: Are you familiar with the
13 Arctic Owls or the Snowy Owls?

14
15 MR. WATTS: I am. I've actually never
16 seen one. I know Dick Russell has seen one or two in
17 kind of boom years when there's a lot of rodents
18 around. I guess they'll come far enough south. I've
19 never seen one and I can defer to Sherri if she knows
20 anything.

21
22 MR. O'HARA: I've seen several of them.
23 We lived at Peterson Point. Drove our kids over five
24 miles across the tundra and almost every day that one
25 Arctic would be sitting there and he'd look at us as
26 we'd roll by. It was pretty cool.

27
28 MR. WATTS: That actually reminds me I
29 did see one by Egegik one time. I flew over it.

30
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

32
33 MR. WILSON: Thanks, Madame Chair.
34 Dominique, one question. I'm on 152 and I'm looking at
35 your briefing there. The second paragraph down you
36 observed 438 moose overall in these units. I guess I'm
37 just curious. We haven't seen these kinds of
38 populations in our area over there and I'm just
39 wondering what areas you're actually seeing these kind
40 of populations in. Is it strictly on Federal lands
41 that you're seeing this or is this both -- are you guys
42 in conjunction with the State and seeing some on State
43 land too or where is this number coming from?

44
45 MR. WATTS: So for that composition
46 survey in particular, I've gone through kind of the
47 drainages there, but that Big Creek area, the Kejulik,
48 Ugashik, surveyed around Blue Mountain and that Upper
49 Mother Goose Drainage and then kind of that strip of
50 really good habitat from there around the Cinder River.

1 In this case, I've concentrated my effort where I'm
2 going to see the most moose, so I'm skipping around.
3 If I get snow in the spring, I'll do an actual trend
4 count. Those are limited, but these are kind of set
5 survey areas, like the Park border, there's a big
6 chunk. They're the same survey areas every year if we
7 can get to them, but the composition survey I'm just
8 tearing through there trying to high grade basically.
9 I go where I know there's a lot of moose just so I can
10 get a bigger count for the composition. But that
11 survey was from Cinder River north.

12

13 MR. O'HARA: I have as many hours, I
14 think, about 26,000 hours in Bristol Bay and just
15 continual complaints from the local people on how the
16 guides are coming in and taking away all the animals.
17 Actually, the biggest commercial hunting is a long,
18 long ways from the villages. In the villages, people
19 would not get to those areas just because -- unless
20 they've got really good equipment and they usually
21 don't. But those areas, those drainages, you have a
22 lot of browse, that's where you can find a moose.
23 They're all in there and that's where they're at. We
24 can't reach them. Butch King can get 14, you know, and
25 he takes all the meat to the villages. He spends all
26 his time packing the meat to the villages. It's an
27 interesting situation. Yours is an easy job. Just
28 count them.

29

30 MR. WATTS: You're absolutely right.
31 You do bring a good point. We talked about the State
32 versus Federal land. In this case, I'm basically
33 concerned about the moose, which move back and forth,
34 so I'm not limiting myself to just Federal or just
35 State lands. Usually I'm going to coordinate with the
36 State too. If we have good weather and they've got a
37 pilot, like Dale is available or something, they're
38 going to go to this area, I'm going to go to the next
39 one so we're not doubling up our effort.

40

41 That said, for moose, like you were
42 saying, the primary habitats were mostly on those
43 Federal lands. When you get off the Refuge lands,
44 you're really out in the flats and you're in caribou
45 country.

46

47 MR. O'HARA: You know, 40 percent of
48 the land is Federal and it's on the east side, all the
49 way over to the ocean. Then from Ugashik to the
50 shoreline it's 40 percent and that's State and that's

1 pretty much open country and the other 10 is Native
2 lands. Everything that is going to be moose oriented is
3 going to be in your drainages and your browse are,
4 which is the way the Peninsula is laid out and it's
5 going to be Federal.

6

7 MR. HILL: Dom, through the Chair, a
8 question on your moose survey. Is it too difficult to
9 do any radiocollaring or have you looked at it that
10 much?

11

12 MR. WATTS: Well, for caribou we
13 usually keep a bunch of collared caribou and we're
14 doing cooperative work with the State on that, so that
15 helps us locate the caribou. In the case of the moose,
16 they don't seem to move quite as much, so we just do
17 the survey data. I've got 30 radiocollared moose and
18 I'm looking at reproduction and survival of not only
19 the cows, but the important thing I wanted to look at
20 was calf survival because like this data shows your
21 bull/cow ratios are basically right where you want them
22 if not better. Maybe a little on the high side. What
23 you don't see is those calves when you come into the
24 October fall recruitment. Usually if a calf makes it
25 then it's going to do pretty well.

26

27 One of the things I wanted to look at
28 was that calf survival. A calf study is very, very
29 expensive and labor intensive. The way I got the same
30 data is collared a bunch of females and then collared
31 those short yearlings. The things I'm interested in is
32 that adult female survival and reproduction. So in the
33 spring I check those females as often as I can. This
34 summer I had wonderful weather, so I checked them
35 daily. It was great.

36

37 The points I'm interested there is the
38 twinning rates. Well, reproduction for one, who's
39 having calves, what percentage of the females are
40 dropping calves. Twinning rates is a good indication
41 of body condition, so that's really important. Then
42 I'm following those females through the first six
43 weeks, which is kind of that critical period for calves
44 and that gives me an idea. If the calves are dying
45 early, a lot of times it's things like predators. If
46 they're dying slowly, later, over the next few months,
47 it could be a variety of factors, diseases, things like
48 that, malnutrition.

49

50 So, yeah, I definitely have some

1 collared cows and most of those are going to be between
2 King Salmon and just south of Egegik River down to
3 Jensen Strip is where I have those. I've actually seen
4 very good body condition and really really high
5 twinning rate, so it doesn't look like the body
6 condition or poor habitat is the main limiting factor
7 there, but what you see is those calves aren't there in
8 the fall.

9

10 MR. HILL: What about the bear
11 population in those areas?

12

13 MR. WATTS: I don't have any bear data
14 for those areas. We don't conduct any surveys there.

15

16 MR. HILL: Okay. Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Anybody else.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my
23 question would be do you folks have a different budget,
24 a good budget, to do whatever you need to do?

25

26 MS. ALEXANDER: I'll attempt to answer
27 that question, Madame Chair. Like the OSM folks, we
28 are in the position of a declining budget. We lost
29 \$50,000 last year out of our budget and we'll probably
30 take another hit again this year. Of course, like
31 them, we don't know yet. Last year, also because we
32 had two major incidents, we had one of our quarters
33 buildings burn down and our research vessel sunk and
34 both of those incidents cost a lot of money, so we had
35 to scale back on summer seasonal help and some of our
36 smaller programs and just focus on our core.

37

38 The work that Dom was just describing
39 to you is that core that we focused on. I, being new,
40 am still in the position of trying to evaluate how much
41 work we'll be able to do in the coming year because
42 hopefully we won't have any more major disasters to
43 have to either deal with or pay for. So I wish I could
44 give you a better feel for what our budget level will
45 look like in the coming year, but I don't know what
46 Congress will do and I'm still trying to figure out how
47 much we can do with given resources minus disasters.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. The
2 reason why I asked, I can swallow Tundra Swan surveys
3 and also ptarmigan, but I have a question about owls.
4 I don't know how much you spend on owl surveys, but I
5 don't eat owls and I don't know who else does.

6
7 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you, Madame
8 Chair. I honestly don't know the cost of that survey
9 either. Obviously that's one of the pieces that I'm
10 going to need to be taking a close look at with my
11 staff over the next few months and setting priorities.
12 That said, obviously game populations and subsistence
13 populations in particular are of major importance to
14 us, but we do also have some responsibility for non-
15 game species.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

20
21 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. If it gets
22 down to where there's funding needed for us to have
23 updated surveys here twice a year to have the most
24 recent years funding, I believe that there's a lot of
25 community effort that would go out to help fund those
26 surveys. I just would encourage that and encourage you
27 guys to kind of dig in on that a bit. If there's ways
28 to communicate with BBNC or other regional corporations
29 here or local corporations or whatever funding is
30 available.

31
32 It's important, I think, for -- and I
33 just want to emphasize it is very important for us to
34 have some real updated information here on a yearly
35 basis so that we can go back to our people and tell
36 them what's really going on. I think we'd stretch
37 ourselves out there and make funding or some funding
38 available if needed so we don't have to come back here
39 next year and say, well, we didn't have the funding,
40 you know. We couldn't do it because of funding or
41 something. I guess I don't want to hear that.

42
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Go ahead.

44
45 MS. ALEXANDER: Thank you, Madame Chair
46 and member Wilson. I appreciate that genuinely and I
47 hope not to have to sit here and tell you that critical
48 information is not available because of funding. I
49 believe that some of -- and I'll ask Dom to speak to
50 this in a moment -- that some of the reason that we

1 sometimes do not have updated information for you is
2 the timing of when the surveys take place and not
3 because they're not happening for funding reasons. I
4 don't believe any of the critical surveys and the work
5 that Dom does in relation to game management -- none of
6 that was eliminated last year because of funding. It
7 was more peripheral projects.

8

9 Dom, would you speak to that a little
10 bit. Thank you.

11

12 MR. WATTS: Usually the main limiting
13 factor if we don't get surveys done it's just snow,
14 like Andy was saying. You've got to have at least
15 reasonable snow conditions. If we don't have that
16 within that timeframe too, it's not as simple as, well,
17 if it snows in January this year and then it snows in
18 March this year we go out and do it because you all
19 know the moose are moving in and out of these areas
20 those time of year, moving on and off wintering
21 grounds, moving to calving grounds, et cetera. We are
22 kind of constrained in some ways to certain time
23 periods and if we don't get the weather conditions --
24 sometimes the snow is great, but it's blowing 50 and I
25 can't go in the mountains anymore, you know, things
26 like that.

27

28 That said, I think -- I understand your
29 concern, Richard, and I think that moose data and
30 caribou data are going to be priority number one most
31 of the time. I don't really see us coming to tell you
32 -- well, I don't do a lot of the regional budget level
33 stuff, but I don't see that taking as big a hit as some
34 other things or surveys maybe Molly has pointed out.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other
39 comments. I think we're satisfied.

40

41 MR. O'HARA: I'd like to hear from one
42 of our local guys, Orville, give us a little report on
43 Science Camp. Can you do that? It's in our deal, but
44 I think it's good for people to hear that we have young
45 people going out and looking at things. Even the
46 funding there came in pretty good. Didn't mean to put
47 you on the spot, Orville, but I think you can handle
48 it.

49

50 MR. LIND: You bet. I was practicing

1 all night.

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5 MR. LIND: My name is Orville Lind,
6 Alaska Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge.
7 Besides being Native liaison ranger, environmental
8 educator. One of the highlights of my job is actually
9 being involved in science camp. What I like to call it
10 is spirit camp. This year we cut our funding, so we
11 didn't have any money to do the camp. Staff and
12 myself, we put our heads together and brain stormed on
13 who could we ask for money. Now policy says that we've
14 got to be very careful in asking people for money. We
15 can't really do that, but we certainly can ask somebody
16 else to ask. So what we've done this year was we.....

17

18 (Music playing over speaker)

19

20 MR. LIND: Well, you know, we do music
21 at Science Camp too.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. LIND: So I'm not surprised. We
26 just don't do that kind of music. So, anyway, we put
27 our heads together and brain stormed on who we can get
28 to ask and we had a friend's group who was able to ask
29 some people. We had a list we put together and we
30 basically targeted everybody. As some of you members
31 mentioned, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, we looked at
32 the fish canneries, companies out of Bristol Bay,
33 village councils, and we were able to come up with some
34 money to have camp at King Salmon.

35

36 The camp out in Becharof Lake costs
37 about \$17,000, which we didn't have, but we were able
38 to secure almost \$5,400 for camp this year. What we
39 did is involve two school districts, which was Lake and
40 Pen School District and the Bristol Bay School District
41 in Naknek. We were on a two-week crunch. I mean we
42 had to put this together in two weeks. Julia, our
43 visitor services manager, did an awesome job in
44 communicating and actually putting this camp together
45 in two weeks.

46

47 We hosted 12 students from both school
48 districts. We also had two teachers from the Lake and
49 Pen School District. We provided food and lodging for
50 the students and the chaperones.

1 Now this camp, what we do here is we
2 introduce the ecosystem. We teach them how the Fish
3 and Wildlife Service deals with land management issues,
4 wildlife issues, also to be observant of what's around
5 them. One of the things that we do is we involve our
6 scientists, our local biologist, and we also involve
7 elders, like Paul Boskofsky and myself, as a Native way
8 of knowing instructors.

9
10 So what we do at camp is we actually
11 will introduce maybe a bear. The biologist will
12 introduce the bear, its behavior, habitat, its
13 adaptations and where the Native knowing way instructor
14 will talk about what the bear means to them, what it
15 provided, food, fur for clothing and all that stuff,
16 the cultural way. So they get the best of both Western
17 philosophies, which is great.

18
19 We have several modules we do there.
20 We do aquatics, photography, biological illustrations,
21 invasive species, plants, fungi, bear, salmon, local
22 history, local Native cultures, geology, GPS and
23 compass navigation, caribou, large mammals, research,
24 bird identification and banding, observation skills,
25 archaeology and ecology. So it's everything involved
26 in the area we live in. So we're introducing these
27 students who are 9th graders all the way up to 12th
28 grade to sort of shadow our staff, our biologist, our
29 scientist.

30
31 We even also involved the National Park
32 Service this year. They were very helpful, thanks to
33 Diane. We actually got to go out to Katmai Camp, Brooks
34 Camp, with the students out there to observe bears,
35 learn bear behavior and their habitat. Also looked at
36 the archaeological site out there with the cabin. We
37 spent a whole day out there doing that. It was really
38 great.

39
40 Our hope in the future is that we have
41 a camp at King Salmon one year and then the following
42 year we'll be able to go back out to Becharof Lake,
43 which is the former Bible Camp, which we call Bear
44 Creek now, to have camp out there.

45
46 So the whole focus beyond this is to
47 try to get young people to think about a career in the
48 Service. Basically you all know living in Alaska that
49 you were taught to take care of the land and the
50 animals, respect all that and, in turn, it would bless

1 you, right, or feed you and allow you to survive.
2 Well, the mission actually for the Fish and Wildlife
3 Service is the same. You protect and enhance all
4 wildlife, habitat and plants for the continued benefit
5 of all American people. So we stand on common ground
6 in doing this.

7

8 Like I said, it's the highlight of my
9 year and I look forward to doing it every year and it's
10 working. We've had kids call up and ask, you know, are
11 you going to have another type of camp or are you going
12 to have some work maybe in the future. I talk to them
13 about Fish and Wildlife Service careers, volunteering
14 sometime. Lord knows we can use a lot of volunteers.
15 The opportunity out there exists for all the students.

16

17 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

20

21 MR. O'HARA: You have been practicing
22 all night to talk. Thank you, Orville.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 MR. LIND: Yeah, you bet.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,
29 Orville. It's good that you didn't give us any numbers
30 or else we would have gotten off of it. Thank you.
31 You did good with the information just to update us.

32

33 I think at this time we'll break for
34 the potluck. We'll resume.....

35

36 MR. O'HARA: We're going to recess?

37

38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We're going to
39 recess. Yeah, we're going to recess until tomorrow
40 morning. We're recessing now, 4:30 potluck, and then
41 there's a hearing at 7:00 tonight.

42

43 MR. O'HARA: Are Council members
44 required to be here?

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Council
47 members are required to be here. We started at 8:30
48 this morning, so let's go at 8:30.

49

50 (Off record)

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