

1 BRISTOL BAY ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE  
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3  
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5  
6 VOLUME II

7  
8 Dillingham Assembly Chambers  
9 Dillingham, Alaska  
10 October 30, 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  
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27 Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike  
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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Dillingham, Alaska - 10/30/2013)

(On record - 8:39 a.m.)

CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Good morning. I'm going to call the meeting to order. It's 8:39. First on the agenda is draft 2014 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. Are you ready, Courtenay?

MS. GOMEZ: We're just waiting for one other person.

CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll wait on that one and go down to D, rural determination process review. We'll work on that one.

MR. MIKE: Good morning. Who do we have online this morning, teleconference line? Please identify yourself.

MR. SHARP: Dan Sharp with BLM.

DR. INGLES: Palma Ingles with OSM.

MS. MORRIS LYON: Nanci Lyon, board member. Donald, I can't hear you. I don't know if it's my phone or you guys's equipment.

MR. CRAWFORD: Drew Crawford, Fish and Game in Anchorage. Also fuzzy reception here.

MS. HYER: Karen Hyer, OSM, and we can't hear very well here either.

MR. MILLS: Dave Mills with the Park Service in Anchorage.

MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, Subsistence Program Manager for Lake Clark and Margaret Goodro, the superintendent for Lake Clark.

MR. MIKE: Thank you. We're trying to get the audio resolved.

(Pause)

CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Trevor.

1 MR. FOX: Good morning. I'm Trevor Fox  
2 with the Federal Subsistence Management Program. It  
3 includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Forest  
4 Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian  
5 Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management. The Federal  
6 Subsistence Program is responsible for managing  
7 subsistence on Federal public lands in Alaska.

8  
9 For those of you following by  
10 teleconference, the PowerPoint presentation can be  
11 found at the following website. It's a bit of a long  
12 one, so I'll say it a couple times,  
13 [http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/library/policies/rural-](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/library/policies/rural-determination.cfm)  
14 [determination.cfm.](http://www.doi.gov/subsistence/library/policies/rural-determination.cfm)

15  
16 For this presentation, I'm here to  
17 explain the review of rural determination process and  
18 how you can be part of the process. I'll start by  
19 summarizing the actions that have brought us here.  
20 Some background on the Federal rural determination  
21 process, how the current process works, including  
22 describing the criteria that are currently used to  
23 determine an area is rural or nonrural status. All the  
24 information and steps are available to you and I'll let  
25 you know where you can find these resources and how to  
26 provide your ideas to improve this process.

27  
28 In December 2010, the Secretaries of  
29 the Interior and Agriculture directed the Federal  
30 Subsistence Board to conduct a review of the process  
31 that is used in making rural and nonrural  
32 determinations to see if these methods being used are  
33 relevant and current. The Federal Subsistence Board is  
34 seeking public input, recommendations by the Regional  
35 Advisory Councils and input from tribes and ANCSA  
36 corporations through consultations.

37  
38 The Federal Subsistence Board may  
39 develop recommendations for improving the process based  
40 on these public comments and these recommendations will  
41 then go to the Secretaries of the Interior and  
42 Agriculture.

43  
44 For some background, Title VIII of  
45 ANILCA is the legislation which provides a subsistence  
46 priority for rural Alaska residents to harvest fish and  
47 wildlife on Federal public lands. Only those residents  
48 of rural communities are eligible for subsistence  
49 priority on these Federal public lands. On the slide  
50 here you see the map of Alaska. The green areas on the

1 map are the extent of Federal public lands within the  
2 state.

3

4                   There was a Senate Report No. 96-413  
5 which comments on Title VIII and provides examples of  
6 cities excluded from rural status and these were  
7 Ketchikan, Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks. The report  
8 also provided examples of communities that are rural,  
9 such as Dillingham, Bethel, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow and  
10 other Native and non-Native villages scattered  
11 throughout the state.

12

13                   Court decisions limit how rural is  
14 defined. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals determined  
15 that rural was a sparsely populated area and is not  
16 primarily about subsistence lifestyle or an areas if  
17 fish and wildlife resources. The Circuit Court noted  
18 that Congress did not limit the benefits of the  
19 statute, I'm speaking of ANILCA, to residents of areas  
20 dominated by a subsistence economy. Instead, it wrote  
21 broadly giving the statutory priority to all  
22 subsistence users residing in rural areas.

23

24                   We have another map that shows that  
25 most of Alaska is considered rural. The areas in black  
26 are the nonrural areas, the gray is the rural areas.  
27 This figure shows some relative populations of various  
28 cities in rural areas as of 2000. So this is 2000  
29 census data. The text is pretty small, but it's more  
30 of a visual to show the top six areas are rural areas  
31 starting with Anchorage and down to Ketchikan and then  
32 some of the other areas which are nonrural. Dillingham  
33 is the third from the bottom.

34

35                   This is the current process and I'll  
36 provide an overview of the criteria used in this  
37 current process. The first criteria is grouping or  
38 aggregation of communities. The Board recognizes that  
39 communities and areas of Alaska are connected in  
40 diverse ways. Regulations require communities that are  
41 economically, socially and communally integrated to be  
42 considered in an aggregate or grouped together in  
43 determining rural and nonrural status.

44

45                   The grouping criteria used by the Board  
46 is as follows: Do 30 percent or more of working people  
47 commute from one community to another. Do they share a  
48 common high school attendance area and are the  
49 communities in proximity and road accessible to one  
50 another.

1                   So the Board has developed a series of  
2 questions to get your ideas on ways to improve the  
3 criteria. So are these grouping/aggregation useful for  
4 determining rural and nonrural status. If not, the  
5 Board is asking to please provide ideas on how to  
6 better indicate how communities are integrated for the  
7 purpose of determining rural and nonrural status.  
8

9                   The second criteria is population  
10 threshold. The Federal Subsistence Board currently  
11 uses several guidelines to determine whether specific  
12 areas of Alaska are rural. One guideline sets  
13 population thresholds after communities are grouped  
14 together. A community or area with population below  
15 2,500 people is presumed rural. A community or area  
16 with a population between 2,500 and 7,000 is not  
17 presumed rural or nonrural and other characteristics  
18 are used to determine the rural status. Communities  
19 with populations above 7,000 are presumed non-rural.  
20

21                   Again, the Board is seeking your ideas  
22 on ways to improve this criteria of population  
23 threshold. So are these threshold guidelines useful  
24 for determining whether a specific area of Alaska is  
25 rural and, if not, please provide population sizes to  
26 distinguish between rural and nonrural areas and then  
27 the reasons for the population size you believe more  
28 accurately reflects rural and nonrural areas in Alaska.  
29

30                   Another criteria is rural  
31 characteristics. The Board recognizes that population  
32 alone is not the only indicator of rural or nonrural  
33 status. Other characteristics the Board considers  
34 include, but are not limited to, the following: Use of  
35 fish and wildlife, development and diversity of the  
36 economy, community infrastructure, transportation and  
37 educational institutions. Again, the Board is seeking  
38 your ideas on this criteria of rural characteristics.  
39 Are these characteristics useful for determining  
40 whether a specific area of Alaska is rural and, if not,  
41 please provide a list of characteristics that better  
42 define rural and nonrural status.  
43

44                   The timeline and information sources  
45 are related criteria. The Board performs its review  
46 based on a 10-year census cycle and uses census  
47 information for a snapshot of communities. Current  
48 regulations state that the population data from the  
49 most recent census conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau  
50 as updated by the Alaska Department of Labor shall be

1 used in the rural determination process.

2

3 For the information sources, the  
4 information collected and the reports generated from  
5 the census varies between each census cycle and because  
6 of that data used during the Board's rural  
7 determination may vary. Some of the information the  
8 Board used in past rural determinations is no longer  
9 collected by the U.S. Census Bureau.

10

11 Again, here's the question. Should the  
12 Board review rural determinations on a 10-year cycle.  
13 If so, why. If not, why not. Should we use a different  
14 cycle. And then the information sources as stated in  
15 the regulations will continue to be the foundation of  
16 data used for rural determinations. Do you have any  
17 additional sources that you think would be beneficial  
18 to use.

19

20 This is an open-ended question. Do you  
21 have any additional comments on how to make the rural  
22 determination process more effective. The Board will  
23 then use public comments to assist in making  
24 recommendations to the Secretaries regarding the scope  
25 and nature of possible changes to improve the rural  
26 determination process.

27

28 There are several sources of  
29 information available on handouts we have in the room.  
30 I encourage everybody to pick one up. Some of these  
31 resources are the website, which is the one I mentioned  
32 at the beginning of the presentation. You can also  
33 request information through our email  
34 subsistence@fws.gov. There's also a phone number 1-  
35 800-478-1456.

36

37 This brings us to how you can provide  
38 comments. Testimony can be provided at this Regional  
39 Advisory Council and other council meetings yet to take  
40 place. Public hearings, which we had last night, are  
41 ways to inform the Federal Subsistence Board. There  
42 will be public hearings with most of the other RAC  
43 meetings. You can submit these electronically via  
44 email and that's the same email address I just  
45 provided, subsistence@fws.gov. Comments can be also  
46 sent through the mail or hand delivered to the U.S.  
47 Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence  
48 Management. That's 1011 Tudor Road, Mail Stop 121,  
49 Anchorage, AK 99503. Comments can also be hand  
50 delivered to designated Federal officials or Council

1 coordinators at these Council meetings.

2

3                   So I've tried to explain why we're here  
4 asking all these questions and to give you some  
5 background on the rural determination process and how  
6 decisions are currently being made. Now knowing the  
7 questions to address, having resources at your  
8 fingertips and the knowledge about how you can provide  
9 your ideas on improving the process. We hope you'll  
10 take the opportunity between now and -- the original  
11 deadline date was November 1st. The date could  
12 potentially be extended to December 2nd. Hopefully  
13 we'll have more information on that today if the  
14 extension was granted.

15

16                   As far as the questions we've asked,  
17 they're listed up here on the slide. We'll leave this  
18 up here when anybody is leaving any comments or the  
19 Council is making its recommendation. As I mentioned,  
20 the Board is asking these specific questions on the  
21 process, so just to make the reminder that this is a  
22 review of the process used to make rural and nonrural  
23 determinations and not on which specific communities  
24 are rural. If you have any comments on the process,  
25 I'd be happy to take them.

26

27                   Thank you.

28

29                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Could you go  
30 back to the slide framework. It's on Page 133 in our  
31 book. Could you explain that to me again.

32

33                   MR. FOX: This slide we were talking  
34 about that there were previous court decisions that  
35 limited how rural is defined. That Ninth Circuit Court  
36 of Appeals determined that rural refers to a sparsely  
37 populated area and is not primarily about the  
38 subsistence lifestyle or an area's use of fish and  
39 wildlife resources. The note here is that Congress did  
40 not limit the benefits of the statute to residents of  
41 areas dominated by a subsistence economy. Instead, it  
42 was more broad in its definition, giving the statutory  
43 priority to all subsistence users residing in rural  
44 areas.

45

46                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I think  
47 it's slide number -- it's on Page 136, current process.  
48 Can you explain that. I'm not understanding it  
49 properly. It seems like the framework and this slide  
50 conflict -- not conflict, but -- yeah, to me. So could

1 you explain this slide.

2

3 MR. FOX: Madame Chair, I apologize. I  
4 don't have a great answer for that. I see what you're  
5 saying with that definition saying that the definition  
6 of rural doesn't include the use of fish and wildlife,  
7 but this is part of the Board's current criteria. I'll  
8 just leave it at that. I'm sorry, I don't have a great  
9 answer for that. Maybe somebody else in the room  
10 would.

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: You're the one  
13 that's presenting this. If we can't understand the  
14 process and it's conflicting, it's hard to make a  
15 decision.

16

17 Thank you.

18

19 Glenn.

20

21 DR. CHEN: Good morning, Madame Chair.  
22 Glenn Chen, Bureau of Indian Affairs. I was part of  
23 the InterAgency Staff Committee who worked on the last  
24 round of determinations and this was discussed at  
25 length, the issue about the Ninth Circuit Court's  
26 ruling and the characteristics that the Board ended up  
27 using for its rural determinations. They don't  
28 necessarily conflict.

29

30 What the Ninth Circuit Court said in  
31 its ruling was the primary determinant of rural is a  
32 dictionary definition that everybody clearly  
33 understands and it means that a rural area is a  
34 sparsely populated area. That's embodied in the  
35 population thresholds that the Board uses for  
36 determining the categories of presumed rural, presumed  
37 nonrural in the middle of 2,500 to 7,000 people, which  
38 can be either rural or nonrural. So this aspect of a  
39 sparsely populated area is jeopardized by the  
40 population thresholds that the Board uses.

41

42 Now these rural characteristics that  
43 you see on the screen here are a secondary way that the  
44 Board then uses. Once a population is categorized in  
45 those three groupings, then the Board uses these  
46 characteristics to further define whether or not an  
47 area is rural or nonrural. If you notice on those  
48 three categories of populations between 2,500 and 7,000  
49 that's a broad population range where an area can be  
50 rural or nonrural.

1                   So, to come up with a final decision,  
2 the Board uses this suite of characteristics listed on  
3 the screen here. The use of fish and wildlife,  
4 economic development and diversity, community  
5 infrastructure, transportation and educational  
6 institutions. Again, during the last set of  
7 determinations the Board uses extensively, after  
8 deciding which population grouping a community fell  
9 under and then used these secondarily to make those  
10 decisions about rural versus nonrural.

11  
12                   So they don't necessarily conflict, but  
13 they compliment each other in that fashion.

14  
15                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't know if  
16 I understood. The way I'm looking at this is the  
17 framework section where it says hunting and fishing is  
18 not quite the reason why. And then you go to this  
19 slide and, you know, it's one of the criteria that's  
20 punctuated.

21  
22                   DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. I'll try  
23 again to explain. The Ninth Circuit Court felt that  
24 you could not decide whether or not a community was  
25 rural or nonrural based strictly on its dependence on  
26 subsistence. So Ninth Circuit Court felt that that was  
27 not the primary way to tell whether or not communities  
28 were rural or nonrural. It really should be based upon  
29 the dictionary definition of a sparsely populated  
30 place.

31  
32                   So our legal experts have interpreted  
33 that ruling to mean that we should first look at the  
34 population in our area, whether or not it's large or  
35 small and how sparsely that population is distributed  
36 in the landscape, but don't start with fish and  
37 wildlife usage as a first criteria for determining  
38 whether or not a place is rural or nonrural. So once  
39 you've decided what the population is and that's those  
40 three categories of population numbers. The first step  
41 is to determine the population. The next step is use  
42 these characteristics to decide -- make a subsequent  
43 decision whether or not a place is rural or nonrural.  
44 But don't start with the use of fish and wildlife as a  
45 first factor to determine whether a place is rural or  
46 not.

47  
48                   Hopefully that helps.

49  
50                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I don't

1 totally agree with that. Those of us that live in  
2 rural areas our number one resource is fish and game.  
3 Even if I go into another area to live, my stomach is  
4 not going to change to other resources. These  
5 criteria, I guess, are fine.

6  
7 Another area that I have a concern  
8 about, even though the threshold from 2,500 to 7,000 is  
9 intact, that's a gray area for me because it sounds  
10 like we're status quo when we get into that threshold.  
11 Then what is the real reason why people -- there's a  
12 reason why, you know, it was up there, the real reason  
13 why this grouping is suggested. I can see from the  
14 explanation of how to group, I can see Dillingham  
15 grouping with Aleknagik because we're connected by road  
16 and some of our students from Aleknagik do attend the  
17 high school here. I guess that's another concern.

18  
19 I guess I need a little bit more  
20 explanation. To me, it sounds like a status quo. It  
21 could go either one way or the other between 2,500 and  
22 7,000 population.

23  
24 MR. FOX: Yes, Madame Chair. The way  
25 the process currently works is if you're under that  
26 2,500 you're presumed rural. These rural  
27 characteristics would not necessarily be involved in  
28 the decision-making process. But, I think as you're  
29 saying, once you get above that and you're in that area  
30 between 2,500 and 7,000, then this is a list of  
31 characteristics that could be used. There could be  
32 additional ones. It's not limited to these  
33 characteristics, but these are ones that have been used  
34 to determine if it's rural or nonrural when it's in  
35 that sort of in between 2,500 and 7,000 population  
36 size.

37  
38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: How about the  
39 grouping? What was the reasons for suggesting to group  
40 communities?

41  
42 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. This is Glenn  
43 Chen. For example in the Dillingham or King Salmon  
44 area you have roads that connect you to communities,  
45 but these roads don't go anywhere. The situation with  
46 aggregation becomes more relevant when you get to the  
47 mainland part of Alaska where you have major road  
48 systems connecting Eagle River, Anchorage, the Mat-Su  
49 Valley, Kenai Peninsula. So how these roads then  
50 applied during the last round of determinations, those

1 grouping criteria were used quite thoroughly for those  
2 mainland road connected communities.

3  
4 In addition, the area around Ketchikan,  
5 there's a major road system, the Tongass Highway,  
6 connecting Ketchikan and other places along that area  
7 too and the Board then decided in that situation to  
8 group Saxman with Ketchikan and make them nonrural.  
9 So, for the most part, those aggregation grouping  
10 criteria applied as far as the Board was concerned in  
11 terms of making determinations that applied mostly to  
12 those mainland road systems and not to these more rural  
13 areas where you do have roads connecting, but then the  
14 roads themselves don't go anywhere.

15  
16 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, I was  
17 looking mainly for an answer like we're doing that  
18 because of budget reasons, we're doing that to make our  
19 work easier. I know why there's a grouping process,  
20 but it's still unclear.

21  
22 Thank you. I'm sorry for taking the  
23 floor.

24  
25 Dan.

26  
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, this is important  
28 stuff, Molly. Thank you. While you were talking I  
29 could kind of see -- I think it would be helpful for  
30 all of us. One of my suggestions would be if there's a  
31 way to kind of show a flowchart or I would call it  
32 maybe a tree on kind of how -- a decision tree on how  
33 this stuff -- how you work down the system. I have  
34 kind of a real rough idea what I'm seeing. That might  
35 help people quite a bit if there's something like that  
36 that could be included.

37  
38 That's my comment for right now.

39  
40 Thank you.

41  
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Joe.

43  
44 MR. CHYTHLOOK: (Away from microphone).

45  
46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I'm doing the  
47 answering questions to try to figure out where -- you  
48 know, to understand the slide show that we were just  
49 presented and then we'll give the public a chance to do  
50 the testimony. Is that right?

1                   So, if we don't have any more questions  
2 regarding the slide show that we just had from the  
3 Council. We had a public hearing last night. There  
4 was like three people that were here that did the  
5 testimony and we'll include the testimony from the  
6 floor once the Council has a chance to get their  
7 questions answered.

8  
9                   Thank you. Dan.

10  
11                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Molly. A  
12 couple other questions just on the presentation here.  
13 What data is it that the census used to collect but  
14 doesn't now? How critical is it and could it be  
15 collected in another manner?

16  
17                   DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.  
18 For example, this question is quite relevant in terms  
19 of how the census has changed its data collection  
20 perimeters. For example, during the 2000 census they  
21 used what's called a long form. They collected lots of  
22 information. That was one source of information to  
23 determine the number of people that commute from one  
24 area to another. In the 2010 census, they no longer  
25 used the long form. They used a short form. So, for  
26 example, this information about percent of people  
27 commuting from one area to another for work is no  
28 longer available.

29  
30                   So this criteria that the Board used  
31 last time, there's no information on it, at least from  
32 the 2010 census. So we'd have to go through some other  
33 method to try to use this -- define the data if we were  
34 to use this measure again. That's just one of the  
35 examples of how the information has changed.

36  
37                   MR. DUNAWAY: Going on to aggregation  
38 of communities, a lot of these criteria seem rather  
39 vague, so there's a question of how they're really  
40 applied. I guess some clarity on all of that. I guess  
41 back from my days of being a biologist where we had to  
42 have plus or minus such and such percent, 95 percent of  
43 the time, da da da da. Some examples of that. Like  
44 put it out more clearly would be handy. Thanks.

45  
46                   DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Dunaway.  
47 Again, what this agenda topic is all about is the Board  
48 is seeking the public's input by how we should do these  
49 determinations for this round of findings. I think the  
50 Board is open to thoughts and ideas from the public,

1 from the Council members. The Secretary, as part of  
2 the review of the Federal Subsistence Program, did  
3 mandate that the Board and the Program review how we do  
4 rural determinations with input from the Councils and  
5 that's why this is before you right now.

6  
7 Mr. Dunaway, some of your thoughts  
8 about how should some of these various factors be  
9 ranked, how they should be integrated, which one should  
10 be weighted more than others, this is the kind of  
11 information that the Board is seeking from the public  
12 and the Councils. Again, this is the opportunity to  
13 basically have direct input as to how these rural  
14 determinations are supposed to be done.

15  
16 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay for now. One last  
17 one. I guess it's probably awfully late, but I sure  
18 hope that we can get an extension on this. This is  
19 pretty meaty stuff and I knew it was coming, but you  
20 try to think about this in the middle of a busy summer.  
21 I didn't have some of these materials in front of me  
22 until late last week. I sure hope we have time to  
23 digest this and really offer a considered opinion.  
24 Thanks.

25  
26 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Dan. Glenn.  
27 What time of year are these census numbers taken. We  
28 have population fluctuations in these area. Quite a  
29 lot of it has to do with seasonal stuff, taking of fish  
30 or game. So what time of the year are these censuses  
31 taken?

32  
33 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Mr. Hill. On  
34 that I'm not completely familiar with how the U.S.  
35 Census Bureau does its data collection, but based upon  
36 my experiences of how they collected data last time,  
37 they sent an army of people out there to try to find  
38 every household that's listed in the community. As far  
39 as I recall, they make multiple visits to the household  
40 before they can officially cross off that location as  
41 having people living there or not living there. So  
42 they do try to make an effort to get very accurate  
43 numbers.

44  
45 I understand the basis for your  
46 question, Mr. Hill, because all Alaska people are out  
47 doing lots of different activities during the  
48 summertime when the census takers might be running  
49 around collecting information. I believe they try to  
50 account for that in terms of their making multiple

1 visits to the household and trying to make sure that  
2 they get as accurate information as possible.

3

4 MR. HILL: I'd like to relate an  
5 experience I had just before I came over. We had  
6 someone from the government come to my house and show  
7 me a piece of paper saying I was required by law to  
8 answer these questions by the Congress. I stated  
9 myself being uncomfortable with having to be required  
10 by law to answer these questions, but I did and I  
11 didn't throw the person out of my house, but I kind of  
12 resented that kind of approach.

13

14 When I spoke to the person who was  
15 taking the information, she said that a lot of people  
16 resented that approach and, frankly, just said, no,  
17 they're not going to fill out this information and the  
18 government could do what it wanted to do. So I'm  
19 wondering about the timing of this. I was told that  
20 these people who are taking the information, along with  
21 the census, I was asked questions like how far I  
22 traveled to work, did I go anywhere to get my food and  
23 subsistence stuff. Each person who came out, and  
24 different people had a specific house to go to  
25 regardless of whether or not anyone lived there. They  
26 still had to go to that house. It seemed pretty  
27 thorough, but the approach was really bad.

28

29 So the time of the year is the fall,  
30 which is now and most everybody is at home except you  
31 have hunting. I think the timing of this census, when  
32 people want to take the census, is really critical. If  
33 I would suggest anything, if you could relay that to  
34 the people who are getting this information, be careful  
35 of the time of year.

36

37 MR. FOX: Just to add onto that too. I  
38 mean this would be a good opportunity -- if you can  
39 think of another information source beyond or in  
40 addition to the census that may better reflect the  
41 population, especially if you're saying the timing is  
42 not right and they're not getting the population  
43 numbers right and you can think of another information  
44 source to be used in these determinations, then that's  
45 the sort of information the Federal Subsistence Board  
46 is looking for on ways to improve this process.

47

48 MR. HILL: I've also been interviewed  
49 by State, Fish and Game, the National Park Service, the  
50 BIA, you name it, the city and the governor's staff.

1 It seems like all these entities could kind of get  
2 together and come to a consensus on how many people  
3 actually live in an area and maybe share information.

4  
5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Is there any  
6 more questions from the Council.

7  
8 MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair. I've  
9 got a comment if I have a second.

10  
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: You have the  
12 floor, Nanci.

13  
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Madame  
15 Chair. The one thing that I would say that I noticed  
16 in looking through these slides and listening to your  
17 presentation was that the glaring thing that seems to  
18 be left out of maybe the questions is, you know, when  
19 you get to that cusp where you can't decide whether or  
20 not a community should be determined rural or not, the  
21 one thing that's not being asked is how has the  
22 community behaved in the past. What is the traditional  
23 usage of the community. Are they dependent on the fish  
24 and wildlife resources that you're trying to decide  
25 whether they should have access to. I'm not sure how  
26 you do that, but it is something that, to me, seems  
27 glaringly obvious because some of these communities  
28 keep coming up under review over and over again due to  
29 the population size.

30  
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
32 Nanci. Any other questions. I've got a short question  
33 here. Is there a suggestion to continue the 10-year  
34 cycle or is there a suggestion to totally eliminate the  
35 10-year cycle?

36  
37 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. That's one of  
38 the questions that's up here. Under the current  
39 process there is that 10-year review, so what the Board  
40 is asking is do you think that's appropriate or should  
41 there be some other timeline set up. So the current  
42 process is the 10-year, but the question is should  
43 there be something else.

44  
45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Are there other  
46 countries, other states that have this process of urban  
47 and rural determinations or is it just Alaska the only  
48 place?

49  
50 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. Glenn Chen

1 again. This characterization of areas into rural and  
2 nonrural is actually relevant to a wide variety of  
3 government programs. So, for example, USDA provides  
4 rural development grants to communities. Now they have  
5 a different system and different numbers that they use  
6 to determine whether or not a community is eligible for  
7 a rural development grant. It's actually quite a bit  
8 of a higher number. The process of deciding whether or  
9 not a community is eligible is rural first of all and  
10 then for subsistence is something specific to the  
11 Alaska Federal Subsistence Program. A lot of the  
12 agencies use rural and nonrural determinations for  
13 other purposes for their own programs.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: In other states?

16

17 DR. CHEN: Madame Chair. That's  
18 correct, yes.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Are we versed?

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank  
25 you. I guess at this time -- last night the public was  
26 given a chance to give their testimony. There was a  
27 few. This morning the presentation was for the board  
28 that listened in last night. I guess at this time we  
29 could -- if there's any public people. There's some  
30 blue cards back on the table, I think, so if you want  
31 to testify, please pick up a blue card. I'll start  
32 with Joe as the first person to come up to the mic to  
33 testify.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MR. CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Madame  
38 Chair. Sorry I didn't show up last night. I was  
39 making maki (ph) for Richard and Lary and Donald.  
40 Anyway, I appreciate, I guess, the discussion we're  
41 having about this important topic. I've heard several  
42 people talk about the process. I'd have to agree that  
43 perhaps maybe the timeline that was chosen -- I was on  
44 the staff of the Alaska Board of Fish and Board of Game  
45 when some of this stuff was brought before that Board,  
46 that process. I know it's time consuming and there's a  
47 lot of issues that are entailed in it.

48

49 I think one of the things that I've  
50 always questioned was why there was some arbitrary

1 numbers on population. Especially in rural areas such  
2 as Dillingham and Bethel and even remote from the road  
3 system why we would determine a community going away  
4 from rural just based on population. Historically, our  
5 people in Alaska in rural communities have chosen to be  
6 there because of the use of fish and wildlife and  
7 that's the characteristics of most of our people  
8 because they use the fish and wildlife that is  
9 available within their areas.

10

11 I know in working with the fish and  
12 game Advisory Committees even in Bristol Bay I find  
13 that we use a variety of resources and not everybody  
14 uses the same fish or wildlife, but most everybody has  
15 the same characteristic. The main reason why folks up  
16 in Iliamna area settled there was because of fish and  
17 wildlife. Of course, there was a rush. We live in a  
18 coastal areas. We settled here because of fish and  
19 whatever wildlife was available. Throughout the state  
20 of Alaska you go on up the coast west Alaska, up to  
21 North Slope, different resources are available and we  
22 use that. That's why most of our people settled in  
23 these communities through the years.

24

25 So I guess for any regulatory agency to  
26 use population, I guess, as a main source for changing  
27 from rural to urban in my opinion is maybe not the best  
28 criteria. I can remember when Dillingham -- when I  
29 first moved down here from Aleknagik about 30 years ago  
30 there was maybe 7 or 800 people. Now it's over 2,000.  
31 It's primarily because of what it says up there,  
32 economic, jobs and whatnot.

33

34 After Statehood, State of Alaska  
35 developed, along with the Federal program back then,  
36 management of resource and, as a result, we've had Fish  
37 and Game personnel move their families. Of course,  
38 through the years we've had improvements in the  
39 hospital and what not and there's more employment  
40 there. As the population has grown from locals here,  
41 the population of Dillingham has grown.

42

43 However, the characteristics of our use  
44 of fish and wildlife remains the same. When Molly and  
45 I were married almost 47 years ago we still used red  
46 fish up in Aleknagik and we still use it today. This  
47 is true with all of us.

48

49 I guess Molly referenced other states.  
50 I know the government is charged with taking care of

1 people from all over the United States and they have  
2 different programs addressing the needs of its  
3 constituents, different people. I've had occasion to  
4 drive and then maybe fly over the vast country of U.S.  
5 and see miles and acres of land that is owned by  
6 farmers, rural United States and different parts of  
7 different states.

8

9                   If the government would so choose, they  
10 could say, well, if your population increases beyond  
11 2,500 to 7,000, we may cut off your support for you  
12 farmers in North Dakota or wherever and then your area  
13 will become determined urban, therefore you will not be  
14 able to receive some of these long-standing benefits  
15 that you folks have been used to receiving, I guess  
16 from the government.

17

18                   I feel that when a subsistence issue  
19 came because of the acts of government for Alaska  
20 Native people and others, there has been a lot of  
21 arbitrary regulations put into play that are not  
22 necessarily placed on other users that come and go  
23 within our area. Subsistence use in my observation has  
24 been probably one of the most scrutinized in the  
25 process, both State and Federal processes, while people  
26 that get permits to come and use the same resource that  
27 we use don't necessarily have to prove that they've  
28 used the resource before getting a permit to come and  
29 use that resource. I'm talking about hunter groups and  
30 others that have come to rely on and develop economy-  
31 based use of our fish and wildlife instead of Alaska.

32

33                   Every time we come before the Board of  
34 Fish I know that even as a Subsistence Division was  
35 developed after 1978 that going through the Board  
36 process that the information that the Subsistence  
37 Division did household surveys and whatnot was referred  
38 more or less anecdotal when it came to making decisions  
39 and deliberations on the Boards to allocate use of fish  
40 and wildlife in the state. To me, I think that's  
41 wrong.

42

43                   However, whenever a lodge or a hunting  
44 group decides, well, I have X number of clients that I  
45 need to prepare and get ready for this coming season,  
46 there's no question at all how many people can come and  
47 utilize the resource. I guess that's one disparity  
48 that I have noticed. I know that because of acts and  
49 whatnot of the government and the State that the  
50 subsistence issue has been a big discussion.

1                   If we continue to use a population as  
2 one of the high criteria for determining whether we  
3 remain rural or become urban, I think that's not  
4 necessarily the best way to determine whether we become  
5 urban or get away from rural. People that I know in  
6 Dillingham and other places have moved in because of  
7 jobs and economic development and that can change a  
8 population base pretty fast.

9  
10                   I guess, getting to the process, I  
11 noticed that Alaska Native corporations were supposed  
12 to be part of this process and then looking at the  
13 calendars since the notice came out on December 31,  
14 2012, many of us in regional corporations and probably  
15 village corporations have held meetings. I don't  
16 recall ever having this issue as an agenda item for  
17 discussion. I guess maybe -- I don't know how the  
18 information was mailed out or shared with us on the  
19 regional corporation level and village corporation  
20 level.

21  
22                   I guess the timeline -- I didn't know  
23 much about this until just the other day. I guess  
24 maybe after being away and retired from some of the  
25 agencies and employment that I was used to, maybe I  
26 just didn't have -- and I don't recall this issue  
27 coming up even in Nushagak Advisory Committee meeting  
28 we had not too long ago.

29  
30                   I would urge the Federal Subsistence  
31 Board that maybe the timeline could be extended so that  
32 there could be more meaningful discussion and maybe  
33 better recommendations to trying to fix this process.  
34 I know on the AFN board level and the AFN floor that  
35 there's still a lot of frustration about the  
36 subsistence process, both Federal and State. So making  
37 sure we cover all our bases in both regimes as we deal  
38 with the Federal subsistence process and whatnot and  
39 even on a State level. The State doesn't have a whole  
40 lot to do with subsistence. Most of us do it by  
41 regulatory process in the state.

42  
43                   Anyway, that's my comment, Madame  
44 Chair. You folks on the RAC, I appreciate your hard  
45 work in trying to decipher all this information and  
46 make a comment to the Federal Subsistence Board in a  
47 real meaningful way.

48  
49                   Thank you for the opportunity, Madame  
50 Chair, and my wife.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: For your  
2 information, we went home together happy.

3  
4 (Laughter)

5  
6 MR. CHYTHLOOK: I want to give you a  
7 little culture education. The difference between Dan's  
8 culture over here and mine is that I always have the  
9 last word. That last word is, yes, Mama.

10  
11 (Laughter)

12  
13 MR. DUNAWAY: For your information,  
14 Joe, in my culture it's, yes, dear.

15  
16 (Laughter)

17  
18 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Did we  
19 have any questions from the Council to Joe's comment.

20  
21 (No comments)

22  
23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If not, we'll go  
24 to the second person, Gayla Hoseth.

25  
26 MS. HOSETH: Good morning, Madame Chair  
27 and members of the Council. My name is Gayla Hoseth  
28 and I'm a Bristol Bay resident currently living in  
29 Dillingham, Alaska. I attended, of course, the meeting  
30 yesterday and sat through the presentation last night.  
31 I wasn't ready to comment last night because I really  
32 didn't know how to comment or what to comment on. It's  
33 really hard to understand all of this stuff. It was  
34 really sad and disappointing to see that we don't have  
35 any public here. I mean there's hardly any public  
36 people that attend these important meetings that affect  
37 them and our lifestyle here.

38  
39 People really do need to get involved  
40 with the issues that face us residents here in Bristol  
41 Bay to help protect our resources, but first, the  
42 issues need to be understandable. All these rules and  
43 regulations are like a foreign language and sometimes  
44 we might need an interpreter to help us understand what  
45 it is that you're asking us to comment on. A part of  
46 my job at BBNA is to help people to comment on issues  
47 like this, but it's even hard for me to understand how  
48 could I explain it to them on how to gather a comment.  
49 How can we?

50

1 I understand that the population size  
2 for communities determines rural versus nonrural.  
3 Living here in Bristol Bay is a lifestyle that is worth  
4 protecting and it seems like we're always defending our  
5 resources here. Part of my testimony is to tell you  
6 what is important to me, I guess, is how I will comment  
7 regarding this determination.

8  
9 I want to have our subsistence way of  
10 life protected and the resource that we have  
11 surrounding us to be sustainable. All the villages  
12 here in Bristol Bay should be considered rural and the  
13 residents who live here should be considered rural  
14 qualified users. I don't want to see our communities  
15 bundled together, increasing population counts.

16  
17 Education and outreach to residents  
18 throughout the state of Alaska explaining these major  
19 issues that affect all residents of Alaska. We really  
20 need to get education and outreach out there to try to  
21 explain this to everybody. I really hope that the  
22 deadline is extended so that people do have a chance to  
23 comment and then I could be part of a team that maybe  
24 helps educate people in this process.

25  
26 In regards to the census that Mr. Hill  
27 mentioned about when we do gather census information  
28 from the people that live in communities, it would be  
29 really important to hire local census takers to gather  
30 the data because that way people would be more  
31 comfortable talking and sharing information like that  
32 with people who are asking questions.

33  
34 I really want to thank all of you for  
35 serving on the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council.  
36 I think that together we could all make a difference  
37 and to help protect our resources here in Bristol Bay.

38  
39 Thank you.

40  
41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
42 Gayla. Any questions, comments for Gayla. Dan.

43  
44 MR. DUNAWAY: I just hope you write it  
45 up and submit it.

46  
47 MS. HOSETH: I will. Thank you.

48  
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
50 Gayla. The next is Daniel O'Hara.

1 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. My name is  
2 Dan O'Hara. I'm the mayor of the Bristol Bay Borough.  
3 We became a borough in 1962 and the late governor Jay  
4 was our first manager and also our first mayor.  
5 Because he was from the East Coast we all became  
6 boroughs and not counties. So everybody else in Alaska  
7 is a borough. We just celebrated 50 years last year.

8  
9 In reference to this rural  
10 determination, I think it's a pretty important issue to  
11 deal with. The census, on a normal basis, is 10 years  
12 for the Federal government. Of course, the governor  
13 every 10 years reestablishes the districts of Alaska  
14 and that is way too long for us to determine on how the  
15 subsistence use of fish and game is taken. It would be  
16 disastrous to put a time limit of 10 years to do a  
17 census. So that's one thing I want to make sure that  
18 the Federal Board understands very clearly.

19  
20 I think that grouping of communities,  
21 population threshold, such as on the slide above us  
22 here today is pretty important. There's a word there  
23 in the third bullet called economic development and  
24 diversity. The timeline of 10-year review, we can just  
25 scratch that one. The bottom one, it isn't really  
26 relevant to what we do in the way of fish and game.

27  
28 So let's just look at how we operate in  
29 Bristol Bay. We will have in 2014 10 major processors  
30 in the Naknek community and everything in Bristol Bay  
31 goes across the Borough dock. About 85 percent of  
32 everything in Dillingham goes across the Bristol Bay  
33 Borough Dock. So you've got all of Bristol Bay tied to  
34 one dock.

35  
36 If you're talking about transportation  
37 and how that works, I can give you a brochure that on  
38 the back it shows every community that freight goes  
39 across the Bristol Bay Borough Dock and it's all of  
40 Lake Iliamna. Dillingham has ice until probably two  
41 weeks after the Naknek portion of it, so their freight  
42 goes across the Borough Dock. They unload their fish  
43 and they go to Naknek and put it on the dock and then  
44 take it wherever it goes. All the way to Nome and  
45 communities in between.

46  
47 So you're going to have a connection of  
48 villages in Southwest Alaska connected to a hub. The  
49 two hubs are going to be Dillingham, which is a major  
50 hub, and Naknek, which is your other hub. You don't

1 say I think I'll become a hub. You naturally become a  
2 hub. It's drawn to that hub.

3

4 I think one of the things that the  
5 Federal Board should here is that within two days from  
6 now we will have a school in the Lake and Pen Borough  
7 close down. That's seven schools within the last five  
8 years. Many many people are moving out of the rural  
9 communities, as we well know, and that's just -- you  
10 know, we've heard that before. Going to Anchorage and  
11 not necessarily qualified to work in some of these  
12 areas or Anchorage and some of them are.

13

14 So what I would suggest to you in a  
15 way, these fathers from the Federal department heads,  
16 which I sat before for 10 years as former chair of the  
17 Council -- what I would suggest to them is if the  
18 population increases in Dillingham beyond the 2,500  
19 population, take into consideration that these people  
20 came here, if you want to do your census as Mr.  
21 Chythlook had mentioned earlier, for economic reasons.  
22 Education.

23

24 For instance, Bristol Bay Borough has a  
25 pool. That might be attractive to a lot of people to  
26 bring their kids there. I've talked to families who  
27 have moved in this last year and they're there because  
28 they cannot get a job in their community, but they are  
29 not planning on living there. Now the Lake and Pen  
30 people have approached us, our neighboring community,  
31 if our people -- we would prefer our people to come to  
32 the Naknek community and then, when things change in  
33 their community, go back to the community.

34

35 So the point is this. The point is  
36 that if the populations go beyond 2,500, there must be  
37 some method by which the Federal Board would allow  
38 those people not to become urban but to stay rural. I  
39 don't know if that would take a change in Congress on  
40 Title VIII or not, but I think that's something that  
41 should be considered because those people will want to  
42 go home. My kids come home on the 4th of July just to  
43 put a subsistence net out and get on the four-wheeler.  
44 Pretty cool way to come home and they're eight and nine  
45 years old. Some of them are a lot older than that.

46

47 So I think that if we could accommodate  
48 people in Southwest Alaska on those two points, one is  
49 that they may have to move because of economic reasons,  
50 but if the population grows -- and Naknek only has 997

1 people, so they're probably not in danger for a long  
2 time, may never be.

3

4 Thank you, Madame Chair. Appreciate  
5 the opportunity to talk to you today.

6

7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan.  
8 Any questions for Dan, any comments.

9

10 (No comments)

11

12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.

13

14 The next one is Frank.....

15

16 MS. MORRIS LYON: Molly, can I make one  
17 comment?

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.

20

21 MS. MORRIS LYON: You know, hearing  
22 what both Dan and Joe have said, I totally agree. I  
23 mean I guess that's where my original comment about the  
24 glaring lack of the use of the resource traditionally  
25 and then originally, but I would also add that perhaps  
26 one of our questions that should be added is why are  
27 you here now. If they haven't lived there for five  
28 years, perhaps that would be a question that should be  
29 added, is where did these people come from and do they  
30 want to stay. I mean if they're going to ask  
31 questions, those are easily asked questions.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
36 Nanci. Next one up is Frank Woods.

37

38 MR. WOODS: Madame Chair. This is  
39 public testimony. I appreciate all the comments today.  
40 I commented yesterday and I didn't understand the whole  
41 process. According to this list it looks like there's  
42 six bullet points, but I wanted to reference the  
43 grouping aggregation of communities.

44

45 If the Federal Subsistence Board or  
46 Office of Subsistence Management recognizes that real  
47 formation of both villages -- say, for instance, Naknek  
48 and King Salmon have different use determinations, they  
49 need to utilize both villages, not just one as an  
50 aggregate, as understood like Dan O'Hara was saying.

1 We're all connected and we're hub communities.  
2 Dillingham and Aleknagik have different zip codes.

3  
4 I would say if 30 percent of the  
5 population is commuting, I would raise that to 50  
6 percent because in Bristol Bay, at least in my day job,  
7 I understand that 30 percent of the subsistence users  
8 provide for 70 percent of the population and that's  
9 just a given. You know, the elders and we share  
10 resource with family, we share resource with different  
11 community members. So that's a criteria I'd like to  
12 really focus on, is the current groupings, the 70/30  
13 split for providers. The thresholds, I think the  
14 thresholds are good indicators of what the population  
15 is doing but not use.

16  
17 I'm going to submit and turn in my  
18 written testimony as technical paper number 386 by Jim  
19 Fall. This is a technical paper that the Board and the  
20 Staff can review. Let's put it this way. The State  
21 looks at 13 criteria and we have listed in outline 5,  
22 according to the list that I read, and then the Joint  
23 Boards that review this information, they list the last  
24 one, it talks about that they can determine -- like the  
25 review process, the Joint Boards can determine  
26 characteristics that would determine rural versus  
27 nonrural. I really like that 13th characteristic that  
28 the Board itself can make the decision whether a  
29 community is rural or not rural. That kind of gets  
30 into a whole list of different question.

31  
32 I'm going to just go on to say that  
33 current processes -- there's use of energy and cost of  
34 energy in rural Alaska is really high. When I bought  
35 gas in Anchorage at \$3.30 at Carrs with a discount  
36 code, I come home and have to pay \$6.80 for me to go  
37 out beluga hunting or smelting, it's a big difference.  
38 The economic development and diversity, I would include  
39 Representative Edgmon behind me, put down use of energy  
40 and the cost of energy. We have a huge burden in rural  
41 Alaska.

42  
43 In the last 10 years when the price of  
44 oil went up, I've heard at every meeting in every  
45 community that, number one, people are crying to either  
46 try to feed their families or heat their homes.  
47 Literally in tears. That has to be addressed. More  
48 dependent upon resource than anybody else and the  
49 burden of proof is put upon them.

50

1                   Timelines. A 10-year cycle or as  
2 needed. A 10-year cycle might -- take, for instance,  
3 the Peninsula Caribou Herd. If they haven't harvested  
4 in 10 years, that criteria is out of the window. Or  
5 when things change, be it population census or resource  
6 use or whatever it may be.

7  
8                   The economic factors and subsistence  
9 should not dictate how much income we have. It should  
10 not be based on income. I tell you what, the economic  
11 factors and income statements that I pulled up on my  
12 own is that Platinum is one of our farthest villages to  
13 the west. It has an average median income of \$10,000.  
14 The highest level income-based community is King Salmon  
15 at 53. Dillingham is next at -- I'm just going off the  
16 top of my head of 51 for King Salmon and 43 for  
17 Dillingham. What was a surprise to me is number one,  
18 our biggest villages, Manokotak -- or Togiak and  
19 Stuyahok have an average income of \$18,000.

20  
21                   So when you look at these factors  
22 economic and use -- I think there's already use up  
23 there, use of fish and wildlife resources. An economic  
24 factor that is based upon that, and I'll reach out a  
25 little bit, on the east side they've lost all resources  
26 for moose, caribou and fish and them villages are  
27 dying. You said that seven villages in the last five  
28 years have closed schools.

29  
30                   Access to resources is limited and it's  
31 gone. In our biggest growing fastest communities in  
32 the Nushagak and Bristol Bay area is Togiak and  
33 Stuyahok. They have health resource, they have a young  
34 population, they've all gotten new schools, new  
35 housing. The growth of those communities is based upon  
36 economic factors I think that have to be included. It  
37 is an economic engine that drives rural Alaska. That's  
38 what keeps our people alive.

39  
40                   When we have to secure -- and I'll tell  
41 you a scenario. Last weekend I got a call Sunday after  
42 church that somebody was out on the beach and a trooper  
43 was down there harassing people. Telling them  
44 regulation, they're going to mark their nets, they're  
45 going to have to pull them if they leave them  
46 unattended and it really became overinflated to the  
47 point where people's lives become really -- and I'll  
48 just put it bluntly, people got really offended and so  
49 did the officer having to enforce them rules. It puts  
50 everybody's hair up having to defend something as

1 simple as smelts.

2

3                   When we come here and we start to  
4 define subsistence -- and Molly's right. We have to be  
5 clear what we're presenting. I was unclear yesterday.  
6 When I read the agenda, I wasn't clear on what this  
7 hearing was going to be. That was my next point. Is  
8 the bullet points that we have and outlined -- I'm  
9 trying to get a good job on processing it, but I have  
10 too much information going on in my head on a daily  
11 basis trying to process let alone the characteristics  
12 of subsistence use and trying to define myself and  
13 trying to outline how I'm supposed to be presenting and  
14 what am I supposed to be presenting and how it's going  
15 to be determined that I'm going to be impacted in this  
16 process. It's a whole different new process.  
17 Yesterday afternoon and evening was, boom, there it  
18 was. I'd say by the grace of God that I was able to  
19 sit in a tent for four days, the State doing their own  
20 process.

21

22                   The 13 characteristics that they use in  
23 the Joint Boards to determine rural versus nonrural,  
24 the upheaval in the state of Alaska has been, number  
25 one, there's a real need for resource management in  
26 this arena because, number one, the urban areas are  
27 trying to uproot the whole subsistence structure in  
28 Alaska. Since 1950 we had 130,000. Now we have 750.  
29 We have to share resource and that's a clear fact.  
30 When this Board has rural preference subsistence  
31 priority, when we adopt State regulations that allow  
32 all residents, say like the Anchorage people coming in  
33 and harvesting caribou from March 15th, why aren't we  
34 providing rural residents to hunt until the end of  
35 March? Because of an alignment tool, because of  
36 management, because it's easier for everybody?

37

38                   When you get down to when tax time  
39 comes up on April 15th when everybody's freezers are  
40 empty upriver, I get calls. I get calls in my office.  
41 My day job is to collect -- can we go hunting, can we  
42 please do this and they beg me, literally. I get phone  
43 calls from Togiak. We haven't filled our freezers.  
44 They got 20-some moose this fall. People call me at  
45 home in the middle of the night, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, will  
46 you please extend the moose season, can you please  
47 extend the caribou season. These characteristics, this  
48 is real stuff for a lot of people and I'll shut up.

49

50                   Number one, you know, I really -- I'm

1 going to drop this and leave this since there has been  
2 no official word of extension of the project -- or  
3 extension of the testimony, I figured I'd at least get  
4 my word in and I'll let everything -- I can do a  
5 detailed outline.

6

7 Like I said, I haven't been in the  
8 office for three days and this is what I got to pass on  
9 to not only you, but anyone interested in income by zip  
10 code. We're classified by zip code now. That's fine.  
11 But income by zip code I've got 22 communities based  
12 from number one from King Salmon to number 22 at  
13 Platinum and that's pretty important because the people  
14 that depend on these resources that we're talking about  
15 now really have a hard time.

16

17 I'll shut up. Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thanks, Frank.  
20 Any questions or comments for Frank.

21

22 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.

23

24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

25

26 MR. O'HARA: What is income by zip  
27 code? What do you mean by that? I might want to  
28 change my zip code.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MR. WOODS: Thank you, Dan. That's the  
33 way the IRS defines us. That's the only way I could  
34 pull it up on the little bit of information I got.

35

36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.  
37 That's all the comments.....

38

39 MS. GOMEZ: Madame Chair.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

42 Courtenay.

43

44 MS. GOMEZ: Thank you, Molly. Good  
45 morning, Madame Chair and members of the Council. My  
46 name is Courtenay Gomez for the record. I just wanted  
47 to -- I know we talk a lot in my day job also with  
48 BBNA, but just talk a little bit about the rural  
49 determination and my thoughts. I attended the hearing  
50 last night.

1 I guess to start off I grew up living  
2 in Aleknagik and Dillingham, commuting between both  
3 communities and then as a college student I was  
4 commuting between Anchorage and Dillingham. Coming  
5 home and working seasonally in the Refuge or here in  
6 Dillingham -- the Togiak Refuge. So I have a few  
7 different, I guess, perspectives on this.

8  
9 First of all, in regards to the  
10 process, last night in the public hearing we were  
11 testifying to OSM personnel. Today, during public  
12 comment, we're testifying to you. So that's a little  
13 strange to me. I guess if we're taking public comments  
14 on a process it needs to be to one body perhaps or this  
15 is our time as citizens. I'm here testifying on behalf  
16 of myself, not for work right now. We're here as  
17 citizens presenting to you to help you guys guide your  
18 testimony for the process.

19  
20 Another thing is that I think the  
21 presentation of the review of the process itself is a  
22 little confusing. I think it somewhat describes a  
23 process here, but there's no real explanation of an  
24 outcome. What's going to change? What's happening  
25 after the public comment period? If this is the  
26 initial scoping process, then we need to see a public  
27 review document of this rural determination and then  
28 have it out for a second round of review. That's  
29 pretty standard in a public process when scientific  
30 documents or area land use management plans, that's  
31 standard process, so we need to adhere to that in this  
32 and also to make sure that our communities and tribes  
33 are engaged.

34  
35 I've heard a lot of talk about tribal  
36 consultation and I'm thankful for what Joe said about  
37 this not making it to the BBNC board of directors  
38 agenda. I, myself, serve as the third chief on the  
39 Curyung Tribal Council here in Dillingham. I'm sure  
40 our tribe did receive notification of this, but we  
41 really need to make sure that process is followed, that  
42 we are engaging effectively with our tribes to make  
43 sure that this is just not a mail item for us and not  
44 just our tribes, but all of our organizations, through  
45 our ANCSA corporations and BBNA, the RAC, the ACs, the  
46 SRCs, everybody. We need to make sure that this is not  
47 just a mail item, but that this is an agenda item that  
48 action is taken at every one of these levels so that  
49 we're all engaged in this process.

50

1                   A couple of things. Hopefully the  
2 comment period is extended. I know a lot of different  
3 tribes -- not so much here in Bristol Bay, but around  
4 the state. Tribal offices were closed down during the  
5 government shutdown and tribes themselves weren't able  
6 to be fully staffed and engaged in the process. So the  
7 comment period definitely needs to be extended.

8  
9                   Some of my specific comments regarding  
10 some of these characteristics and the process itself.  
11 I guess I'll start with population. I liked what Mr.  
12 O'Hara said about throwing out 10 years. I think we  
13 need to throw out this 2,500. We at least need to  
14 start at 7,000, especially if we're looking at grouping  
15 communities. I mean Bethel, Kodiak, some of these -- I  
16 mean it depends on if you're an Anchorage person, you'd  
17 call them a village. If you're a villager, you'd call  
18 them the city. So, really, let's look at that 7,000  
19 and maybe not apply these rural characteristics until  
20 it's a community over 7,000 because every community  
21 that's under 7,000 in Alaska is pretty much a rural  
22 community.

23  
24                   Then also we really need to consider  
25 some of these changing dynamics in our socioeconomic  
26 and sociocultural lives. Looking at outmigration  
27 either from the villages into our hub communities or  
28 from our hub communities into larger service units like  
29 Fairbanks and Anchorage and Juneau. We have people who  
30 are very much engaged in a rural lifestyle and in  
31 working for our people and our resources that now maybe  
32 the time spent on the local level they've been so  
33 effective that now we're out on the state level and we  
34 need these people working.

35  
36                   Our friend Donald Mike here, he's from  
37 Kotlik and he can't even go home and subsist in his  
38 refuge because he works for OSM, thank God, but he's an  
39 urban Alaskan. I feel bad for him. I will never be an  
40 urban Alaskan. I hope not. Let's not change this  
41 determination so that Dillingham becomes urban. That  
42 would be horrible.

43  
44                   Looking at transportation. It's  
45 definitely not just the road system. The marine  
46 transportation system links communities all around  
47 coastal Alaska and even into the Interior communities  
48 with the river barge systems. All roads do go  
49 somewhere. They might not connect to the railbelt  
50 today, but in time, facing these development pressures,

1 our roads may connect to the railbelt. More  
2 importantly, our roads are connecting our communities.  
3 They're connecting our people and our local  
4 infrastructure. We can't just say that a road doesn't  
5 go anywhere because it's there for a reason and it's  
6 going somewhere. We need more roads connecting our  
7 communities. Cold Bay and King Cove, that road is  
8 imperative to the safety of those people. That needs  
9 to be considered. Really look at future development.

10  
11 The use of fish and wildlife must be a  
12 primary consideration of this determination. It cannot  
13 just be something -- maybe it can't be the sole  
14 criteria, but it needs to be heavily weighed. And we  
15 need to see a grading criteria. The public can't fully  
16 engage in this process and provide effective comment if  
17 we don't know how we're measuring each of these.  
18 Getting back to the use of fish and wildlife being that  
19 primary consideration, that's why we're here. We're in  
20 these communities. The only reason we're able to  
21 survive here is because we have these food and water  
22 resources available to us. We wouldn't be here living  
23 -- there would be no way to survive without that food.

24  
25 And then one last thing in regards to  
26 rural communities and outmigration. Maybe we need to  
27 develop a customary and traditional use finding for our  
28 rural communities, not just our resources on a species  
29 level. As people's lives change and the dynamics of  
30 Alaska change and people are either -- I mean look at  
31 Molly and Joe. They're here half the time, they're in  
32 Anchorage half the time. Are they rural or are they  
33 urban? We need to look at that and make sure that's  
34 considered also.

35  
36 Really, let's try to not group our  
37 communities out here in Bush Alaska. Each of our  
38 communities maintains their own identity for a reason.  
39 We are all different people, we're all different tribes  
40 and different cultures. The cultures and demographics  
41 definitely needs to be considered. I really liked what  
42 Danielle said in her public testimony last night about  
43 having cultural identity as part of that rural  
44 characteristic. One of those characteristics that is  
45 measured.

46  
47 I just think of like Iliamna and  
48 Newhalen. You would never want to put those  
49 communities together and call them one. They would be  
50 outraged, I'm sure. Those tribal councils and ANCSA

1 corporations there would say as much on the record. We  
2 really need to make sure that we maintain our identity  
3 and acknowledge the hub communities and the different  
4 unique perspectives that each of the communities bring  
5 to Alaska and the Federal subsistence management  
6 system.

7

8 That's all I have today. Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
11 Courtenay. Any comments.

12

13 MR. O'HARA: Yes, I do.

14

15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

16

17 MR. O'HARA: Courtenay, I appreciate  
18 your comments today. I think -- I'm sure you're  
19 experience in Dillingham that people are going to move  
20 to Dillingham because of economic reasons. Our thought  
21 in our borough is if they want to, they can go back  
22 home. I think that's something that the Federal Board  
23 should really take note of the fact. If these  
24 populations grow beyond what would be rural, then take  
25 into consideration in your census taking that these  
26 people should have that subsistence right. They may  
27 come from other communities and they will.

28

29 I talked to a young man the other day  
30 who moved from Levelock down to Naknek and he said  
31 there's only five or six jobs and I'm not in line for  
32 those jobs, so I came to Naknek. He said one day when  
33 the economy changes I want to go home and I think  
34 that's very important.

35

36 The other thing I appreciate your  
37 comment on is the fact that one of the -- it was  
38 mentioned this morning that our roads don't go  
39 anywhere. They do go somewhere. We only have 16 miles  
40 of road, but it's pretty important that I go up to King  
41 Salmon once in a while to the Wells Fargo Bank. I tell  
42 you what, you want to drive that road sober because  
43 there's so many potholes you may not make it to King  
44 Salmon.

45

46 The other thing too I think that  
47 probably should take into consideration along with your  
48 job that you have at BBNA is the fact that if a road is  
49 going to go somewhere, there needs to be probably some  
50 economic development at the end of that road. Governor

1 Murkowski said one time on the radio or to the press  
2 that going to build a road from Naknek to Chignik and  
3 everybody got all excited and I said why in the world  
4 do they got to make a statement like that. It takes \$3  
5 million to build a mile road. There has to be a money  
6 hole at the end of that road somewhere. But the roads  
7 that we do have, if we go by a four-wheeler, if we  
8 skate on a lake to the next community, which we did  
9 going up on Pile Bay, Lake Iliamna, where Lary is from.  
10 It went somewhere.

11

Thank you.

12

13

MS. GOMEZ: Thank you.

14

15

MR. HILL: Madame Chair.

16

17

CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

18

19

20

MR. HILL: A comment. This is my first  
21 face-to-face meeting with the board and community. I'm  
22 really troubled by all of this. First of all, all  
23 these rules are being imposed on us by an outside  
24 source and that's because they've got the might to put  
25 us in jail if we dare to fish out of season even though  
26 we really desperately need to to feed out families. So  
27 we're all dealing with that and that's what's hanging  
28 over our heads, frankly.

29

30

Some history. I'm a former teacher,  
31 retired years ago. Our village, first of all, in most  
32 of Alaska in my opinion, first the locations were  
33 determined by the territory government who decided all  
34 of our village people needed to be educated in the  
35 Western way. So what, in my opinion, the BIA did at  
36 that time, and I could probably show you in the  
37 archives of the University of Alaska Fairbanks where  
38 this happened, where these government people came by  
39 and they found a large population of people.

40

41

They said, okay, everybody lives here,  
42 this is where your school is going to be. Not knowing  
43 or caring that most of our people were nomadic,  
44 following food sources, and usually had a winter  
45 village somewhere. So the locations of these permanent  
46 -- and then the government says you have to send your  
47 kids to school or we'll take them from you, and they  
48 did, or put you in jail, and they did. So people were  
49 forced to live in a particular area. So we're now  
50 still dealing with these artificial locations of our

1 village sites.

2

3                   Last, why are we having to make these  
4 determinations of village size, subsistence use or use  
5 of a way of life of using your fish and game? Is it  
6 for conservation or to satisfy some sport hunting and  
7 fishing group who don't like the competition? Why are  
8 we doing this? I'm hoping it's for conservation.

9

10                   And last is the characteristics that --  
11 having not paid much attention to this before I came on  
12 the board other than talking to Dan and Richard and  
13 then wanting to become involved -- is who set up these  
14 characteristics and do we have to live by them? Can we  
15 change some of these characteristics. I'm asking the  
16 population in general, I guess, and this particular  
17 board, which I find myself a member of.

18

19                   This is scary stuff because our  
20 population is going to continue to grow. Our area, as  
21 Courtenay talked about, are villages of Iliamna and  
22 Newhalen and we're separated by about a five-mile road.  
23 We're trying to get a bridge between Iliamna and  
24 Dalton. If so, we'll have three communities connected  
25 by road. And we have a possibility of a source of  
26 employment there. What Dan said or somebody said about  
27 if our villages become joined simply with a road  
28 system, then that's an artificial determination. It  
29 shouldn't be like that.

30

31                   Lastly, is because I'm sure every one  
32 of you that has gotten fish or any kind of game, you  
33 don't just keep it for yourself. As an example in my  
34 family, I'll send a box of fish all the way down to  
35 Florida and I've sent fish as far as Finland, Norway.  
36 So we're not just connected by road, we're connected by  
37 other means, so this is a lot more complicated and it  
38 can't be simplified just by these characteristics.

39

40                   Thank you.

41

42                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I  
43 appreciate the comment that you made and Joe brought it  
44 up too, is the council and also the corporations  
45 included in this. I'm involved with our Aleknagik  
46 Natives Limited Corporation. We've gotten a letter,  
47 but we set it aside because without the board or even  
48 the chairman understanding on how to present this and  
49 to sell it to the board members and also the village,  
50 how could we try to explain something that we don't

1 understand. You see this here today. We still are  
2 really puzzled about this.

3  
4                   Because it was sent to the village  
5 corporation for us to deal with, we had our manager  
6 call the source of that letter to see if they can come  
7 in and explain this and they said due to budgets or  
8 something we can do a teleconference. A teleconference  
9 with something this important doesn't fly. You have to  
10 have somebody face to face so that you can question  
11 them. Faceless communication doesn't fly when something  
12 like this is important. So thanks for bringing that up  
13 again to the tribal level.

14  
15                   We don't have any more testimony from  
16 the floor, so I guess we can -- unless you guys have  
17 any more -- Trevor has any more comments.

18  
19                   MR. FOX: No.

20  
21                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: So I guess thank  
22 you. We'll move on to another agenda item.

23  
24                   MR. DUNAWAY: Molly, I'd like to.....

25  
26                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

27  
28                   MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
29 Before we move off of this I think it wouldn't hurt to  
30 have a little discussion and I want to make a few  
31 comments. I'm still trying to grope around with this,  
32 sort out what I think or understand of it. So I'm  
33 hoping, like I said earlier, we have an extended  
34 comment period.

35  
36                   From where I sit here now, I think a  
37 rural determination process should continue. I think,  
38 given the way our whole country operates on these 10-  
39 year census, it's one of the logical intervals to use,  
40 I think. As other people mentioned here too, or some  
41 sort of significant population change event, like Adak  
42 had 6,000 people at one time and I don't know if they  
43 got a couple hundred now. They went from nonrural, I  
44 believe, to rural.

45  
46                   I've seen it as a kid. I saw the Kenai  
47 area explode with oil development. I saw the  
48 Anchorage/Fairbanks during the pipeline explode. So  
49 maybe other significant population change events might  
50 somehow be worked into this.

1                   Community aggregation. It's a tricky  
2 one. Here my training as a biologist kind of kicks in.  
3 I guess it gets down to, number one, I think we need to  
4 discuss and recognize that, whatever you call it or how  
5 you use it, the subsistence, the fish, wildlife, plant  
6 resources are not infinite. They just are not. As the  
7 human population increases and uses it, there will be a  
8 point where allocation issues become hot and that's  
9 kind of where we are today, but they always have been  
10 in some places.

11  
12                   You can read about wars among the  
13 tribes in Oregon over berry areas. Hunting ground wars  
14 before there was any sort of European interference. I  
15 also believe there was cultural processes to manage use  
16 of resources before there was any sort of European  
17 influence.

18  
19                   Now, with the disruption from other  
20 cultures moving in, it kind of shakes all those orders.  
21 Shoot, even when the horse showed up in Lower 48 it  
22 turned some of the order of use of resources among  
23 different tribes topsy-turvy as some tribes got horses  
24 and others didn't.

25  
26                   I cherish the opportunity to use  
27 subsistence resources. I'm eager to train and teach my  
28 kids and pass that on. I don't think my family uses  
29 them to the level that, say, Joe and Molly or folks  
30 I've met in what I would call more true subsistence.  
31 Man, it's hard work if you just live off the land.  
32 It's darn hard work and there's families around here  
33 that do and I really respect them. I want my kids to  
34 appreciate it.

35  
36                   But growing up in Anchorage when I was  
37 a kid, I remember there was moose and caribou hanging  
38 in the garages in the neighborhood. My dad didn't like  
39 hunting, but we fished a lot. We shared fish, they  
40 shared moose. I remember one guy got a garbage can  
41 full of eulachon. Everybody in the neighborhood got  
42 eulachon.

43  
44                   So we've got to be careful not to just  
45 blanket stereotype one group over another. There's a  
46 lot of people in the urban areas that have a long  
47 tradition of living there and having access to  
48 resources. In some cases, they've been engulfed by  
49 economic development. I have friends that grew up in  
50 Knik. Then there's folks in Eklutna and they've just

1 kind of basically been swamped. In all these cases,  
2 you've got to sort out how to use it. It really makes  
3 me sad to see that level of animosity and polarity  
4 that's developed over this.

5  
6                   So I would hope that this process,  
7 whatever it is, can be clear cut and develop a  
8 perception of fairness among all users regardless of  
9 what label you put on them. So the more clear cut that  
10 is so that it doesn't seem arbitrary, whimsical, I  
11 think would appeal to the overall cultural attitudes of  
12 the whole country as what counts as fair.

13  
14                   Getting back to my view on biology,  
15 again in finite resources, we've got to recognize that  
16 if you drew circles around communities in this area,  
17 there's overlap and just how many people can use that  
18 resource before you damage it or utterly destroy it.  
19 That's actually how we eventually had, what out here is  
20 a bad word, called sport use. There was a time when  
21 people all over this country subsisted up until the  
22 1920s and then during the Depression there was a lot of  
23 people who got by on -- they called it government beef  
24 or whatever and it was poached deer.

25  
26                   So we're wrestling with this. It's  
27 never been a happy process anywhere. As a kid I used  
28 to read about the poachers trying to hide from the --  
29 they're just trying to feed their family and they're  
30 trying to hide from the game wardens and you can find  
31 all kinds of stuff like this. I kind of feel as I sit  
32 in a commercial/sport seat here that at least we should  
33 recognize the competing uses and respect all users as  
34 much as possible and come up with a fair process, but  
35 one that also preserves the resource so we can have  
36 something to argue about is one of the ways I say it.

37  
38                   But I'm still unresolved on some of  
39 these. I like the idea of adding a significant  
40 population change event to the interval. I've probably  
41 talked too long already, so I'll probably try to roll  
42 my comments up in a written submission to the Board at  
43 some point here. I sure hope we have more time. So  
44 I'd just request you to think about that.

45  
46                   Thank you.

47  
48                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan.  
49 This agenda item is an action item. So I guess we need  
50 to act on this. Just from listening to the public that

1 did testimonies, the majority of them are requesting  
2 extension of this hearing, so maybe we can do that if  
3 that's agreeable. I don't know what else we could add  
4 to this, but the maker of the motion could give out  
5 something to that effect.

6

7

Dan.

8

9

MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I think  
10 that definitely we would want as a Council to extend  
11 that hearing period. Was it December? What was the  
12 date?

13

14

MR. KRON: December 2.

15

16

MR. O'HARA: December 2? Yeah, that's  
17 definitely one of the things we should do. Then for us  
18 to formalize a statement right now, I suppose we could  
19 take a break and sit down as a committee and get a  
20 statement going on how we feel about this rural  
21 determination.

22

23

I would suggest maybe the second thing  
24 we do is, as our Madame Chair, you could poll the board  
25 sometime before December the 2nd and kind of get an  
26 expression from the board that we would send to the  
27 Federal people. In other words, we're probably not  
28 going to have a gathering like this again to have a  
29 public meeting, but there's no reason why you can't  
30 poll the board to find out if we would like to have  
31 this Bristol Bay Council weigh in on a few items on  
32 this rural determination. We've heard good testimony  
33 today and we certainly can, I think, if you don't mind.  
34 The rest of the Council would have to agree with this  
35 and Nanci is online. There's just so many things going  
36 on here.

37

38

I think, you know, as far as everybody  
39 using the red salmon or the pinks or the chums -- the  
40 silvers were fine, but the chinook is always something  
41 that we're going to have to wrestle with and who is  
42 going to use them. You've got five-star lodges outside  
43 of Naknek that are just like an incredible resource to  
44 the income of the community. These are all things we  
45 have to wrestle with as far as -- and to just totally  
46 leave out the commercial/recreational people and to  
47 deal with the true heart of subsistence is something we  
48 could probably -- there's been more light given to us  
49 in the last 24 hours than I had when I went to bed last  
50 night.

1                   That will help us a little bit.

2

3                   Thank you, ma'am.

4

5                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We can  
6 stand down for about five minutes to develop a Word  
7 document to do this.

8

9                   Did you have a comment, Donald.

10

11                   MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
12 Yes, I can get it started with the assistance of Staff.  
13 We're still in the process of getting confirmation if  
14 the deadline is extended to December, so we're still  
15 working with the folks and those that are in D.C. to  
16 get an extension of the comment period.

17

18                   Thank you.

19

20                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll  
21 stand down for about five minutes. Ten minutes.

22

23                   Thank you.

24

25                   (Off record)

26

27                   (On record)

28

29                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If we break for  
30 lunch, we're going to break from 11:30 to 1:00 so that  
31 the people that need to check out will have a change to  
32 check out. Before we go off this agenda to another, we  
33 have one of our Council members online that would like  
34 to make a comment. Nanci, are you here?

35

36                   MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes. I just wanted  
37 to add the fact that I've been sitting here thinking  
38 and listening and rolling this over in my mind and  
39 having been on this board for 10 years, having listened  
40 to the criteria that's being used to determine the  
41 qualifications and it's occurred to me that perhaps  
42 even longer than that, actually more than 20 years, the  
43 onus is put on subsistence users to prove their right  
44 to use the resource. Perhaps it's time that we also  
45 consider flipping the tables and having the government  
46 take into consideration maybe criteria on why they  
47 would have the right to take our resource use away from  
48 us.

49

50                   It might be a new way to look at things

1 and I guess that was my thought also.

2

3 Thank you, Madame Chair.

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. The  
6 reason why we wanted you to make this comment is for  
7 possible use of your comment to the paperwork that  
8 we're developing to present after lunch.

9

10 Courtenay, are you going to have time  
11 for your presentation, from now and 11:30? Oh,  
12 Courtenay's not here?

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: She's coming right  
15 back.

16

17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: While we're sitting here,  
20 I'm contemplating Nanci's comment, but I think some of  
21 this, putting it back on us as to how we're going to  
22 regulate ourselves is what's expected because I think  
23 we recognize we may have to figure out how to allocate.  
24 So giving us self-governance versus arguing with stuff  
25 being imposed upon us is, off the top of my head, one  
26 of the comments to your idea, Nanci.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We have  
29 Courtenay in the room now. My question, Courtenay, is  
30 we're going from now until 11:30. Is that going to  
31 give you enough time to do your presentation? We're  
32 breaking from 11:30 to 1:00 to give people a chance to  
33 check out.

34

35 MS. GOMEZ: Thank you, Madame Chair. I  
36 don't think that we would take that long, but as I  
37 understand the process it would be OSM Staff that I  
38 believe is on the phone presenting the FRMP plan itself  
39 and then we, as investigators, submitting a proposal to  
40 that plan would like to have an opportunity to comment  
41 and provide feedback to the RAC.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I guess  
44 my next question would be is OSM presenters online.

45

46 MS. HYER: Madame Chair. I'm online to  
47 present. This is Karen Hyer and I'm online to present  
48 the FRMP and then Palma Ingles is online to present the  
49 Partners Program.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. You've  
2 got the floor, so go ahead.

3  
4 MS. HYER: Okay. My name is Karen Hyer  
5 and, for the record, I'm a fisheries biologist for the  
6 Office of Subsistence Management. I getting a lot of  
7 feedback. I just want to make sure you can hear me  
8 okay.

9  
10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: We can hear you.  
11 There's a little bit of cutting off, but I think we'll  
12 be able to manage.

13  
14 MS. HYER: All right. Well, if you  
15 need me to repeat anything, please don't hesitate to  
16 stop me. We're going to start on Page 99 with the  
17 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. I'd like you to go  
18 ahead and turn to that page. I'm going to take you  
19 through the 2014 Draft Monitoring Plan, which is  
20 composed of successful investigation plans submitted to  
21 OSM. There's a lot of information in this book and I'm  
22 going to let you go through most of it on your own and  
23 I'm just going to highlight a fraction of the  
24 information.

25  
26 In your fall 2012 meeting, we reviewed  
27 the priority information needs for the Southwest Alaska  
28 Region and we met with Bristol Bay RAC and we met with  
29 Kodiak/Aleutians RAC and we talked about what is the  
30 priority in your region. This Council recommended two  
31 priorities be listed in the 2014 Funding Opportunity.  
32 You can see this priorities listed on Page 104.

33  
34 You said the first one was obtain  
35 reliable estimates of Chinook salmon. The second one  
36 was description and analysis of social networking  
37 underlying the allocation and management of  
38 subsistence salmon fisheries in villages in the Bristol  
39 Bay-Chignik Area. So when we announced our Funding  
40 Opportunity, those were listed. That was announced in  
41 November. The priorities were used to guide the  
42 investigators and proposals were submitted to the OSM.  
43 Once those proposals were submitted, they were reviewed  
44 by our Technical Review Committee.

45  
46 If you look on Page 109, you can see  
47 the criteria that the Technical Review Committee uses  
48 to evaluate the proposal. It is not on Page 109. It  
49 is on Page 100. I can't read my own writing. You'll  
50 see the first one is strategic priority. The project

1 (indiscernible) and information needs related to  
2 Federal subsistence management. So that is the first  
3 priority the Technical Review Committee looks at.

4  
5 The second one is technical and  
6 scientific merit. The project is evaluated for  
7 scientific rigor and clarity of purpose. That's the  
8 second thing they looked at.

9  
10 The third thing is investigator ability  
11 and resources. The Technical Review Committee  
12 evaluates if the investigator has the ability to  
13 complete the proposed work.

14  
15 The fourth criteria that the Technical  
16 Review Committee looks at is partnership and capacity  
17 building. The project must have participation and  
18 support from local organizations.

19  
20 So the Technical Review Committee  
21 actually goes through all the proposals and based on  
22 this criteria it produces a list of recommended  
23 projects to fund.

24  
25 If you turn to Page 105 -- Table 5,  
26 which is on Page 108, and you can see here at the  
27 bottom of the page these are the proposals that were  
28 submitted for this area. There was one for the Buskin,  
29 one for Afognak and one for Bristol Bay Subsistence  
30 Salmon Network Analysis.

31  
32 There's some other tables in here too  
33 and they summarized some of the ongoing work and some  
34 of the previous work in the region. I'll go ahead and  
35 let you look at those on your own. I wanted to just  
36 talk about the projects that were funded and the one  
37 that wasn't funded.

38  
39 The projects that were funded, the  
40 first one is Buskin River Sockeye Assessment on Kodiak  
41 and that's an ongoing project has been funded through  
42 OSM since 2000. It monitors escapement using two years  
43 in the Buskin River and that project collects  
44 information to help the State managers to assess the  
45 spawning escapement and helping with the forecast.  
46 Both State and Federal managers have been better able  
47 to manage the subsistence harvest and avoid any  
48 unnecessary restrictions.

49  
50 The second one that the Technical

1 Review Committee recommended for funding is the 14-402,  
2 which is Afognak Lake Sockeye Salmon Stock Monitoring,  
3 and this project provides annual estimates of salmon  
4 smolt production for Afognak Lake. It also collects  
5 some biological data on them and it collects water as  
6 far as chemistry, nutrients and plankton production in  
7 the lake and to tie the smolt sockeye production  
8 actually to the environmental conditions of the lake  
9 and then also estimate the abundance. This is actually  
10 also an ongoing project that has been funded through  
11 the Monitoring Program since 2003.

12

13 In addition to those two new projects,  
14 OSM has funded two ongoing projects. One on the  
15 Aleutian Islands that is a subsistence harvest and the  
16 other one is Lake Clark whitefish and climate change  
17 trends. Those are continuing projects that are funded  
18 through 2014 and these will be two new projects that  
19 will start in 2014 and that will make up the Western  
20 Alaska component of the FRMP.

21

22 Madame Chair, this is an action item,  
23 so I do need a motion for approval of this FRMP before  
24 we leave this subject and that's all I have. I'm  
25 available for questions.

26

27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my  
28 question is do you need comments or questions from the  
29 Council before this is approved?

30

31 MS. HYER: Comments and questions.  
32 Definitely comments and questions are always welcome.

33

34 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Do you have any  
35 comments and questions. That was pretty fast, but I  
36 was able to follow what you were saying. I guess one  
37 of my questions would be on Page 206, looking at all  
38 these not completed yet, but it sounds like they're  
39 ongoing projects.

40

41 MS. HYER: Madame Chair. On Page 102,  
42 Table 1 is a summary of everything that has been  
43 completed in the region and on Page 107, Table 2 lists  
44 the two ongoing projects that will be actually in the  
45 water in 2014, plus new projects.

46

47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Karen. I might  
50 have missed it. I'm a little disappointed we don't see

1 a little more projects in Bristol Bay. I'm not clear  
2 why the one Bristol Bay project that was proposed is  
3 not recommended for funding.

4

5 Thank you.

6

7 MS. HYER: Mr. Dunaway. Madame Chair.  
8 There's a two-part answer to that. The first one is,  
9 as far as submission for projects in your area, we put  
10 out the Funding Opportunity and we only got three  
11 projects submitted for that area. Of those three  
12 projects, one was the Buskin and one was Afognak and  
13 the Bristol Bay was the third one. So that's all we  
14 received.

15

16 Now I actually have Palma on the line  
17 also. The Bristol Bay Subsistence Salmon Network  
18 Analysis project that was reviewed by the Technical  
19 Review Committee is a TEK project. I should probably  
20 let her address that one. Palma, are you there?

21

22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my  
23 understanding is that the Technical Review Committee  
24 are the core group that determines which projects are  
25 funded.

26

27 MS. HYER: That's correct.

28

29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: So what's the  
30 consistency of the Technical Committee? Do we have a  
31 clear representation for.....

32

33 MS. HYER: There's five anthropologists  
34 that work with the TRC that are on that and that  
35 weighed in on the decision for this particular  
36 proposal. The main problems, as stated in the  
37 information that we provided back, was that the  
38 project, one, had too many people. It had seven people  
39 as the principal investigators, which we thought was  
40 driving up the budget, because it said all seven would  
41 go to the various meetings. So we were questioning why  
42 there was seven people on it.

43

44 Also, the main concern they had was  
45 that it was not well written and defined as to who was  
46 doing which part of the project, until you have several  
47 people who weren't anthropologists working on a project  
48 that was supposed to be based on anthropological theory  
49 and methods and things like that. Over half of the  
50 group was not trained to do that.

1                   So they didn't spell out in the  
2 proposal, okay, these people who aren't trained in  
3 anthropological methods would be doing this part and  
4 these people who are trained to be doing that was a  
5 conglomeration of here's what we're doing. So we had  
6 concerns as to whether or not the project could be  
7 completed as designed.

8  
9                   So there was good merit as far as the  
10 technical scientific merit and the capacity building,  
11 but we think that this proposal could be strengthened  
12 for the next round. You know, maybe not having seven  
13 co-investigators that requires a higher budget. Also  
14 specifying who is going to do what type work. I'm  
15 hoping that answers your question.

16  
17                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you.

18  
19                   Tom.

20  
21                   MR. KRON: Yeah, Molly, just for  
22 clarification. The Technical Review Committee.....

23  
24                   DR. INGLES: Can you speak up a little  
25 bit louder, Tom. I'm having a hard time hearing you.

26  
27                   MR. KRON: Yeah, Palma, I'll get a  
28 little bit closer to the mic. The Technical Review  
29 Committee makes a recommendation and the Council makes  
30 a recommendation. Those recommendations go to the  
31 Board and basically what would happen then would be the  
32 Board would make the decision in the January timeframe.  
33 I think they're meeting on the 15th to look at all the  
34 input from all the Councils and from the Technical  
35 Review Committee. Again, that's where we're at.

36  
37                   Your recommendation here carries weight  
38 with the Board, as does the Technical Review  
39 Committee's recommendation.

40  
41                   Thank you.

42  
43                   MS. HYER: May I insert something here?

44  
45                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes.

46  
47                   MS. HYER: Madame Chair. The overall  
48 process starts with the priority information needs we  
49 developed in the fall. So we as staff now ask the  
50 Council what their priority information needs are. I

1 was at that meeting and we talked about several  
2 different things and that was put in the call for  
3 proposals, which comes out from our office. We have no  
4 control really over the investigators that submit those  
5 block of proposals, but then we take those proposals  
6 and we send them to the Technical Review Committee.  
7 The Technical Review Committee reviews the proposals  
8 for technical merit and it uses the four criteria that  
9 I went over with you a little bit earlier, strategic  
10 priority, technical/scientific merit, the investigator  
11 ability and then the partnership capacity building.

12

13 So there is a recommendation and it's  
14 only based on those four criteria and then we bring the  
15 RAC FRMP out to you for your input and that's where we  
16 look to you for your local understanding as far as  
17 what's important and then we take that recommendation  
18 and we take everything to the staff committee and the  
19 staff committee also provides a recommendation which  
20 goes to the Board and then that goes as a package to  
21 the Board and then the Board takes action on it.

22

23 DR. INGLES: Madame Chair. This is  
24 Palma. Can I add something to that. One of the things  
25 that we have done that has changed since the last call  
26 for proposals is we did add more anthropologists to the  
27 committee, to the TRC, because there was concern that  
28 there weren't enough anthropologists to review. For  
29 this round there were five anthropologists on the  
30 Technical Review Committee.

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Dan  
33 O'Hara.

34

35 MR. O'HARA: Karen, can you hear me?

36

37 MS. HYER: I can.

38

39 MR. O'HARA: This is Dan O'Hara from  
40 the Naknek area. I've been on the Council ever since  
41 its inception and looking at Page 106 it looks to me  
42 like very little input on a local basis on how your  
43 projects come about. I have asked a State biologist  
44 about the eel grass from Naknek all the way down to  
45 Moller, which is 200 miles. Everything of the four  
46 species finfish go through that eel grass out into the  
47 ocean and become one, two or three ocean fish. I see  
48 five Lake Clark researches going on here submitted  
49 obviously by the Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife,  
50 ADF&G and one from BBNA to Togiak.

1                   So apparently this Council has not done  
2 its homework on what we would suggest that we would  
3 like to have in this budget on a timely basis. At the  
4 end of the day, under new business I'm going to ask  
5 that we, as a Council, would support some research on  
6 the eel grass. Everything goes through that eel grass.  
7 That's how they are protected and that's food source as  
8 they go along. It takes about a year for them to go  
9 through that area.

10

11                   So I think that -- there might be five  
12 projects coming out of Lake Clark, but if you're not  
13 going to have a return, it's not going to do much good.  
14 So I think it would be a good idea that we -- in fact,  
15 when I get back to the Bristol Bay Borough we will form  
16 a resolution and send it to you. I'm the mayor of the  
17 Bristol Bay Borough. We will send a resolution to you  
18 as far as requesting funding for along that line as  
19 well, okay.

20

21                   Thank you very much.

22

23                   MS. HYER: Madame Chair. Mr. O'Hara.  
24 Again, the reflection of the projects that are funded  
25 by OSM aren't necessarily a reflection of what has been  
26 asked for. They're a reflection of what investigators  
27 felt that they could support projects on. So a lot of  
28 times we ask for information needs and when we don't  
29 get the project, we come back and ask again for that.  
30 So you have to keep that in mind when you look at that  
31 list.

32

33                   The second thing is the Federal Board  
34 has said (phone cutting out). They feel those are  
35 better (phone cutting out) onto the land that they own,  
36 so that's probably why you've not seen any studies with  
37 eel grass. There's a list of things the Federal Board  
38 has said that this money is not for, studies  
39 (indiscernible), hatcheries is another and habitat is  
40 the third.

41

42                   MR. O'HARA: Thank you very much. I  
43 did not know that. That's good information.

44

45                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

46

47                   MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Well, we just were  
48 wrestling this morning and last night with some of this  
49 rural determination and looking at this one proposal  
50 that's not being recommended for funding it looks to me

1 like -- I mean some of the -- accounting for  
2 subsistence harvest probably is already addressed, but  
3 what really appeals to me is if they were able to  
4 better characterize the whole subsistence fishery, how  
5 it works and how it's shared.

6

7 Dan O'Hara is talking about how folks  
8 move around and all. I'm reluctant to just let that  
9 go. It seems to me this might have the potential to  
10 provide some of the information that would be useful to  
11 us in some of these other questions we ask.

12

13 I understand, yeah, if nobody applies  
14 for any other studies, you can't award to zero. I  
15 guess I'm saying that for the benefit of some agencies.  
16 Personally, I'd like to see maybe a little more  
17 knowledge on how grayling and whitefish are used for  
18 subsistence around the bay and how the strength of  
19 those populations for supporting those uses are.

20

21 That's all. Thanks.

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other  
24 comment.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Are you  
29 ready, Courtenay?

30

31 MS. GOMEZ: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
32 Members of the Council. For the record, my name is  
33 Courtenay Gomez. I'm the director of the Natural  
34 Resources Department at the Bristol Bay Native  
35 Association and serve as co-principal investigator on  
36 the proposal that is before you today. I'll allow my  
37 research friend to introduce himself.

38

39 MR. HOLEN: Thank you. I appreciate  
40 you putting this off a little bit. It took me about 24  
41 hours to get here. I spent most of the day at the  
42 airport in Anchorage yesterday.

43

44 My day is Davin Holen. I'm the  
45 subsistence program manager for the Department of Fish  
46 and Game for Southern Alaska. I guess I'm the  
47 principal investigator on this project, although this  
48 project I felt was very important for building capacity  
49 for the Bristol Bay Native Association, so Courtenay  
50 and I worked on this together and the Bristol Bay

1 Native Association submitted this project.

2

3 MS. GOMEZ: If we could just back up to  
4 last October 2012 BBRAC meeting here in the same room,  
5 on day two when we were discussing the draft priority  
6 information needs as presented by OSM, it was presented  
7 that there was only one priority information need for  
8 the Southwest Region and that was to obtain reliable  
9 estimates of chinook escapements.

10

11 After much discussion with the Council  
12 about current and ongoing research needs and really  
13 understanding, there was much dialogue, I went onto the  
14 website and had to pull up the transcripts or tried to,  
15 but with the new website wasn't able to, but Donald was  
16 very helpful in getting me the transcripts from the RAC  
17 meeting in last October.

18

19 After hearing the RAC members speak  
20 repeatedly and repeatedly, not just at that meeting but  
21 at every meeting that you guys have, talking about how  
22 we need to understand the sharing of our resources.  
23 You know, we talked so much about the 30/70 rule, then  
24 you, yourself, were talking about needing to understand  
25 that sharing network.

26

27 After that was over I worked with OSM  
28 to discuss the inclusion of incorporating a new  
29 priority information need into the draft plan. After  
30 some time it was then included to have the description  
31 and analysis of social networks underlying the  
32 allocation and management of subsistence salmon  
33 fisheries in villages in the Bristol Bay and Chignik  
34 area added to the priority information needs for  
35 Southwest Alaska.

36

37 We feel that this proposal is a true  
38 representation of what you, the RAC, are asking for  
39 from agencies such as Fish and Wildlife, BBNA and  
40 ADF&G. This proposal is responding to your request.  
41 It's really up to you guys to make the determination as  
42 to whether or not you would like to see this proposal  
43 funded. Davin and I are available to answer questions  
44 and we'd like to make some clarifications about some of  
45 the things that were highlighted in the investigation  
46 plan review from the Technical Review Committee and  
47 address some of those issues so that you guys have a  
48 better understanding about what they are and how we  
49 might be able to move forward on this.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.  
2  
3 MR. O'HARA: Courtenay and Dave, what's  
4 your last name?  
5  
6 MR. HOLEN: Holen.  
7  
8 MR. O'HARA: Holen. Okay. I  
9 apologize. I didn't get that. I think we're with you  
10 100 percent on this naturally. The greatest concern we  
11 have is chinook, obviously. From Southwest,  
12 everywhere. All the coastlines of Alaska. We talked  
13 to our biologist. I just went to see him last fall a  
14 year ago and he just sat in his office and said, you  
15 know, we did not reach escapement goals in the  
16 Nushagak, the Alakanuk, the Branch River and the  
17 Naknek. We did not meet those escapement goals. State  
18 of Alaska just changes their numbers according to  
19 whatever showed up there. They don't say let's do some  
20 serious consideration here on this resource, they just  
21 put numbers down.  
22  
23 Of course, the biggest problem we have,  
24 of course, is the bycatch on the Pacific pollock and  
25 cod bycatch, you know. They have been reduced greatly  
26 in this last year. If they don't continue to observe  
27 this, they will one day be shut down because we're  
28 going to have an assessment stock of chinook and this  
29 is number one priority.  
30  
31 I'm glad that Dillingham this year had  
32 a very good fall fishery on silvers. They got anywhere  
33 from 10-15,000 in a 24-hour period at 83 cents a pound.  
34 Probably saved their season. We got a little bit in  
35 Naknek. So when you talk about the other species of  
36 salmon, we're still okay there. We will always want to  
37 do better.  
38  
39 The chinook has got to be the number  
40 one priority that every one of us on all the  
41 coastlines. I could go to the Conference of Mayors and  
42 put in a resolution to save the kings and two economic  
43 development corporations on Western Alaska will shoot  
44 that down because they get their money from the  
45 midwater and hard bottom people. It's called the CDQ.  
46 Not the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corp. They  
47 have come out with a very strong statement, so they're  
48 in step with us. I just can't tell you how strongly I  
49 feel about that.  
50

1                               So thank you very much. We appreciate  
2 your work.

3  
4                               CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Dan.  
5 The study that's in front of you, is it that 14-451?

6  
7                               MS. GOMEZ: Yes, ma'am.

8  
9                               CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. So that's  
10 social networks, sharing, the one that wasn't funded?

11  
12                              MS. GOMEZ: Not recommended for  
13 funding. It can still change.

14  
15                              CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Not recommended  
16 for funding.

17  
18                              MS. GOMEZ: That's what we're hoping  
19 will happen. If I could provide a little bit more  
20 perspective. One thing that it's important to remember  
21 in regards to these FRMP funds and the Bristol Bay  
22 Native Association and the Partners for Fisheries  
23 Monitoring Program, which is also on your agenda today  
24 is that BBNA has operated a Partners Program since it  
25 was first incorporated back in 2002. BBNA was actually  
26 the proposer of the program.

27  
28                              Through the FRMP call, this is a call  
29 for research, BBNA found themselves in a position to be  
30 responding to these calls for proposals, but really  
31 didn't have the technical staff available to be  
32 conducting this research so instead submitted a  
33 proposal to OSM to fund a position, who would then work  
34 on these projects. In light of that proposal, we now  
35 operate 10 years later under the Partners for Fisheries  
36 Monitoring Program. OSM liked the proposal so much  
37 they decided that we actually needed these positions to  
38 be housed in other Alaska Native organizations around  
39 the state and now there are five Partner Programs  
40 statewide. BBNA being one of them.

41  
42                              Part of the contingency for having  
43 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring funding going to  
44 these Alaska Native organizations is our direct  
45 relationship in terms of conducting research needs as  
46 funded through the FRMP. If BBNA or another Alaska  
47 Native organization or tribe doesn't have FRMP funds,  
48 we're not eligible to host a Partners position.

49  
50                              So this is the first time ever the

1 Bristol Bay region -- so this is part of Southwest  
2 Alaska, but you're the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory  
3 Council. This is the only proposal that's addressing a  
4 Bristol Bay research need. The rest are for other  
5 areas within Southwest Alaska, the Aleutians and Kodiak  
6 area. This will be the first time ever in the FRMP  
7 that a proposal for Bristol Bay has not received  
8 funding, which would then jeopardize our Partners  
9 Program.

10

11 You, the RAC's, ability to really  
12 identify your research needs and have an agency such as  
13 BBNA working with you in the co-management aspect to  
14 try to really be that conduit between the harvesters  
15 and the fisher people and the local residents and our  
16 Federal and State agencies, so it's really important to  
17 consider this project for funding.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you,  
20 Courtenay. One of the areas that was mentioned as to  
21 why this wasn't funded was that there was too many  
22 people. I know from working in the past the main  
23 people that traveled to these communities were people  
24 that were actually involved in doing house to house or  
25 even communicating with the community.

26

27 When a project such as this starts, and  
28 it's introduced to the community, sure we might have  
29 anthropologists and others involved in it to help  
30 explain, but once the program is accepted in a  
31 community, you don't have anthropologists in  
32 communities, you have experienced people that are  
33 willing to help. So I guess my question is were you  
34 able to explain why you had X amount of people listed  
35 here?

36

37 MR. HOLEN: I'll take that one, Madame  
38 Chair. I'm sure you have a lot of experience in this  
39 realm.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Uh-huh.

42

43 MR. HOLEN: There were three principal  
44 investigators listed on this project. Myself, I'm an  
45 anthropologist. I am a Ph.D. candidate at the  
46 University of Alaska Fairbanks. My research focuses on  
47 subsistence and commercial fisheries and how they help  
48 build community and their importance for building and  
49 maintaining rural communities across Alaska, especially  
50 salmon fisheries.

1 Courtenay Gomez is the second and she  
2 submitted the proposal and I'm on Courtenay's  
3 committee, her graduate committee, and I can assure you  
4 she understands anthropological methods. I made sure  
5 of that.

6  
7 Drew Gerkey is a postdoc at the  
8 University of Maryland studying social network analysis  
9 and he will be at the Oregon State University next year  
10 as a professor of anthropology. We also have four  
11 other people working on this project and they all have  
12 -- we included Lisa Hutchinson-Scarborough and Ted Krieg  
13 because they have long-standing experience in working  
14 in some of these communities.

15  
16 So we wanted to ensure as co-  
17 investigators that we would send people to the  
18 communities that understand the communities the best of  
19 the researchers and have the longest experience in  
20 those communities because it takes a lot of time to  
21 build relationships with communities.

22  
23 We also have two people from BBNA who  
24 will work alongside them. It's never our intention to  
25 send seven people to conduct research in a community.  
26 I don't think our budget actually reflects that. It  
27 reflects sending a few people to each of these  
28 communities. We're not going to expect that each  
29 person is going to go to all study communities with the  
30 possible exception of Dr. Gerkey and I would like to  
31 ensure that he gets to each of these communities as  
32 he's not as familiar with the area. You can't write  
33 about something you've never seen, so he should  
34 probably be the one to go to all the communities  
35 because he's going to be conducting the bulk of the  
36 analysis.

37  
38 I also just wanted to briefly highlight  
39 the strategic priority. We received a medium for that.  
40 One of the reasons that we should be using existing  
41 data. This project is actually a result of looking at  
42 existing data and what is missing. Our survey that we  
43 conduct across Alaska in over 220 communities in the  
44 past 30 years is a modular survey. We have different  
45 modules. Some of those address harvest assessment for  
46 example. There are components also for sharing  
47 networks.

48  
49 Those sharing networks are a new type  
50 of components that we're doing. We've done them mainly

1 in Northwest Alaska under the tutelage of Jim Magdanz,  
2 who is now retired and is working on his Ph.D. at  
3 University of Alaska Fairbanks. He moved on to more  
4 interesting things that he can explore. Jim is also a  
5 colleague of Dr. Gerkey as well and they've worked  
6 quite a bit on social network analysis together.

7  
8           So this would incorporate not just  
9 harvest assessment, but it would include the modules  
10 for social network analysis, which have not been  
11 conducted in these communities in the past. I'm sure  
12 that probably wasn't as clear in the overall  
13 investigation plan.

14  
15           One of the things that I really wanted  
16 to highlight was the investigator's ability and that is  
17 that -- you know, one of our goals here -- we do have  
18 myself, Dr. Gerkey, Ted Krieg and Lisa Hutchinson-  
19 Scarbrough, who are all anthropologists and Courtenay  
20 is also studying anthropological methods, so that's  
21 five out of the seven people proposed for this project.

22  
23           We would really stress the fact that  
24 it's important to build capacity, to help BBNA build  
25 their capacity. We've been working over this last  
26 several years to do this through, for example, the  
27 whitefish project and having them work alongside some  
28 of our trained anthropologists that have been  
29 conducting studies in these communities for 20 years or  
30 so. That's really important for that.

31  
32           Anything else?

33  
34           MS. GOMEZ: Another thing in regards to  
35 this strategic priority receiving a medium, to say that  
36 the proposal or the investigator does not address the  
37 second part of the information need, the management of  
38 subsistence salmon fisheries in the villages of Bristol  
39 Bay and the Chignik Management Areas, we feel that if  
40 you -- on Pages 114 and 115, the last paragraph I think  
41 in executive summary describe exactly how this would  
42 address the management of these fisheries.

43  
44           This project is meant to be innovative  
45 in nature. It is a first-round project. Aside from  
46 what's being done or already been done in Northwest  
47 Alaska, this really isn't being done anywhere else in  
48 the state. We're not necessarily trying to use this  
49 information to say we're changing this regulation.  
50 We're not going to know until we see what the sharing

1 networks are as to how it's going to be incorporated  
2 into the management system.

3

4                   We can assure you that through the  
5 public processes of the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory  
6 Council and the local ACs on the State Board of Fish  
7 level that the information that's provided through this  
8 research is going to guide what proposals and  
9 regulation changes may come forth in the future  
10 regarding subsistence salmon resources in Bristol Bay.

11

12                   MR. HOLEN: If I could just add  
13 something to Courtenay's comment about management.  
14 From the State's perspective, salmon are important for  
15 all residents of the state of Alaska. We all have the  
16 ability to harvest salmon in whatever fishery we choose  
17 through the State process wherever that happens in the  
18 state.

19

20                   I have had to answer a lot of questions  
21 to the Board of Fisheries during the State process  
22 recently about the importance of resources to people in  
23 urban areas and do some of the harvest that occurs in  
24 some of these rural areas, make their way to urban  
25 areas because we recognize that these resources are  
26 important for sharing and for all Alaska residents.

27

28                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any other  
29 comments. Richard or Lary, we'll have you go.

30

31                   MR. HILL: I was faster than my finger  
32 I guess. Look at Page 117, please. Whitefish trends  
33 in Lake Clark and Iliamna  
34 Lake. I don't know if you were able to get as much  
35 information as you should have or could have out of the  
36 communities in Lake Iliamna. Earlier in the year we  
37 had been interviewed by an unnamed group about our  
38 seals and that information was used against us to have  
39 our seals put on the endangered species list. So  
40 people were very reluctant to give any information and  
41 I think even refused interviews in communities because  
42 of that happening. We were afraid to give out this  
43 information because it might be turned around and used  
44 against us. So perhaps this could be revisited. I  
45 don't know how else to say it. We were all afraid to  
46 say anything because it might be used against us.

47

48                   MS. GOMEZ: Through the Chair. I  
49 guess, Lary, do you want us to talk about seals or can  
50 we save that for another time. The seals issue is

1 definitely something that has been addressed at the RAC  
2 before and we can talk about that. Davin and I are  
3 both investigators on a seals research project.

4  
5 MR. HILL: Let me interrupt. I'm not  
6 talking about seals. Just the experience of having  
7 that information used against us. We didn't want the  
8 same to happen with the whitefish and that was why  
9 maybe some of the people who were doing interviews were  
10 refused interviews because of that. So perhaps the  
11 information about the whitefish maybe looking for it  
12 again, perhaps maybe you could revisit these  
13 communities and ask again. The fervor has since  
14 subsided a little bit, so maybe you could revisit these  
15 communities again and look again for this information  
16 about whitefish.

17  
18 MS. GOMEZ: Yeah, the whitefish project  
19 is ongoing and I believe the communities will be  
20 researched further in the future.

21  
22 MR. HOLEN: That's correct. We  
23 included two years of surveys because one year doesn't  
24 always represent -- is not always representative  
25 especially for freshwater fish, so we included two  
26 years of surveys. So this winter people will have  
27 another opportunity to participate.

28  
29 We'll know in November or December what  
30 the outcome of the listing of the seals -- whether it's  
31 going to go forward or not.

32  
33 MR. HILL: I didn't really care to have  
34 more information about the seals. I just wanted to  
35 explain about the whitefish. Lastly is we have had  
36 surveys come out of King Salmon and they had  
37 researchers come through there asking about our  
38 whitefish, so perhaps you could look for some of that  
39 information too to help with some consistency in use.

40  
41 MR. DAVIN: That's very helpful.

42  
43 Thank you.

44  
45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

46  
47 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. I'm going  
48 to get back a ways. This is an action item, I believe,  
49 and we're asked to support the funding of what seemed  
50 to be agreed on here. You mentioned last October 2012

1 we had this discussion and one of our priorities was  
2 chinook salmon. Why are we having trouble with  
3 supplying our communities with chinook salmon. I guess  
4 I'm just not really understanding why that got shot  
5 down because it is a food resource. In looking at what  
6 actually wants to be funded, you know, it's a fish  
7 monitoring program. So if somebody could help me out  
8 there why this thing got shot down and why we went to  
9 the subsistence portion of this instead of -- the  
10 chinook was the number one item that we had as a  
11 priority.

12  
13 MS. GOMEZ: Madame Chair. Can I try to  
14 address that? Yeah, BBNA did try to submit or develop  
15 a proposal with other researchers through Fish and  
16 Wildlife or ADF&G, actually both, regarding the chinook  
17 escapements. We have had funding for Togiak chinook  
18 escapement in the past. There are a variety of  
19 different circumstances that determined, I guess, the  
20 funding in the 2012 call getting removed. The Togiak  
21 project was originally advanced in the pre-proposal  
22 stage.

23  
24 Now this 2014 proposal process is a  
25 little different than it has been done in the past. In  
26 2014 we're asked to submit full investigation plans,  
27 the 14-15 page full research plan right away. It used  
28 to be in the past we were asked to do a 3-page  
29 pre-proposal and if the TRC upon reviewing those liked  
30 what they saw, then they'd ask us to develop our  
31 proposal into a full investigation plan.

32  
33 Back in 2012 the Togiak chinook  
34 escapement plan moved forward as a pre-proposal, but  
35 during the investigation plan development stage did  
36 not, I guess, gel into a full investigation plan to be  
37 considered for funding regarding aspects of managing  
38 for the wilderness component of the Togiak Refuge, if I  
39 have that correct. Tevis could correct me if I'm wrong  
40 and maybe the Togiak Refuge would like to go on the  
41 record in regards to that.

42  
43 It's really important. I mean you can  
44 see as evidence through the one proposal that has gone  
45 forth from our region that us as researchers, our  
46 Federal land managers and our State fisheries agency,  
47 we need to be working together better to try to address  
48 some of these needs and try to find a way that we could  
49 work together so that more proposals are going forward  
50 and hopefully being funded for our region.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

2

3 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. Thank you,  
4 Courtenay. I think we still need to keep the emphasis  
5 strong on our chinook because a lot of communities are  
6 hurting. There's got to be a reason for those chinook  
7 not coming back in in the numbers that they used to  
8 come. I feel that that should still be one of our  
9 priority items here.

10

11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
14 I might try to answer some of this. In my mind, we  
15 haven't relinquished as a priority salmon and king  
16 salmon. It's apparent that probably for a variety of  
17 reasons no king salmon proposals surfaced. A couple  
18 things that I'm aware of is that Department of Fish and  
19 Game is doing some king salmon research and Craig  
20 Schwanke can correct me if I get off base here.  
21 They're doing some king salmon counting research on the  
22 Nushagak River, but I don't think any of that qualifies  
23 for Federal funding. And I know they're a little low  
24 on staff and that's keeping them pretty busy.

25

26 Thinking around from my past  
27 experiences, what could we fund or do. There's been  
28 some big projects early on in this program, some other  
29 stuff on the Naknek, but possibly with declining  
30 budgets in some of the government agencies and kind of  
31 a problematic what else could be done that's  
32 affordable, it's kind of hard to come up with a really  
33 good idea that I'm aware of.

34

35 So, in my mind, I'm not giving up on  
36 those, especially with what we've been wrangling here  
37 today. I really really want to see this networking  
38 thing have another chance, a rewrite or something. In  
39 the meantime, we make it clear too that if a  
40 reasonable, affordable study on kings or other high-  
41 level species can be come up with amongst agencies,  
42 we'd certainly be eager to see them.

43

44 Also I'll say as I retired from Fish  
45 and Game I found that all of the guidelines that I had  
46 to deal with within the state to develop a joint  
47 program in this Federal funding process, the Federal  
48 government was fine to deal with, but my own agency was  
49 so big a pain I quit wanting to even do it.

50

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: That would get all this  
4 money and then these bean counters in Juneau would make  
5 it impossible for me to keep track of it. They'd put  
6 all these other things until I just thought to heck  
7 with it. It's really frustrating when your own agency  
8 puts so many hurdles -- like I was saying I was running  
9 hurdles in a dark gym.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: So I think I can say it  
14 now.

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 MR. DUNAWAY: I got to the point where  
19 I wasn't even going to apply. My own agency made it  
20 too hard. I don't know if that's the case, but I would  
21 call the Feds, we had a little wrinkle, oh, here, we'll  
22 fix it. But Juneau, eh. It's a headache. So anyway,  
23 doi.

24

25 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It's 11:40. We  
26 need to make a decision on this proposal or this  
27 research request. What's the wishes of the Council.

28

29 MS. GOMEZ: Madame Chair. Can we say  
30 our wishes?

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, you can say  
33 your wishes.

34

35 MS. GOMEZ: Thank you so much. We, the  
36 investigators for this proposal, would like to ask you,  
37 the RAC, to recommend this proposal for funding with  
38 modification. So I believe the motion that would be in  
39 order for one of you to make if that is your decision  
40 as a Council would be to adopt the FRMP with the  
41 modification to include 14-451 description and analysis  
42 of Subsistence Salmon Networks in Bristol Bay, to  
43 recommend that for funding.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I so move.

48

49 MR. HILL: Second.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's been a  
2 motion to adopt by Dan O'Hara and seconded by Lary  
3 Hill.  
4  
5 MR. O'HARA: Donald, did you get that  
6 motion clearly understood.  
7  
8 MR. MIKE: Yes. Madame Chair, the  
9 motion was to adopt the FRMP with modification or  
10 amendment to include 14-451.  
11  
12 MR. O'HARA: Thank you, Donald. I just  
13 wanted to make sure that motion was very clear. The  
14 second thing is, is Nanci able to vote since she's on  
15 conference? Okay.  
16  
17 MR. HILL: Call for question.  
18  
19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has  
20 been called. All in favor say aye.  
21  
22 IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.  
25  
26 MS. MORRIS LYON: Aye.  
27  
28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any objections.  
29  
30 (No opposing votes)  
31  
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.  
33 That's carried. Thank you.  
34  
35 MS. GOMEZ: Thank you.  
36  
37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: And good luck.  
38 We'll break now for lunch at 11:45 and be back at 1:00.  
39  
40 (Off record)  
41  
42 (On record)  
43  
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I'm going to  
45 call the meeting back to order a little late, 1:12.  
46 We'll continue with our rural determination process  
47 review. The Council has come up with a wording to  
48 present. I'm going to have Donald explain this.  
49  
50 MR. MIKE: Thank you. First of all,

1 I'd like to ask Nanci if she received the document I  
2 emailed to her.

3

4 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Donald, I did.

5

6 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. This is the  
7 bulleted items that the Council as a group suggested as  
8 language to forward to the Federal Subsistence Board as  
9 far as recommendations. You each have a hard copy and  
10 I also sent a copy to Nanci. The Council can discuss  
11 these bullet items and get clarification and then we  
12 can just finalize the language.

13

14 Madame Chair, if I can request that you  
15 give an opportunity for Nanci to comment first since  
16 she's on teleconference.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you very much.  
21 You know, I feel like you've encapsulated a good  
22 portion of what we discussed. I don't know if we need  
23 to flesh out any more. The suggestion I made of why  
24 subsistence priority should be taken away rather than  
25 the criteria of those who can have subsistence  
26 priority, I guess the only thing I would add to enforce  
27 that is that it's been established that many of our  
28 communities out here, even though they're growing, lead  
29 to attrition in smaller communities, which basically  
30 means the flavors of our communities haven't changed  
31 even though our size is growing. We should have that  
32 privilege allotted to us unless proven otherwise. I  
33 guess that would be some more meat that I would like to  
34 add to that.

35

36 I also think that -- the other thing  
37 that I felt was perhaps missed in these bullets that  
38 still should be added, it was said in a number of  
39 different ways, so I'm not sure what the wording should  
40 be, but somehow that it should also be taken into  
41 consideration how much prior use, current use that  
42 communities use in order to determine where they should  
43 go in the future or what their allowance should be.

44

45 Those were the things that first came  
46 to mind and if I could, Madame Chair, I'd like to  
47 listen to everybody else's comments and if I have  
48 anything else, I would certainly be happy to ask to be  
49 heard again.

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

2

3 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
4 Ms. Morris, Staff also gave me some notes that we heard  
5 over the public testimony last night and today's  
6 testimony and discussion. The fourth bullet is  
7 highlighted in yellow: Why is it necessary to conduct  
8 a review every 10 years. Decisions can be made  
9 concerning rural, nonrural and should be left in place  
10 unless there are significant changes in a community  
11 status that warrants reconsideration by the Council and  
12 the Board. That's in addition to the bullets that are  
13 before you.

14

15 Under information sources, the last  
16 bulleted item, it states information is coming from  
17 outside influences, but should be coming from  
18 grassroots sources and we added such as Native tribes,  
19 NGOs, etcetera. Did you get that, Nanci?

20

21 MS. MORRIS LYON: I didn't, but I'm  
22 adding it.

23

24 MR. MIKE: Okay. I'll email you  
25 another copy when we get done with it.

26

27 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Donald.

28

29 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We'll take  
30 notes from here and you can discuss with the Council as  
31 far as how you want to proceed with this document.

32

33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any discussion  
34 from the Council. Are you in the process of adding a  
35 bullet or is this complete here?

36

37 MR. FOX: Madame Chair. I was just  
38 rearranging some things here to keep it within the  
39 different criteria that the Board was requesting, so I  
40 just added the bullet point that Donald just mentioned  
41 about the 10-year review.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan O'Hara.

44

45 MR. O'HARA: Donald, have we stated  
46 here strong enough that we would like an extension on  
47 this rural determination in our little bullets here?

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. If I may,  
50 if we took that top original bullet line that said the

1 shutdown of Federal government has caused delay in the  
2 public comment process. Maybe add to that and we think  
3 the comment deadline should be extended to December  
4 2nd. I would certainly be strongly supportive of that.

5  
6 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. It looks  
7 pretty good to me.

8  
9 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. I was just  
10 informed by our deputy that the comment deadline has  
11 been extended to December 2nd.

12  
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I would still  
14 leave it there because that was one of our strongest  
15 suggestions on this.

16  
17 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Maybe  
18 December 2nd may not be enough time.

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I agree with  
21 Lary. With the village meeting seasons,  
22 November/December, especially in our area, I'm hoping  
23 there will be enough time. The leaders are going to be  
24 traveling quite a bit between now and the end of  
25 December.

26  
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Maybe for clarification  
28 for me, on that last part Native tribes, NGOs,  
29 especially when you start talking NGOs, some of those  
30 could be -- are those considered outside influences,  
31 good or bad? I'm not quite sure how to read this. If  
32 you have Friends of Wolves or something, it might not  
33 be as welcome to us as other groups. Thanks.

34  
35 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. What is an  
36 NGO?

37  
38 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: What is NGO?

39  
40 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. My  
41 understanding is it's non-governmental organizations,  
42 so it could be Trout Unlimited, all these environmental  
43 groups, all sorts of different groups. Thanks.

44  
45 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair.

46  
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

48  
49 MR. MIKE: Is it the Council's  
50 suggestion we strike out the word NGOs?

1 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Are there  
2 community-based NGOs?  
3  
4 MR. DUNAWAY: Madame Chair. We have  
5 the Bristol Bay Heritage Land Trust that originated --  
6 was the Nushagak/Mulchatna-Wood/Tikchik Land Trust and  
7 that's one that I know of. There may be others.  
8  
9 MS. GOMEZ: Madame Chair. Members of  
10 the Council. If you're talking about like Alaska  
11 Native organizations, the common acronym would be ANO.  
12  
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I think ANOs  
14 would encompass outside of tribal council setting.  
15 With us, it would be all the BBs.  
16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I think we  
18 should put this in a form of a motion that we would  
19 send this to the Federal Subsistence Board from the  
20 Bristol Bay RAC. This motion would support the overall  
21 comments that's on this -- what's the thing we're  
22 talking about here.  
23  
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan, if we're  
25 satisfied with this, you can make the motion if you  
26 would.  
27  
28 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. I don't  
29 hear any more comments from the Council, so I will so  
30 move. We have this up here.  
31  
32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's a motion  
33 to adopt this rural determination recommendation from  
34 the Council by Dan O'Hara.  
35  
36 MR. O'HARA: Yeah, make sure you put  
37 her first words in there that says rural determination  
38 is what we're dealing with.  
39  
40 Thank you, Madame Chair.  
41  
42 MR. WILSON: Seconded.  
43  
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by  
45 Richard Wilson. Question.  
46  
47 MR. HILL: Question.  
48  
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The question has  
50 been called. All in favor say aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.  
2  
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.  
4  
5 MS. MORRIS LYON: Aye.  
6  
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. Any  
8 opposition.  
9  
10 (No opposing votes)  
11  
12 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Hearing none.  
13 It's carried. Donald.  
14  
15 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
16 I'll get this formatted in a correspondence format and  
17 I'll have you sign it and I'll email a copy to Nanci.  
18  
19 Thank you.  
20  
21 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I think we could  
22 have the lights so we can see. One of our Council  
23 members has to leave about 3:00 to catch his travel,  
24 Lary, so we'll be excusing him at that time or else  
25 he'll be stuck for a day or two.  
26  
27 Moving on to our agenda. We're down to  
28 agency reports. Continuing on from where we left off  
29 from yesterday. We're at C and that's NPS program  
30 updates, Katmai, Lake Clark updates.  
31  
32 MS. CHUNG: Hi. I'm Diane Chung. I'm  
33 the new superintendent for Katmai National Park and  
34 it's a pleasure to be here. Thank you for letting us  
35 speak to you today. Mary McBurney hopefully is still on  
36 the phone.  
37  
38 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes, I'm here.  
39  
40 MS. CHUNG: Okay. So why don't you go  
41 ahead and do the subsistence update. We're on Page 157  
42 of your books.  
43  
44 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
45 For the record, my name is Mary McBurney. When I  
46 identified myself earlier, I did not provide my full  
47 job title. I'm the subsistence program manager for the  
48 Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National  
49 Park and Preserve, Alagnak Wild River and the Lake  
50 Clark National Park and Preserve.

1 I realize that we're rather pressed for  
2 time this afternoon, so I'll run through the  
3 subsistence update rather quickly. Right now the SRC  
4 for the Aniakchak National Monument has a complete  
5 roster of members with no vacancies, which is a first  
6 in many, many years. Most recently the governor  
7 appointed Scott Anderson and Ronald Lind. Scott is  
8 from Port Heiden and Ronald is from Anchorage and  
9 Chignik Lake. Then the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory  
10 Council appointed Don Lind of Chignik Lake most  
11 recently.

12  
13 The SRC met on September 10th in  
14 Chignik Lake. While I realize that the RAC took action  
15 on wildlife proposals yesterday, with your permission,  
16 Madame Chair, I would like to read into the record the  
17 recommendations made by the Aniakchak SRC on WP14-01  
18 requiring the trapping regulations.

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. If the  
21 Council doesn't mind, that will be additional  
22 information.

23  
24 Thank you.

25  
26 Go ahead.

27  
28 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
29 Dear Ms. Chythlook, The Aniakchak National Monument  
30 Subsistence Resource Commission met on September 10,  
31 2013 and considered the following proposal to make  
32 regulatory changes to the Federal subsistence hunting  
33 program. With regard to Statewide Proposal WP14-01,  
34 the Aniakchak SRC makes the following recommendation:

35  
36 The SRC opposes this proposal. The  
37 proposed requirements would be burdensome for  
38 subsistence trappers and may be a disincentive for  
39 local residents interested in getting into trapping.  
40 Trappers from the South Alaska Peninsula communities  
41 run their traplines regularly and the SRC is not aware  
42 of anyone who goes as long as six days between checking  
43 their traps. One SRC member says he checks his traps  
44 daily to make sure the pelts of animals caught are in  
45 the best condition possible.

46  
47 Enforcement of these new requirements  
48 would also be difficult due to a limited NPS law  
49 enforcement presence in the Aniakchak National Monument  
50 and Preserve and the challenges of patrolling remote

1 traplines.

2

3

4 The Aniakchak National Monument SRC  
5 values the opportunity to review Federal Subsistence  
6 proposals that may affect rural subsistence users on  
7 the South Peninsula. We appreciate the vast  
8 consideration of our input and recommendation on WP14-  
9 01. Sincerely, Harry Kalmakoff, Vice Chair.

9

10 That concludes the letter, Madame  
11 Chair.

12

13

14 The next meeting of the Aniakchak SRC  
15 is scheduled just before the next meeting of the RAC  
16 and that will be on January 30, 2014 in Port Heiden.

16

17

18 The other item of note that might be of  
19 interest to you is that in conjunction with that  
20 September meeting of the Aniakchak SRC in Chignik Lake  
21 Superintendent Chung, myself and Troy Hamon took a tour  
22 of the five Aniakchak resident zoned communities  
23 between September 10th and 12th and had an opportunity  
24 to meet with tribal and community members and to also  
25 give Diane an opportunity to get acquainted with the  
26 communities in her area.

26

27

28 One of the high points was we made it  
29 to sponsor a movie night in Chignik Lake and Port  
30 Heiden to show the new Park Service film, The Ends of  
31 the Earth: Alaska's Wild Peninsula. That was very well  
32 received by the folks in -- and very well attended I  
33 might add in those communities. In addition, Diane  
34 also had the opportunity to meet with local teachers  
35 and to visit both elementary and secondary students at  
36 the schools in Chignik Lake and Port Heiden.

36

37

38 That concludes my report for the  
39 subsistence division.

39

40

41 MS. CHUNG: Thanks, Mary. Troy Hamon  
42 is here to talk about the resource programs.

42

43

44 MR. HAMON: Hello, Madame Chair,  
45 members of the Council. My name is Troy Hamon. I'm  
46 the resource manager for Katmai National Park,  
47 Aniakchak National Monument and the Alagnak Wild River.  
48 That now includes both the natural and cultural  
49 resource program.

49

50

I won't give too much detail in the

1 interest of being timely. Our major wildlife survey  
2 work in our units is brown bears and moose. The brown  
3 bear surveys that we've done have been divided into two  
4 separate groups. One set of surveys that we do that  
5 have a long-standing history but don't necessarily have  
6 an easy analysis are the aggregation surveys. Those  
7 are on salmon streams. We've recently added surveys of  
8 coastal meadows.

9  
10 What we have been trying to do in  
11 conjunction with the Southwest Alaska Monitoring  
12 Program that's a joint program with some other parks,  
13 including Lake Clark, is we've been trying to add a  
14 method to get more status and trends information on  
15 bears that can be statistically robust, I guess is the  
16 right word. It makes the biometricians happy. That's  
17 proved somewhat elusive. So we have performed line  
18 transect counts in the past. Those proved to be fairly  
19 expensive and probably not sustainable.

20  
21 We've been trying a den survey  
22 procedure these last couple years. We don't have a  
23 report on that yet, but there's at least some promise  
24 that it may provide us a better way to track numbers  
25 through time at a park-wide level. In the meantime,  
26 the aggregation surveys have -- for the last couple  
27 years the bear aggregations on salmon streams in our  
28 primary drainages of note have been below the numbers  
29 we were seeing in 2007 and '08 when the numbers were  
30 extremely high, but there's still no shortage of bears  
31 as I'm sure many of you would have guessed.

32  
33 Moose surveys. I don't have a whole  
34 lot to add to what I covered last spring at the  
35 meeting. You've already heard from Dominique Watts and  
36 from Andy Aderman about moose survey process. The  
37 importance of good snow and the challenge of that. One  
38 thing that I would add to that is that we have seen in  
39 our data the sort of sporadic nature of the  
40 aggregations we do have. We sample in trend areas. I  
41 know people often want us to represent trend area data.  
42 We will probably tend to show you aggregate area and  
43 I'll give you a quick example of why that is.

44  
45 Last year we found relatively few moose  
46 in the Branch River trend area, but right outside the  
47 Branch River trend area on a 20-mile section of the  
48 Branch River there was over 200 moose in 20 miles.  
49 This fall you can't find a moose in that section of the  
50 Branch River, at least I can't.

1                   We did perform one survey where we  
2 were, as Dominique Watts explained, trying to get  
3 composition data because we can do that even if the  
4 snow cover isn't good for counts. The trend area that  
5 we were doing that work in the number that we counted  
6 for that composition survey was higher than normal for  
7 a regular trend area count with bad conditions. So  
8 some years there 's more moose grouped up in those  
9 areas and some years there's not.

10

11                   We are trying -- as Dom described we're  
12 also trying to do the composition counts regardless of  
13 snow conditions in the fall. If those conditions are  
14 good, then we'll make use of that to get a full trend  
15 area count. If not, then we reserve the trend area  
16 count for the best snow we get between January and  
17 March.

18

19                   Are there any questions on any of that  
20 before I move on?

21

22                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

23

24                   MR. O'HARA: I was talking to a guide.  
25 I imagine you kept track of the fall season in the bear  
26 hunt.

27

28                   MR. HAMON: Well, we weren't working.

29

30                   MR. O'HARA: Oh, okay.

31

32                   (Laughter)

33

34                   MR. O'HARA: Well, let me tell you  
35 somebody who was working, okay?

36

37                   (Laughter)

38

39                   MR. O'HARA: I was at the D&D with a  
40 friend and he had a friend with him and I just met him,  
41 but he was guiding from Unit 17 Mulchatna area all the  
42 way down to the west side of Nakeen and that was his  
43 guide area. He said the bears were not normal this  
44 particular season and the boars were traveling long,  
45 long distances. So what he would do is he would go  
46 ahead of the bears and camp and he got seven out of  
47 eight, which is a pretty good record and they were  
48 pretty big bears. So I don't know if lack of berries  
49 or what happened there, but they'll survive regardless.

50

1                   On your moose, can you give us any kind  
2 of idea of the ratio of calf and bulls in relationship  
3 to cows.

4  
5                   MR. HAMON: I didn't bring that in a  
6 document ready for you, but the numbers that Dom  
7 presented include all the areas that we looked at, so I  
8 would consider that the same. Dom mentioned that this  
9 year we've been seeing really high twinning rates and  
10 I've even just seen that observation this year, at  
11 least south of the Naknek.

12  
13                   In terms of cultural resources, just a  
14 couple of things. Our archeologist that is based in  
15 Anchorage, Dale Vincent, has been our point of contact  
16 on an ethnographic survey of the history of reindeer  
17 herding in the Bristol Bay region, but that project is  
18 primarily being conducted by a couple of Fairbanks  
19 University staff. Amber Lincoln has been down to visit  
20 in the region and has gone out and spent time with  
21 people on the ground.

22  
23                   If you're interested in that survey,  
24 there's a website for the project and there's contact  
25 information. Or if you want, I can try to get you  
26 contact information.

27  
28                   MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Troy. With  
29 respect to the communities on the DEER study, you  
30 should also visit the Iliamna area. There were corrals  
31 in the area and they used some of the larger flat  
32 islands as natural corrals, especially during spring.  
33 So I think maybe a visit to that area may help with  
34 some of the data.

35  
36                   MR. HAMON: Thank you. I will pass  
37 that on. I don't know the reason that the survey was  
38 designed around this, whether it's something that had a  
39 basis in the actual study design or if they overlooked  
40 some of that, but I'll pass that on.

41  
42                   MR. HILL: Thank you.

43  
44                   MR. HAMON: As we've described before,  
45 there been some work going on at Brooks Camp and I  
46 won't talk about that, but we did also conduct an  
47 ethnographic survey of the Brooks River area in part to  
48 evaluate the effective development at Brooks Camp and  
49 the landscape. I have not seen the outcome of that.

50

1                   And the larger survey down the  
2 peninsula, the Chignik Meshik Archeological Survey was  
3 a fairly extensive multi-agency and academic cooperato  
4 survey looking at mostly prehistoric settlements that  
5 hadn't been identified before. They were trying to get  
6 as good of a map as they could and that survey should  
7 have reports coming out soon as well.

8  
9                   I think with that the only other thing  
10 I would add is that if you flip a couple of pages  
11 there's a Southwest Area Inventory and Monitoring  
12 Network section on Page 160 at the bottom. It mentions  
13 two things. One is at the bottom you'll see brown bear  
14 monitoring. I've already described that. That's a  
15 joint project between us and them, so we ended up  
16 having it in here twice.

17  
18                   The top one is lichen inventory. We  
19 have a number of these kinds of projects where we are  
20 trying to understand our resources at a level that  
21 allows us to decide how much to monitor and we've  
22 started a lichen inventory for part of that. Some of  
23 you probably know that lichen is one of the critical  
24 winter resources for caribou as well. They're not well  
25 characterized regionally and we're trying to get ahead  
26 of that while we have the opportunity in our area.

27  
28                   CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

29  
30                   MR. WILSON: Madame Chair, thanks.  
31 Troy, I notice the ethnographic survey you took on the  
32 Brooks River you guys were planning on putting a bridge  
33 across, so you made up the survey here and it's talking  
34 about ethnographic values related to traditional Alaska  
35 Native use on the Brooks River. It goes on to say the  
36 interview was with South Naknek, King Salmon, Naknek  
37 and other communities to determine who fished, hunted  
38 and camped at Brooks River. I guess I'd be curious to  
39 know how that turned out, realizing that we don't have  
40 those opportunities anymore. So, that survey being  
41 taken, what kind of clout would it carry if there was  
42 instead of a lot of yeses a lot of nos or whatever the  
43 value, the yes or nos, in those communities? What kind  
44 of value would that carry on making your decision or  
45 making any decision on whether to put a bridge across  
46 Brooks?

47  
48                   MR. HAMON: I'm fairly new to the  
49 cultural resource side and I'm new to that project, so  
50 I don't know that project as well as I should. The

1 answer is in at least two parts though. Whenever we do  
2 a public process to evaluate agency action, any  
3 substantive input we get is highly considered. This  
4 was gathered in the process and I know that it's been  
5 evaluated, but I haven't read it because at the time I  
6 was a natural resource manager and I read those  
7 sections of the bridge evaluation and not this one. So  
8 I came a little less prepared for that than I should  
9 have.

10

11 I don't know what other communities  
12 were included, but I suspect that what they're  
13 discussing is places that people have moved to who are  
14 from the more resident communities, but people who may  
15 have lived in this area that moved to Anchorage or  
16 elsewhere but still have ties to the land.

17

18 MR. WILSON: Thank you. It is a big  
19 and has always been a big concern of ours, you know,  
20 that area up there for the residents of Naknek Lake. I  
21 would hope that these surveys would be taken seriously  
22 and well done and done properly so they can get all the  
23 information they can. There's a lot of old information  
24 even that's in the archives before the conception of  
25 the Park that relate a lot to this stuff here and I  
26 guess I'd be curious to know where all that information  
27 goes and what kind of clout it carries when people are  
28 making decisions to remodel Brooks being a National  
29 Park.

30

31 MR. HAMON: Madame Chair. Council  
32 Member Wilson. What I can do is I can go back and  
33 evaluate the project and I could speak with you  
34 separately or I could bring it back to the next Council  
35 meeting with the report and whatever information you  
36 were hoping for at that point, whichever you prefer.

37

38 MR. WILSON: I guess I'd prefer that  
39 something like this -- it's not just me carrying info,  
40 it's the community. That something like this would  
41 come back to the community on possible preliminary  
42 conclusion sort of thing so that we have a chance to  
43 see what kind of wording has been placed and why and  
44 then have some deliberation there. That would be my  
45 hopes.

46

47 MR. HAMON: Madame Chair. Council  
48 Member Wilson. I understand that in part that process  
49 is inherent in the National Environmental Policy Act  
50 process that involved the evaluation of the bridge.

1 What we could do is an additional follow up just on the  
2 results of this survey and I will see what I can set  
3 up.

4

5 MR. WILSON: The bridge is only a  
6 portion of what's going on there. There's also a  
7 relocation of buildings. Basically the whole  
8 structure, I believe, or the whole facility is getting  
9 relocated. So, yeah, there is a big interest  
10 community-wise for keeping updated on this. Before  
11 things are finalized it would be great to have the  
12 info.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 MR. HAMON: And there will be a little  
17 more information about Brooks Camp at the larger scale  
18 that the Superintendent has to provide unless she hands  
19 me the sheet.

20

21 MS. CHUNG: Madame Chair. We prepared  
22 a short update on Brooks Camp at the request -- it was  
23 on the initial agenda for this meeting, so we went  
24 ahead and prepared a little paper and hopefully you've  
25 gotten copies of that. There's more on the table back  
26 here.

27

28 We just kind of wanted to go back  
29 through the history a little bit on the Brooks Camp  
30 issues and just give you a little update. What Richard  
31 was referring to was back in 1996 we had a development  
32 concept plan that decided to move all Brooks Camp  
33 facilities across the Brooks River. Since then the  
34 reality of that is uncertain. It has a very large  
35 price tag on it and we need to figure out how to keep  
36 Brooks Camp functioning while we do any types of  
37 moving.

38

39 We've already started a little bit with  
40 -- we completed a new maintenance building and prepared  
41 for infrastructure for our employee housing area on the  
42 other side of Brooks River from Brooks Camp. Last year  
43 we prepared an EIS to look at the access issues in the  
44 '96 plan and they made a decision back in April and I  
45 had just shown up here and all the work was pretty much  
46 done. It identified access to be by float plane on the  
47 Brooks Camp beach, so that would remain and the river  
48 crossings would be done on an elevated bridge and a  
49 walkway.

50

1                   We were constructing a barge landing  
2 and we're still looking at doing that next summer and  
3 that would connect to the road. That would allow us a  
4 place to store our barge in the winter and have good  
5 access to the lake. We actually have funding for both  
6 these projects. The barge is going to be, as I said,  
7 this coming summer and tentatively the walkway and  
8 bridge is going to be in 2015-16. After we finish  
9 constructing the bridge and walkway, we'll start moving  
10 at least the employee housing out of Brooks Camp and it  
11 will be looking at evaluating moving the rest of the  
12 facilities as it's feasible and funding is available.  
13 So there will be another process that we'll look at.

14  
15                   Meanwhile, we will consider all the  
16 cultural resource information that we acquire. I  
17 wasn't here when we analyzed this proposal. I just get  
18 to implement it.

19  
20                   Just a couple other small issues --  
21 well, maybe not so small. We listed our hunt guide  
22 concessions. We did award two contracts in the  
23 preserve of Katmai and those were awarded in September.  
24 We continue to have three guides in Aniakchak.

25  
26                   The Katmai redbfish, Richard and I have  
27 talked the last couple days about this. We proposed  
28 having a meeting of the three village council  
29 representatives to work out a way to identify the  
30 people who are qualified to collect redbfish.

31  
32                   The other thing is Richard brought up  
33 the restrictions on the dates and the locations and  
34 those were actually set in Alaska State fishing regs.  
35 So if we need to change those, we need to work through  
36 the State process.

37  
38                   The last thing I wanted to bring up was  
39 the Pike Ridge Trail. I know that is of interest to  
40 this group. This project stalled back in 2008. It's a  
41 personal priority of mine to try and resolve this  
42 issue. We had an internal scoping meeting with our  
43 staff in the regional office last month and we're  
44 looking at options and talking to the State and BLM.  
45 We're also looking at trying to figure out how to fund  
46 our planning for this.

47  
48                   That concludes our updates. Do you  
49 have any questions?

50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll toss out several  
4 things I've been interested in. This guide concession,  
5 we recommended shifting the shapes of them a little  
6 bit, I think, didn't we and allowing two more equally  
7 sized ones? I'm just curious, did you feel it worked  
8 out pretty well?

9

10 MR. HAMON: We did end up choosing to  
11 offer two concessions  
12 that were more similar in size. I think the difference  
13 is 16 clients in one and 12 in the other, something  
14 like that, instead of 3 and 25. At this point, we  
15 don't know how the operators will be, but we feel on  
16 paper it makes more sense as business opportunity  
17 divided in that fashion. I don't know if we can tell  
18 you if it worked out or not, but we thought it would  
19 work out and the analysis said it would work out, which  
20 is why we chose it.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay, thanks. Good to  
23 see some progress on that. This redbfish thing goes on  
24 and on and on and on. Do you actually have to have  
25 who's out there? Could you somehow grant the authority  
26 for maybe so much fish to be taken by -- I forget the  
27 different groups over there. This is a total hangup  
28 and in a way I can see that -- it gets hard. It seems  
29 the Park Service is fixated on exactly who is getting  
30 it when we've heard a lot about how subsistence works  
31 and it's shared amongst folks. I kind of think it  
32 might be to some degree kind of a dwindling use. If  
33 this one place is a hangup, I wish we could get over  
34 it. Thanks.

35

36 MS. CHUNG: I think our interest is  
37 primarily who is authorized. If they just have a card  
38 or -- I mean we can make it fairly simply. It's just  
39 when our rangers go out there, they just need to know  
40 it's not just anybody.

41

42 MR. HAMON: And just to expand a little  
43 bit. One of the challenges that we have as an agency  
44 with this is that it is a public law that is not  
45 subsistence. It is a traditional use fishery and the  
46 law specifically states that it's authorized for  
47 descendants of people who lived in the Naknek Lake  
48 drainage within the Park.

49

50 Unlike subsistence, which is broader at

1 the rural resident level, we've been given a law that  
2 authorizes use by a constrained set of people who are  
3 descendants and that's what we have to work with. I  
4 think we agree with you, but we don't have a way to  
5 solve the problem ourselves.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thanks. All  
8 right. Since 24 years ago I started working in this  
9 area, living in this area, it's been -- I'm tickled.  
10 When I first got here, it was just no. I was like,  
11 come on, let the folks do it. So, good luck. I hope  
12 you folks can work it out.

13

14 I heard you guys talking.

15

16 And I'm really glad to see that the  
17 Pike Ridge Trail is a priority. Again, one of these  
18 nagging issues that could be resolved. It just needs  
19 to be resolved.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 MR. O'HARA: Dan, on this redfish  
24 issue, we got pretty close to home on this here a while  
25 back. I thought when we sat down with the Park Service  
26 people that we had laid out a very good plan. I think  
27 one of the things that guys like Richard and myself  
28 need to do is we need to sit down with the village  
29 council and start getting them up to speed so that in  
30 all fairness if we go up there and we're registered  
31 with traditional council and we got a gillnet, which  
32 was an act of Congress doing subsistence within -- you  
33 never heard of a net being in a National Park ever  
34 before. Murkowski, Stevens and Young took care of that  
35 for the Bristol Bay Native Corporation. It was a long  
36 haul. I was there when it happened, on the board.

37

38 Anyway, I think we need to get the  
39 group of people of us that sat down at the table when  
40 Ralph Moore was here. He also did a good job. Ms.  
41 Chung, we're glad you're expanding out in the  
42 communities and looking at things. That does not go  
43 unnoticed when you go to Port Heiden and different  
44 places and meet the local people and see how they live.  
45 I think South Naknek's office is now in Wasilla or  
46 Palmer.

47

48 We'll work it out.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

1 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
2 We're real close. We've dealt with this in the last  
3 couple days like Diane has mentioned here. From here  
4 we go to our AC, Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Council. We  
5 have a meeting next month. From there we're going to  
6 formulate some sort of a proposal to go before the  
7 State. In the booklet there changed the dates and  
8 other issues that we can that would be acceptable by  
9 the Park. We'll bring this proposal back to the Park  
10 and see if this is something that is going to be doable  
11 before we send it on, I imagine. So, yeah, I think  
12 we're gaining ground on that.

13  
14 As for the Pike Ridge Trail, you say  
15 it's a priority of yours or it's something that you  
16 really want to accomplish. That's good in a way. It  
17 rides the property line of Pavik, the local Native  
18 corporation's lands holdings and there's a lot of iffy  
19 spots that go in and out. We've discussed this at  
20 length and we're willing to discuss it even more. This  
21 trail, if the Park was to put something permanent in  
22 there, it would mean increased traffic, of course, and  
23 with that increased traffic we have private land  
24 holdings that will probably be just across the trail on  
25 the other side because it would basically be a boundary  
26 line, I imagine, unless it's way inside the Park, and  
27 that's totally up to you.

28  
29 (Laughter)

30  
31 MR. WILSON: So that's some of the  
32 issues behind that Pike Ridge Trail that you talk so  
33 frequently about. We'd love to, as a corporation, sit  
34 down and have meetings about this and it could go  
35 places.

36  
37 Thanks.

38  
39 MS. CHUNG: Thank you. We'll talk.

40  
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.

44  
45 MS. MORRIS LYON: I was just thinking  
46 about some things that Courtenay had been saying  
47 earlier with BBNA and I would like to maybe just throw  
48 out there to Courtenay and the BBNA staff that for  
49 possible consideration in the future to take on a  
50 project such as making a manifest of the Katmai group

1 and figuring out a way to continue to register it in  
2 the future so that once we do get this sorted out, it  
3 could be in continuum instead of temporary once again  
4 as further generations come along.

5  
6 Thank you, Madame Chair.

7  
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Any more  
9 comments.

10  
11 (No comments)

12  
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Every meeting  
14 with our Park and Preserve people I'm encouraged every  
15 time we meet. For a long time it's been like hard to  
16 get through your system, but I think with you guys  
17 trying -- I know you need to be in line with your laws  
18 and regulations and your land areas are a little more  
19 preserved, guarded, versus the State lands that we've  
20 been working with and work well with the State, but I'm  
21 encouraged that you guys are trying, at least trying to  
22 comply with our wishes.

23  
24 With the redfish issue, I'm glad that  
25 you're working one on one with the people that are  
26 making use of it. Redfish is a little bit different.  
27 Once it gets into fish water it becomes -- you know,  
28 the skin turns white -- the skin turns red, the meat  
29 turns white, so that changes the consistency of use for  
30 a lot of people. My husband and I live on it. We need  
31 to have that on a yearly basis. We have three sons  
32 that won't touch it because they can't get past spawn  
33 out term. You know, this fish is about to die. We'll  
34 eat it when it's read, but we won't -- you know.

35  
36 So, like Dan says, the use of that fish  
37 is not as popular as salmon. By you guys trying to  
38 find these people that are not able to -- older people  
39 that are not able to go up and harvest and maybe you  
40 might have these younger generation that don't eat it  
41 but will maybe harvest it for somebody else. So I've  
42 always had a heartache about trying to find these  
43 people that traditionally used it, to have a hangup on  
44 that, to move forward.  
45 So I'm anxious to hear what the outcome of -- hopefully  
46 it's going to get to the point where we won't see this  
47 on our agenda and everybody else is happy, but I  
48 wouldn't want anybody telling me not to harvest my  
49 spawn-outs.

50

1 Is there any more -- Richard.

2

3 MR. WILSON: Madame Chair. If I may.  
4 One more thought there, guys. In the Brooks Relocation  
5 Program, I notice you have a concessioner that's in  
6 there. In relocating, does this concessioner get to  
7 relocate inside the Park also or does he have to  
8 relocate outside once -- does he move along with you  
9 guys and it's approved or is this something that he's  
10 got to do outside the Park now?

11

12 MS. CHUNG: Madame Chair. Council  
13 Member Wilson. The concessioner will most likely be  
14 staying where he is right now. There's no plans and  
15 this is what I was talking about with not having the  
16 funding. So if we need to move the concessioner, we  
17 would have to pretty much pay for it. The price tag is  
18 somewhere between \$50-75 million to move all of Brooks  
19 Camp right now.

20

21 MR. WILSON: How often is the  
22 concessioner title up for grabs or ever?

23

24 MS. CHUNG: I'm not an expert on this,  
25 but this is a historic concession. He was actually  
26 there before the Park was expanded, so he has the  
27 rights to continue to operate in this concession as  
28 long as he wants to. The contract was going to expire  
29 this year. We've extended it for two years because we  
30 don't have the capacity to rewrite the contract. So we  
31 don't actually compete it. We just negotiate a new  
32 contract with him.

33

34 MR. HILL: Madame Chair. I don't want  
35 this to become a contentious issue, but this sort of  
36 bothers me where this person is grandfathered in to  
37 have the concession privileges and yet our own people  
38 who are in the area cannot themselves be grandfathered  
39 the same with the subsistence uses.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. If no  
42 more questions, thank you.

43

44 MS. CHUNG: Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The next people  
47 that are up are the SRC membership. Oh, Mary did that.  
48 Okay.

49

50 MS. CHUNG: She will.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Oh, she will.

2

3 MS. MCBURNEY: Madame Chair. I also  
4 have an update for Lake Clark National Park if you'd  
5 like me to cover that for you.

6

7 (Council whispering to each other)

8

9 MS. MCBURNEY: I'll take that as a yes.  
10 Madame Chair. For the record again my name is Mary  
11 McBurney. I'm the subsistence program manager for the  
12 Katmai National Park and Preserve, Aniakchak National  
13 Park and Preserve, Alagnak Wild River and the Lake  
14 Clark National Park and Preserve.

15

16 I'll just hit on a few highlights for  
17 Lake Clark. First of all, I'd just like to mention  
18 that the Lake Clark Subsistence Resource Commission  
19 recently had a meeting scheduled for October 3, which  
20 unfortunately was postponed because of government  
21 shutdown, but they did reach agreement by  
22 teleconference that we're able to take official action  
23 on a couple of the proposals that concerned subsistence  
24 in their area.

25

26 With the permission of the Chair, I  
27 would like to read a letter into the record from the  
28 Lake Clark SRC regarding their recommendations on these  
29 proposals.

30

31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Go ahead, Mary.

32

33 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
34 Dear Ms. Chythlook, The Lake Clark National Park  
35 Subsistence Resource Commission met on October 25, 2013  
36 and considered the following regulatory proposals  
37 affecting Federally qualified subsistence users at Lake  
38 Clark National Park and Preserve.

39

40 The SRC reviewed Proposals WP14-01 and  
41 WP14-22 and makes the following recommendations. With  
42 regard to WP14-01 concerning trapper identification  
43 tags and other trapping requirements, the SRC opposes  
44 this proposal. They discussed this proposal at length  
45 and found it problematic on a number of points. First,  
46 it is not clear what problems the new measures are  
47 intended to correct and why the proposed requirements  
48 are necessary to implement statewide.

49

50 Requiring metal identification tags on

1 traps and snares and additional harvest reports would  
2 be burdensome for rural subsistence trappers.  
3 Additionally, mandating that the traps and snares be  
4 checked every six days or less has the potential to  
5 turn subsistence trappers into inadvertent violators if  
6 they cannot run their traplines within a six-day limit  
7 due to inclement weather or poor travel conditions.

8

9                   Approving this proposal would make  
10 Federal trapping regulations inconsistent with State  
11 trapping regulations and create confusion for local  
12 subsistence users. For these reasons the SRC opposes  
13 WP14-01.

14

15                   With respect to WP14-22, requiring a  
16 State registration permit for a number of units in the  
17 Bristol Bay Region, the SRC supports this proposal  
18 provided that the State registration permits can be  
19 easily obtained by local subsistence users either in  
20 their home communities or online.

21

22                   The SRC appreciates the opportunity to  
23 make recommendations on Federal subsistence proposals  
24 that affect subsistence hunting and trapping in Lake  
25 Clark National Park and Preserve. Thank you for  
26 considering the SRC's report's input in your  
27 deliberations. Sincerely, Glen Alsworth, Senior Chair,  
28 Lake Clark National Park SRC.

29

30                   That concludes the recommendations.

31

32                   Also of note for the subsistence  
33 division most recently, the Park did help facilitate a  
34 meeting in Nondalton to discuss changes that have been  
35 made to State fishing regulations regarding fresh  
36 waters of Bristol Bay, but subsistence users in  
37 Nondalton had expressed concern about specifically they  
38 were concerned about whether discarding fish waste from  
39 fish camps into either Six Mile Lake or Newhalen River  
40 would be considered chumming under these new State  
41 regulations.

42

43                   We did provide an opportunity for the  
44 local Alaska State Trooper, Trooper Lons, to meet with  
45 the local subsistence users and answer their questions.  
46 We'll continue to work with the troopers on this and  
47 other subsistence issues as they arise to facilitate  
48 these sort of things with local residents in our  
49 resident zoned communities.

50

1                   In the past, we have Buck Mangipane,  
2 the Lake Clark wildlife biologist, provide reports on  
3 wolf survey and data analysis work that has been doing  
4 over the past several years. Buck is about ready to  
5 finalize a report that is going to be summarized in the  
6 results of his multi-year study and we would like to  
7 have him added to the agenda for the February 11th and  
8 12th meeting in Naknek this coming February so that he  
9 can present his findings to you personally and be  
10 available to answer your questions.

11  
12                   Work has also been completed on the  
13 juvenile sockeye salmon study that Danielle has been  
14 working on for the past three years. Again, a final  
15 report will be made available sometime in the coming  
16 year and we will provide that to the RAC as soon as  
17 it's completed and available.

18  
19                   In the Newhalen River counting tower,  
20 this is operational between June 30 and August 7 of  
21 this past summer and the escapement numbers finally  
22 came in at 230,844 sockeye for 2013. The final count is  
23 approximately 60 percent of the historic average  
24 escapement since he began counting in 2000. What was  
25 interesting particularly about this year s run is that  
26 it peaked twice. The first peak coming around July  
27 13th, which was approximately 11 days earlier than the  
28 historic cumulative count, then the second peaking  
29 arriving around July 24 and that was consistent with  
30 the historic cumulative count.

31  
32                   As far as the Cultural Resources  
33 Division has been concerned, they've been quite busy  
34 this past year. Most notably there was a gathering of  
35 elders that was convened by the Nondalton Tribal  
36 Council and Lake Clark National Park Cultural Resources  
37 Division. I believe RAC member Lary Hill was also a  
38 participant in this Elder's Gathering. This took place  
39 May 30th and 31st and there were 30 elders representing  
40 seven communities  
41 and they were there to discuss a variety of different  
42 topics and to develop strategies for how to pass along  
43 traditional knowledge and traditional customs regarding  
44 subsistence and other traditional practices to younger  
45 generations.

46  
47                   One of the things I would have  
48 presented to you had we been successful in arriving at  
49 the meeting would have been a poster that was produced  
50 for this Gathering of Elders.

1                   There's also a beautiful exhibit on The  
2 Dena'ina Way of Living that is currently at the  
3 Anchorage Museum and this was a long-time coming  
4 project that the ethnography program for the Park had  
5 been working on. It's an amazing exhibit. It's going  
6 to be at the museum through January 12th. So anybody  
7 that has an opportunity to come through Anchorage  
8 between now and January 12th I encourage you to take a  
9 look at the exhibit. It is quite extraordinary.

10  
11                   There were a couple of archeological  
12 projects that took place in the Park over the summer.  
13 One in Hardenberg Bay found a number of artifacts that  
14 were rather unusual in that they were made of obsidian,  
15 which is not a material that you find locally. They  
16 later found through analysis that the obsidian was  
17 carried or traded from a site called Batza Tena, which  
18 is in Interior Alaska and quite a ways away from Lake  
19 Clark National Park and the site appears to date around  
20 1,500 years ago.

21  
22                   Then there was Kayak Point, which is a  
23 rather popular camping location in the Park, another  
24 site with just a few very rudimentary bits of charcoal  
25 and other remains was discovered, but appears to date  
26 to about 2,500 years ago.

27  
28                   Park historian John Branson is  
29 currently working on producing a history of Lake Clark  
30 National Park that will be released in late 2014 and we  
31 plan to have copies available for that hopefully by the  
32 spring of 2015 for your meeting.

33  
34                   In the Concessions Program, Lisa Fox is  
35 currently working on developing a prospectus for guided  
36 hunter services in Lake Clark National Park and plans  
37 to publish a request for proposals in May of 2014.  
38 People that are interested in being added to the  
39 mailing list for that hunting prospectus can contact  
40 Lisa directly at 644-3644 or can email her at  
41 [lisa\\_fox@nps.gov](mailto:lisa_fox@nps.gov).

42  
43                   Finally, I would like to take this  
44 opportunity to introduce the new superintendent for  
45 Lake Clark National Park. I saved the best for last.  
46 We had hoped to be there in person and I was looking  
47 forward to introducing you personally, but I would like  
48 to introduce you right now to our Superintendent  
49 Margaret Goodro.

50

1 MS. GOODRO: Good afternoon, Madame  
2 Chair. I look forward to meeting you at the next  
3 meeting and the rest of the Council members. I know  
4 folks are anxious to get moving and so we'll wrap that  
5 up for Lake Clark.

6  
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. Any  
8 questions.

9  
10 Dan O'Hara.

11  
12 MR. O'HARA: Hey, Mary McBurney.  
13 Greetings. It's nice to hear your voice.

14  
15 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you.

16  
17 MR. O'HARA: Sorry we didn't get to see  
18 you. Did you mention that this Council is having a  
19 meeting on February 11 and 12?

20  
21 MS. MCBURNEY: That was what I saw on  
22 the calendar.

23  
24 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Thank you very  
25 much.

26  
27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

28  
29 MR. DUNAWAY: This just popped into my  
30 head, Mary. Some time ago we were wrestling with some  
31 subsistence methods and means and I think didn't we  
32 ultimately allow like a fish trap or weir over in that  
33 area? I was just wondering if anybody had ever made  
34 use of that opportunity since that came about.

35  
36 Thank you.

37  
38 MS. MCBURNEY: Through the Chair. Dan,  
39 that is correct. We did change regulations and fish  
40 traps, bows and arrows, spears and capture by hand are  
41 all now allowed, but with respect to the traps, which  
42 do require a permit, to date we have not had any  
43 requests for permits.

44  
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.

46  
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other  
48 questions for Mary.

49  
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: If not, thank  
2 you, Mary.  
3  
4 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
5  
6 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: And the new  
7 Superintendent, is it Margaret?  
8  
9 MS. GOODRO: Yes, ma'am.  
10  
11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I look forward  
12 to meeting you in our spring meeting. I need to  
13 apologize for the Partners Program. I completely  
14 skipped over your agenda here. So, if you're ready,  
15 you're next in line.  
16  
17 DR. INGLES: Can you hear me?  
18  
19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Who is this?  
20 Nanci?  
21  
22 DR. INGLES: No. Did you say you're  
23 doing the Partners Program?  
24  
25 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Were you still  
26 going? You still had more information for us or.....  
27  
28 DR. INGLES: We did. We're just going  
29 to give an overview of the Partners Program.  
30  
31 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Yes.  
32  
33 DR. INGLES: Yes, you want me to go  
34 ahead?  
35  
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, yes.  
37  
38 DR. INGLES: All right.  
39  
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I thought I was  
41 talking to Mary again.  
42  
43 DR. INGLES: Oh, I thought you said  
44 Palma. I'm sorry. I'm listening in on this and I'm  
45 having a hard time hearing. Okay. My name is Palma  
46 Ingles. I'm the coordinator of the Partners Program.  
47 You do have your information on the Partners Program on  
48 Page 116, so you're welcome to read that. I'll just  
49 briefly give you the outline for the Partners Program.  
50

1                   It's set up through the Office of  
2 Subsistence management and we're on a four-year funding  
3 cycle. Currently we have five Native organizations  
4 that are our partners and all the people that they have  
5 working with them are fish biologists at the current  
6 time. I'm just going to highlight a few things about  
7 the program.

8  
9                   The program was set up to broaden and  
10 strengthen partnerships with rural communities that  
11 will facilitate and improve dialogue between the  
12 partners, the RACs, OSM, Federal and State resource  
13 managers and subsistence users. One of the beauties of  
14 this whole program is we have people living out in the  
15 communities where they work, so they're available to  
16 the constituents that they work with and subsistence  
17 users. They help disseminate information, they work on  
18 the FRMP projects, they attend the RAC meetings.  
19 Courtenay gave you a little bit of an overview for a  
20 few minutes on the Partners Program.

21  
22                   So it's been a very successful program.  
23 We consider it really important between the Federal  
24 Subsistence Program and rural Alaskans. The partners  
25 are required to be an investigator or a co-investigator  
26 for the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, so that  
27 puts them directly in touch with the research that's  
28 going on.

29  
30                   One really important goal is to work  
31 with local youths and provide opportunities for youth  
32 in the area to work on these summer projects and it  
33 gives them a good overview of what it's like to work  
34 with natural resource management. The hope is that  
35 more of these students will eventually become resource  
36 managers and get their college degrees and the  
37 experience to work in their own community or other  
38 communities in Alaska with resource management.

39  
40                   Courtenay has done a great job over the  
41 years and I have Danielle in the position and they've  
42 been able to provide opportunities for many other  
43 students throughout the BBNA area. They work as  
44 liaisons to bridge the gap between local subsistence  
45 users and regulatory agencies and they provide timely  
46 information to local communities about fisheries  
47 regulations and research.

48  
49                   The next call for proposals will go out  
50 late 2014 and that will be for another four-year

1 funding cycle. I'm happy to take any questions.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't see  
6 anybody coming forth, so I guess we'll move on.

7

8 DR. INGLES: Okay. Thank you, Madame  
9 Chair, for the opportunity to present on that.

10

11 MS. STICKMAN: Thank you, Palma. This  
12 is Danielle Stickman.

13

14 DR. INGLES: Hi, Danielle.

15

16 MS. STICKMAN: Hi. I've got my slide  
17 show up on the screen here. This is just a photo of  
18 this summer working on our whitefish project and this  
19 is showing the partnership between locals. They're  
20 cutting their subsistence salmon. We're trying to get  
21 some whitefish for sampling.

22

23 A little about me. I'm a Dena'ina  
24 Athabaskan from the village of Nondalton from my mom's  
25 side and my father is from Galena, so I'm Dena'ina and  
26 Koyukon Athabaskan. I was an intern for two years in  
27 college and then I graduated from the University of  
28 Hawaii with a bachelors degree in environmental  
29 science. Now I'm here currently. I'm only the second  
30 one to transition from being an intern to managing the  
31 program as well as being enrolled in a Federal  
32 recognized tribe. The first was Courtenay.

33

34 Part of BBNA's mission is to maintain  
35 and promote a strong regional organization supported by  
36 the tribes of Bristol Bay to serve as a unified voice  
37 to provide social, economic, cultural, educational  
38 opportunities and initiatives for the benefit of the  
39 tribes and Native people.

40

41 BBNA's Partners Program is aimed at  
42 education and outreach by developing local expertise  
43 and natural resources. We work with member tribes like  
44 Palma said and we also build local capacity by creating  
45 community involvement, which includes hiring local  
46 research assistants and this would be partnering on  
47 projects that concern local issues, broadening support  
48 and meeting the needs of the tribes and local people.

49

50 Our Education and Outreach Program has

1 had very good success in the past. It provides  
2 equality, educational internships in fishery science  
3 and natural resources. In 2013, we had three interns  
4 that completed and over the years we've had 63  
5 internships hosted to date. These are just some of the  
6 host agencies that we've placed our interns at.

7  
8 The three internships that were taking  
9 place this past summer were Lake Clark. He was working  
10 on the Newhalen Counting Tower on sockeye salmon and  
11 also helping a little bit with the whitefish project  
12 that I was doing, which I'll cover in a later slide.

13  
14 Our second intern was at Lake Aleknagik  
15 and he was mainly helping graduate students on their  
16 research during the summer and that's at the FRI camp,  
17 the Fisheries Research Institute, which is the  
18 University of Washington owned.

19  
20 Our third intern was the first time  
21 having an intern at Goodnews Bay. We didn't have an  
22 intern coordinator this past year, so that funding went  
23 towards this intern and it was partnered with the  
24 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge and he stayed there  
25 until the middle of September working on the weir and  
26 counting all five species of salmon.

27  
28 Some of the student success stories.  
29 Like I said, we have a strong reputation for having a  
30 highly successful internship program, with a majority  
31 of our students pursuing degree programs and careers in  
32 fishery science and natural resource management. Many  
33 of BBNA's former interns are employed with fisheries  
34 organizations, including U.S. Fish and Wildlife and  
35 ADF&G as well as BBNA.

36  
37 Building capacity. Palma covered a  
38 little bit of this. Local research assistants. We  
39 hire locals in the communities that we visit so that  
40 they can learn about the projects and hopefully carry  
41 on these projects without us actually going to the  
42 villages.

43  
44 Then summits and working groups, RAC  
45 meetings and advisory groups. Public participation in  
46 the management processes are very important to this  
47 process.

48  
49 The Dillingham Culture Camp. It's one  
50 of the student opportunities in fisheries that we help

1 out with.

2

3

4                   These are some of the projects in the  
5 past that were done and the projects now in progress  
6 are currently the Lake Clark sockeye salmon counting  
7 towers. This funding was done in 2010 under this name.  
8 Now it's under a youth outreach name and it's  
9 Cooperative Agreement with Lake Clark National Park.  
10 Right now our only FRMP project is the whitefish trends  
11 in Lake Clark and Iliamna Lake, which I will go into  
12 again later.

12

13

14                   I joined the Partners Program in  
15 January 2013 and our first trip on the whitefish  
16 project was in March. 2012 was the scoping year where  
17 our partners, ADF&G, Nondalton Tribal Council is also a  
18 full partner, and then Lake Clark National Park Service  
19 is also a full partner. So in March we went to  
20 Newhalen and Pedro Bay and also Igiugig.

20

21

22                   The first objective of this project is  
23 to estimate the harvest of non-salmon by residents of  
24 Igiugig, Newhalen, Nondalton, Port Alsworth and Pedro  
25 Bay. This picture is on Lake Clark.

25

26

27                   The second objective is the describe  
28 the harvest of non-salmon fish in terms of species,  
29 gear, location and timing of harvests, which the  
30 picture on the left is underwater gillnet and they put  
31 it under with a jigger board. This was in Nondalton.  
32 The main species that they harvest there are humpback  
33 whitefish and they're the most common. They also  
34 harvest round whitefish, northern pike, rainbow and  
35 lake trout. These setnets they do in the summer as  
36 well as the fall and then the spring with rod and reel,  
37 ice fishing, dipnets and setnets.

37

38

39                   The second portion of this project is  
40 to document traditional ecological knowledge of each  
41 whitefish species, including life history, ecology,  
42 environmental and climate-related observations,  
43 seasonal movements, spawning areas, interactions with  
44 other fish and wildlife, local taxonomies, trends and  
45 abundance and traditional management systems. So we do  
46 key respondent interviews, household surveys, which  
47 these are all kept confidential until our final report,  
48 which will be done in December 2014.

48

49

50                   Like I said, in March we went to  
51 Newhalen, Igiugig and Pedro Bay and this is just myself

1 as a partner going to my personal fish camp on Newhalen  
2 River and we were trying to catch the different species  
3 of whitefish in the summer. This was a hopeless act  
4 because we were going against the current and a lot of  
5 the interns just kept on getting old salmon heads.

6

7

(Laughter)

8

9

MS. STICKMAN: This is from Lime  
10 Village. We just did a fall trip to Lime Village.  
11 There was myself, Lake Clark National Park Service  
12 partner Karen Evanoff, who is also my mother, was  
13 scheduled to come with us at the beginning of October,  
14 but the Federal shutdown prevented her from coming.

15

16

The Partners' goal is to devise and  
17 implement an educational and novel way to involve youth  
18 and students in this project of learning about  
19 whitefish and also elders who teach the students and  
20 we're hoping to learn how to make a fish trap, but the  
21 weather was not very helpful as well as the Federal  
22 shutdown, so we couldn't make it up, but these fish  
23 were collected from an open water net. When we tried  
24 to get to the fish trap, the lake had already frozen  
25 over.

26

27

This is my little brother with a big  
28 humpback whitefish and this is in Lime Village. Since  
29 my mother couldn't go, I brought my little brother, a  
30 future fishery scientist.

31

32

So we're trying to do a culture camp  
33 and this was a preliminary trip, but it didn't really  
34 work out, so we're going to try to do it this spring.  
35 We're coordinating with the Nondalton School because  
36 they hold a culture camp every year in May, but we want  
37 to try implementing ice fishing into the school  
38 curriculum and use a traditional activity like ice  
39 fishing to understand contemporary and ancestral land  
40 and resource use patterns. Hopefully we'll be doing  
41 this in March or April. We're still in the process of  
42 getting the schedule worked out.

43

44

Both years of data, the data was  
45 collected for 2012 last year and 2012, then our second  
46 year of data will be collected this spring in 2014 with  
47 the draft submitted to OSM on July 1, 2014 with the  
48 final draft being submitted in December 2014.

49

50

Gayla Woods will help me on this one.

1 It's a subsistence herring roe on kelp harvest project  
2 that we helped ADF&G with in May.

3

4 MS. HOSETH: Good afternoon again.  
5 It's Gayla Hoseth. I participated with being able --  
6 Danielle and I went over to Togiak this May with Ted  
7 and Sara from ADF&G. It's part of this herring roe on  
8 kelp project and we're partnered with BBNA, ADF&G and  
9 the Togiak Traditional Tribal Council. This project  
10 started in 2011 and it will go through 2015.

11

12 Some of the objectives we have -- how  
13 many slides do you have on there?

14

15 MS. STICKMAN: Just one.

16

17 MS. HOSETH: Just the one. Okay. At  
18 least you're able to see the herring on the kelp. It  
19 was a really exciting trip. Part of the objectives for  
20 the project is, number one, to document methods for  
21 harvesting spawn on kelp by local users. Number two,  
22 determining conversion factors for weight of spawn on  
23 kelp in containers. Three, document total harvest of  
24 spawn on kelp by local residents. Four, map historical  
25 and contemporary locations for harvesting herring roe  
26 on kelp. Five, establish factors that determine  
27 participation in both subsistence herring roe on kelp  
28 and commercial.

29

30 The information is gathered by surveys,  
31 mapping components and key respondent interviews as  
32 well as participation observation that we went on. It  
33 was a really great experience. We had a great time.  
34 That was our herring project.

35

36 MS. STICKMAN: I forgot to mention --  
37 Donald, if we could go back to the last slide. This  
38 project, why we went to Lime Village, I know it's out  
39 of the Bristol Bay region, but we partnered with ADF&G  
40 on -- there's two separate projects that are very very  
41 similar, but there's one ADF&G project that I didn't  
42 help with, but we still partnered to try to get this  
43 community involvement from all these regions because  
44 it's basically the same concept, but ADF&G has a  
45 similar project along the Kuskokwim with Lime Village  
46 and Nikolai. It's basically the same as Lake Clark and  
47 Lake Iliamna.

48

49 There's only a couple more slides.  
50 Another project that we work on is -- I'm not really

1 good at saying.....

2

3 MS. HOSETH: Curyung.

4

5 MS. STICKMAN: Curyung Culture Camp. I  
6 helped with it. It goes from June to August. It's  
7 every day from 1:00 to 4:30 and fourth to sixth grade  
8 students come and they learn about fisheries and how to  
9 prepare it.

10

11 The people that we hire are high school  
12 students or just recently graduated high school  
13 students and they collect the fish from people who have  
14 gotten salmon from Kananak Beach and they help the  
15 students learn how to cut the fish and process the  
16 fish. There's a little smokehouse behind the culture  
17 camp building.

18

19 These children are learning so much. I  
20 mean they're so young but they're so eager to learn and  
21 they love the salmon. We dry it and then we have it  
22 for snacks usually. We even went to the Peter Pan  
23 Seafood Processing Plant and they learned that aspect  
24 of the fisheries. At the end of the summer we also go  
25 berry picking. The students ate most of the berries.

26

27 (Laughter)

28

29 MS. STICKMAN: The ones that actually  
30 kept the berries we brought to the elders. They were  
31 really happy to receive it. There we are presenting  
32 the berries to the elders and they granted us with a  
33 couple stories from her day of berry picking and  
34 running wild.

35

36 So our future prospective projects.  
37 We're hoping to work on our fisheries education  
38 program. I would really like to be more involved with  
39 the salmon camp that BBEDC puts on, maybe going to each  
40 one and presenting our program so they'll start getting  
41 that in their minds at a young age to get interested in  
42 the natural resources, not just fisheries.

43

44 Also, as I mentioned earlier, maybe  
45 recruiting a fisheries education coordinator position,  
46 but this would mean finding alternative funding to have  
47 more interns.

48

49 The internships, some of the components  
50 of that is to continue on our education from the

1 graduates from high school to college and maybe even  
2 grad school to continue on their career path for  
3 managing natural resources or fisheries, just stay in  
4 the sciences.

5  
6                   Currently we have money set aside for  
7 the ANSEP program, which is Alaska Native Science and  
8 Engineering Program. We've got \$5,000 set aside, but  
9 our partnership these last two years hasn't -- we  
10 haven't really been involved with them. The year  
11 before I came onto this program there was nobody in my  
12 position, so I'm going to try to get more involved with  
13 ANSEP. Then also more high school interns in the  
14 fisheries and natural resources.

15  
16                   We're looking to hopefully submit a  
17 proposal for next year for FRMP. So chin'an to all our  
18 partners listed below. Again, that's my family's fish  
19 camp. It's like a little working center.

20  
21                   Do you guys have any questions?

22  
23                   MR. WILSON: Danielle, thanks.

24  
25                   MR. O'HARA: No, chin'an.

26  
27                   MR. WILSON: Chin'an. The partnership  
28 stuff going on, we have over there -- we have Aniakchak  
29 does a science camp project with the kids there.  
30 Something like this I think would probably flow very  
31 well into their program there because they're  
32 constantly looking for funding to continue that  
33 program. I know they've had to scratch Becharof Lake  
34 this last year because of funding problems, so they had  
35 it in King Salmon. A lot of kids there are very  
36 interested in those kind of things, science and  
37 cultural, so I think your program would probably fit  
38 very well with some of that stuff going on over there  
39 that you guys could possibly partner with.

40  
41                   MS. STICKMAN: Thank you. I'll get in  
42 contact with them.

43  
44                   MR. WILSON: Orville Lind would be your  
45 contact person over there, I believe.

46  
47                   MS. STICKMAN: All right. I'll talk to  
48 him after the meeting. Thank you.

49  
50                   MR. HILL: Madame Chair. Just to

1 comment on the whitefish studies. I believe at Lake  
2 Clark they've been going on for quite a while. Just  
3 consider this. The whitefish migrate from upper Lake  
4 Clark and down to the mouth of the Six Mile Lake where  
5 people have their fish cutting tables. Whitefish  
6 migrate down there every year about the time people are  
7 processing their fish. That's one of their food  
8 sources. So just consider how many years would it take  
9 for this species to adapt to that as a food source.  
10 It's kind of an interesting question, but I thought  
11 that was pretty neat.

12  
13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my  
14 question to you, Lary, are you saying that the  
15 whitefish are attracted to the processing waste in the  
16 lake?

17  
18 MR. HILL: Yes.

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: That's called  
21 chumming?

22  
23 MR. HILL: Now it's called -- when we  
24 do that and if you happen to get any fish there, it's  
25 called chumming now.

26  
27 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Like the  
28 seagulls are chumming.

29  
30 MR. HILL: I was curious to see if  
31 anybody was throwing out a little line there, but I  
32 guess they didn't want to be caught chumming. It was  
33 just an interesting tidbit to realize that these  
34 whitefish are now using that as a food source. How  
35 long would it take to adapt to something like that.  
36 How many years would people have to be cutting fish  
37 there for these whitefish to realize that, hey, there's  
38 a good food source, let's go down there and talk to  
39 them Dena'inas, give us some fish. I thought that was  
40 interesting.

41  
42 Thank you.

43  
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other  
45 comments.

46  
47 MS. STICKMAN: I just have one more  
48 comment. I didn't mention two other objectives on the  
49 whitefish study. Davin Holen is here with ADF&G. He's  
50 one of the PIs as well on this project. Objective four

1 is to describe the characteristics and trends of the  
2 whitefish fishery by species. So that's one of our  
3 objectives to hopefully find out at the end of 2014, so  
4 by May. We have to finish it by December.

5

6 Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. One of  
9 the last work I did there before I left ADF&G  
10 Subsistence was to identify Yup'ik names for the  
11 different species. The folks that weren't used to  
12 eating the fish -- and this is also for trout. Maybe  
13 Ted could continue that or it might be gone. Is  
14 identifying the different species of whitefish by the  
15 different Yup'ik names for the fish. The people that I  
16 was working with thought that whitefish was whitefish.  
17 Well, some of them are big and some of them are small.  
18 That's not the case or we wouldn't be naming each  
19 species a different name if they were all the same  
20 fish. So in order to prove to them that they are  
21 different species and different fish, we were able to  
22 separate these by Yup'ik names and I don't know where  
23 that project has gone. I know that Fish and Wildlife  
24 also used that format.

25

26 I don't know if you're working up in  
27 that area. Do they have local names for those species?

28

29 MS. STICKMAN: Yes, there's a bunch of  
30 different names. One instance is the locals of  
31 Nondalton thought least cisco was freshwater herring.  
32 That's what it's always been called. The Dena'ina name  
33 I can't pronounce it, but it's actually least cisco, so  
34 that's what we're trying to learn too. We have a  
35 little diorama of different species, so it helps the  
36 elders and people who we interview identify which ones  
37 they catch.

38

39 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan, did you  
40 have a.....

41

42 MR. O'HARA: Danielle, that's a really  
43 good program. We appreciate you presenting. Is that  
44 your splitting table there?

45

46 MS. STICKMAN: Yes, it is.

47

48 MR. O'HARA: Cool.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: It seems like it's been a  
2 long wait to see that whitefish project going. I've  
3 been eager to see it for a long long time. Something  
4 besides just salmon because there's other important  
5 stuff out there.

6  
7 MS. STICKMAN: Thank you.

8  
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you for  
10 the presentation. Let's take a five-minute break.

11  
12 MR. O'HARA: I think Lary is going to  
13 go away, so we sure welcome Lary Hill here to our new  
14 Council member and thank him for coming down here and  
15 putting up with us.

16  
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, we  
18 appreciate your comments, so come back to the spring  
19 meeting.

20  
21 MR. HILL: I appreciate the opportunity  
22 to serve and I'll step up my involvement a notch.

23  
24 Thank you all.

25  
26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Take a five-  
27 minute break.

28  
29 (Off record)

30  
31 (On record)

32  
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I'm going to  
34 call the meeting back to order. Next on the agenda  
35 I've got BLM. Does BLM have anything? Is BLM online?

36  
37 MR. SHARP: Madame Chair. This is Dan  
38 Sharp with BLM in Anchorage.

39  
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay.

41  
42 MR. SHARP: I don't really have much  
43 for you other than the Guide Concession Program and the  
44 capacity analysis from a previous agenda. I can give  
45 you a very brief update as to where things are with  
46 that particular initiative. We're trying to work in  
47 tandem with the State given the discontinuous nature of  
48 BLM plans, but we're still moving forward with our  
49 Guide Capacity Analysis work. I'd say most of the  
50 comments we received from our scoping last year dealt

1 with transporter issues statewide and BLM is  
2 considering working the transporter capacity work into  
3 this same program.

4  
5 Other than that, that's about what I  
6 have for you this afternoon. The initiative for the  
7 capacity analysis is ongoing.

8  
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any comments,  
10 questions for Dan.

11  
12 (No comments)

13  
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank  
15 you, Dan.

16  
17 MR. SHARP: Thank you, Molly. You have  
18 a good day.

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you. The  
21 next one is ADF&G Subsistence.

22  
23 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg with Subsistence  
24 Division here in the ADF&G Dillingham office. Madame  
25 Chair and Council members. I'm just going to update  
26 you on one project. Other projects that we're involved  
27 in with BBNA you heard reports from Danielle and Gayla.  
28 This one there was funding -- the Chinook Salmon  
29 Initiative was a statewide effort by Alaska Department  
30 of Fish and Game to help managers address the low  
31 returns of chinook salmon to most Alaska rivers.

32  
33 There was funding available and through  
34 this initiative they picked 12 indicator stocks. The  
35 Nushagak stock was one of them. There was funding  
36 available for Subsistence Division for harvest  
37 assessment and traditional ecological knowledge  
38 projects. For the Nushagak we combined those two  
39 elements.

40  
41 The communities that we've contacted to  
42 participate in this project are Clarks Point, Ekwok,  
43 New Stuyahok and Koliganek. We're waiting to meet with  
44 Ekwok, but we've met with the other communities and  
45 have approval from two of them and I think tentative  
46 approval from the third one. There's kind of four  
47 phases. I mean it's basically get all the information  
48 together about chinook for the Nushagak. The next step  
49 would be doing subsistence household harvest surveys in  
50 each of those communities and that would help update

1 our subsistence salmon permit system.

2

3 We try to go to every household and  
4 document their harvest for one year. We'll map where  
5 they fished during that year also. One of the other  
6 parts of it is participant observation, working with  
7 those communities to learn what they're doing and along  
8 with that talking to them and doing some directed  
9 interviews for local traditional ecological knowledge.

10

11 That's about it. It's a one-year  
12 project. We're hoping to start surveys in some of the  
13 communities next month in November and then we'll  
14 finish up by February. We've got some other projects  
15 going on, so that will be the first phase of it and  
16 then in the summer during subsistence salmon fishing.

17

18 That's all I've got. Thanks.

19

20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan O'Hara.

21

22 MR. O'HARA: Ted, appreciate that  
23 report. The work you're going to be doing, is it going  
24 to preserve more fish or get more knowledge about the  
25 use of the fish?

26

27 MR. KRIEG: Yeah, to get more knowledge  
28 about the use of fish and then the local TEK, what  
29 people know about king salmon or basically focusing on  
30 king salmon. Once we compile the information, we'll  
31 write a report and it's supposed to be designed to help  
32 managers and other people understand what local people  
33 know about chinook.

34

35 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Ted, did you say  
36 you're just focusing on chinooks, king salmon, or all  
37 fish?

38

39 MR. KRIEG: Just chinook, but when we  
40 do our subsistence, the harvest surveys will include  
41 all salmon, but we won't include other fish. It just  
42 won't work with our timing.

43

44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Then your  
45 subsistence permits, you're still collecting spawn-  
46 outs?

47

48 MR. KRIEG: Yes.

49

50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other

1 questions for Ted. Richard.

2

3 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
4 Ted, where did that funding resource come from again?

5

6 MR. KRIEG: It was the statewide  
7 initiative from Alaska Department of Fish and Game  
8 because of the concerns about low returns of chinook  
9 statewide.

10

11 MR. WILSON: Okay.

12

13 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: And what  
14 communities did you say?

15

16 MR. KRIEG: Clarks Point, Ekwok, New  
17 Stuyahok and Koliganek.

18

19 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thank you, Ted.  
24 Next up is BBNA. Oh, sorry.

25

26 MR. MIKE: We have Drew Crawford on  
27 conference. He would like to do a presentation on the  
28 WASSIP program.

29

30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I didn't  
31 see that on our agenda.

32

33 MR. KRIEG: Madame Chair. Susie Brito  
34 also had a presentation she'd like to give from Fish  
35 and Game.

36

37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We'll  
38 have you, Susie.

39

40 MS. JENKINS-BRITO: Thank you, Madame  
41 Chair. Members of the RAC. I just wanted to give you  
42 a brief update on the local Advisory Committee systems  
43 and a couple highlights of the recent Joint Board  
44 meeting that the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game  
45 held this October, just a couple weeks ago.

46

47 I am, for the record, Susie Jenkins-  
48 Brito, the Board support regional coordinator for  
49 Southwest Alaska with Fish and Game. The Nushagak and  
50 Chignik Advisory Committees have already met once this

1 fall and plan to meet again in this coming November as  
2 well as the Naknek/Kvichak AC and hopefully the Lake  
3 Iliamna AC as well. All of those meetings are  
4 tentatively scheduled for November. The Nushagak AC  
5 will meet in conjunction with the Togiak AC to discuss  
6 the winter moose hunt in Unit 17A.

7  
8 Last year all six of the Bristol Bay  
9 and Chignik Advisory Committees were active and all 12  
10 Advisory Committees in Southwest were active. This  
11 fall we have already had three meetings that I've  
12 attended for Board of Fisheries and the Joint Board.  
13 The Joint Board met in mid October and a couple  
14 highlights from that meeting.

15  
16 There were no major changes put into  
17 effect for the operations of Advisory Committees, but  
18 there were two new ACs created for the Western Region;  
19 one for the Bethel area and one split of the Lower  
20 Yukon AC Mountain Village upriver to Russian Mission  
21 became the Mid Lower Yukon AC and down river from  
22 Mountain Village and the coastal communities became the  
23 Coastal Lower Yukon AC. So those were a couple of  
24 changes in makeup of Advisory Committees statewide.

25  
26 The major issue at that meeting  
27 regarding subsistence were the redesignation of non-  
28 subsistence areas. Bethel and Kodiak were both  
29 considered to become non-subsistence areas. Both of  
30 those proposals failed. They stay subsistence areas  
31 under the regulations of the State of Alaska and there  
32 were no other changes for any other State non-  
33 subsistence areas.

34  
35 At the Board of Fisheries work session,  
36 the Board took up an agenda change request regarding  
37 the Nushagak single hook regulation that was put into  
38 effect at the Bristol Bay Board of Fish meeting last  
39 December in 2012. Two members of the local Nushagak  
40 Advisory Committee put in an agenda change request  
41 regarding the year-round single hook regulation on the  
42 Nushagak River. The Board found that there was some  
43 unforeseen implications potentially out of this  
44 regulation, so they have turned it into a proposal that  
45 will be discussed at the statewide Board of Fisheries  
46 meeting and that will take place in March of 2014.

47  
48 Upcoming this December is the Chignik  
49 finfish meeting, which there will be eight proposals  
50 discussed at that meeting, one of which was Proposal

1 40, which you chose to adopt yesterday. That meeting  
2 will be held in Anchorage December 5th to the 6th with  
3 the on-time comment deadline being November 19th. At  
4 that meeting, there will only be eight proposals  
5 discussed. Three regarding salmon management plans,  
6 two for seine gear operations and three regarding  
7 groundfish pollock and trawl specific proposals.  
8

9  
10 Also coming soon this winter is the  
11 Kodiak Board of Fish meeting that will be held in  
12 Kodiak and there are several members of the Chignik  
13 Advisory Committee who feel that there will be some  
14 overlap implications from proposals coming out of the  
15 Chignik Board of Fisheries. They'll be meeting on  
16 those proposals here in November as well. The on-time  
17 comment deadline for the Kodiak Board of Fish meeting  
18 is December 23rd.

19  
20 This year on the Board of Game side,  
21 it's a Board of Game cycle A year. The statewide  
22 meeting comment deadline is February 28th and that  
23 meeting will be held in Anchorage in March of 2012.  
24 Local ACs are planning to meet on those Board of Game  
25 proposals as well. Naknek/Kvichak AC is tentatively  
26 scheduled to have a meeting November 13th where they  
27 plan to discuss some Board of Game issues.

28  
29 Basically I just wanted to call to the  
30 attention of the RAC the few updates regarding Bristol  
31 Bay Advisory Committee activities for you guys and I'm  
32 happy to answer any questions. Otherwise, that sums it  
33 up.

34 Thank you.

35  
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

37  
38 MR. O'HARA: Susan, Naknek/Kvichak  
39 Advisory Committee meets November what?

40  
41 MS. JENKINS-BRITO: They're tentatively  
42 scheduled to meet November 13th. That notice for the  
43 meeting hasn't been issued yet. I'm working with their  
44 chair and as soon as that's a firm date I'll put out a  
45 notice.

46  
47 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Good. Thank you.

48  
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Anybody else.  
50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Thank  
4 you. Who was.....  
5  
6 MR. MIKE: Drew Crawford.  
7  
8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Drew Crawford,  
9 are you online?  
10  
11 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. Good afternoon,  
12 Madame Chair. Can you hear me okay?  
13  
14 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Loud and clear.  
15  
16 MR. CRAWFORD: I've got a briefing for  
17 you that was requested by Donald Mike on the Western  
18 Alaska Salmon Stock Identification Project, WASSIP.  
19  
20 In May 2006, a group of 11 signatures  
21 to a Memorandum of Understanding created WASSIP. The  
22 signatures include the Alaska Department of Fish and  
23 Game, the Aleut Corporation, the Aleutians East  
24 Borough, the Association of Village Council Presidents,  
25 the Bering Sea Fisheries Association, the Bristol Bay  
26 Native Association, Concerned Area M Fishermen,  
27 Kawerak, Lake and Peninsula Borough, Tanana Chiefs  
28 Conference and the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries  
29 Association.  
30  
31 WASSIP was a comprehensive program that  
32 sampled commercial and subsistence chum and sockeye  
33 salmon fisheries in coastal marine waters of Western  
34 Alaska from 2006 to 2009. It included salmon fisheries  
35 from Chignik Bay to Kotzebue Sound and stretched over  
36 3,000 kilometers of shoreline.  
37  
38 In the third year of fisheries  
39 sampling, approximately 320,000 samples were collected  
40 and 156,000 samples were analyzed at the Alaska  
41 Department of Fish and Game Gene Conservation  
42 Laboratory to estimate stock composition of fishery  
43 harvest. Additional populations were added to the  
44 genetic database for both species and the number of DNA  
45 markers were greatly expanded to provide increased  
46 stock resolution.  
47  
48 WASSIP can help all stakeholders better  
49 understand the composition of harvest in the Western  
50 Alaska fisheries and the effects of these fisheries on

1 salmon stocks in this region. Representatives from  
2 signatory groups mentioned above functioned as an  
3 advisory panel and the advisory panel worked by  
4 consensus to guide sampling strategy, choose analytical  
5 methods and provide input into the execution of the  
6 project.

7  
8                   In 2008, a four-member Technical  
9 Committee was formed to provide independent scientific  
10 review of analytical and statistical approaches  
11 developed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and  
12 to provide input for improving these methods. The  
13 technical committee was a distinguished group of  
14 internationally recognized scientists with extensive  
15 expertise in genetics, population dynamics, biometrics,  
16 and salmon life history and migratory patterns.

17  
18                   Public meetings of the Advisory Panel  
19 and Technical Committee occur twice annually in April  
20 and September. The Gene Conservation Laboratory  
21 published and posted a series of publically available  
22 technical documents online to enhance communication  
23 between the department and the TC. The Advisory Panel  
24 established a timeline for the project with a draft  
25 report available for review by July of 2012 and the  
26 final report was completed by November 2012. Funding  
27 for sampling and analysis has been provided by the  
28 State of Alaska and through cooperative grants with  
29 NOAA Fisheries.

30  
31                   Now, that's the general overview. What  
32 kind of questions can be answered by the reports that  
33 were produced by WASSIP. Such things as what stocks  
34 are caught in the different fishery, what are the stock  
35 composition through time, how do these translate to  
36 numbers of fish, how do these translate to the  
37 proportion of the run, how do these vary by fine scale  
38 and broad scale fisheries. Also we can find out what  
39 fisheries catch a given stock, where and when a given  
40 stock in a different fishery and what portion of the  
41 total run do these catches represent.

42  
43                   Now, the next portion of my briefing  
44 requires some assistance from Donald Mike to show you  
45 PowerPoint slides and I was going to ask Donald are you  
46 ready to show slide one?

47  
48                   MR. MIKE: Mr. Crawford, slide one is  
49 on the screen.

50

1 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. Thank you very  
2 much. Slide is the baseline with group used by WASSIP  
3 for sockeye salmon and on the left-hand side of the  
4 page these samples of these groups were all collected  
5 from spawning fish in freshwater. These samples  
6 provides the genetic patterns for each stock so that  
7 the stock composition can be determined from catch  
8 sampling.

9  
10 On the left-hand side of this slide  
11 there are seven regional reporting groups and 24  
12 subregional reporting groups. Each of the subregional  
13 reporting groups is identified by a different colored  
14 dot and the dots and the reporting groups are also  
15 shown on the map to show you where the populations for  
16 that group come from. The reporting groups are  
17 arranged from north to south and west to east on the  
18 map.

19  
20 Now the following is an excerpt from  
21 Dan Dunaway's Council member report at the 12 February  
22 2013 Bristol Bay RAC meeting in Naknek. At that time  
23 you said I'm participating in a WASSIP working group  
24 with a bunch of Bristol Bay youth and other concerned  
25 individuals. We're looking at the genetic study in  
26 examining the interception of salmon in Area M and  
27 trying to understand the WASSIP work.

28  
29 I'm a fishery biologist and I did work  
30 on this study and I'm not a geneticist. However, I  
31 went and talked to Chris Habicht. He's a statewide  
32 stock status geneticist with the Alaska Department of  
33 Fish and Game Gene Conservation Lab in Anchorage and  
34 co-author of many of the WASSIP reports. I asked him  
35 where can a Bristol Bay RAC member find information  
36 about interception sockeye salmon in Area M.

37  
38 I prepared a two-page handout for you  
39 guys. Did you receive that? It's identified as two  
40 reports where you can look. One of which is the  
41 sockeye salmon baseline for Western Alaska Stock  
42 Identification Project or Special Publication 12-12.  
43 In this report, you can find stock, definitions for  
44 sockeye salmon in Figures 1-11 in Table 2. You can  
45 also find stock compositions for sockeye salmon  
46 fisheries Figures 2-26, Table 3-92 and Appendices B1  
47 Page 5.

48  
49 The second report that Chris  
50 recommended was harvest and harvest rates of sockeye

1 salmon stocks in fisheries of Western Alaska Stock  
2 Identification Project or Special Publication 12-24.  
3 In this report you can find stock specific harvest  
4 numbers for a given sockeye salmon fishery in Figures  
5 3-27 and Appendices C1-C234. You can find stock  
6 specific harvest rates for a given sockeye salmon  
7 fishery in Figures 28-52, Tables 6-101 and Appendices  
8 D1-D75. Finally, you can also find harvest rates for a  
9 specific stock across all sockeye salmon fisheries in  
10 this report in Figures 53-75, Figures 105-176 and  
11 Appendices F1-F75.

12  
13 Now this was a huge study. They  
14 produced over three pages of report titles and the  
15 final publication for this constitutes a stack of  
16 reports that's about knee high. So what I did was try  
17 to give you a sample of what you can expect and tried  
18 to include some information that might be interesting  
19 to each RAC member.

20  
21 Slide 2, please. Slide 2 is the WASSIP  
22 Togiak River sockeye salmon stock harvest rates. Now  
23 in this figure it lists on the left-hand side there's a  
24 colored number corresponding to a specific sockeye  
25 salmon fishery in Western Alaska. There's Chignik area  
26 represented by number 3. Also on the map the area it  
27 refers to is highlighted in green color and there's  
28 also a histogram for 2006, 2007 and 2008 data for each  
29 of these areas.

30  
31 Now for the Togiak River stocks sockeye  
32 salmon you could also see the Pacific population is  
33 used in the baseline reporting group for that and also  
34 identified on the map by the red dots up in the Togiak  
35 Drainage. Anyway, the Togiak River stock harvest rates  
36 the fish are primarily being harvested in Bristol Bay  
37 fishery.

38  
39 Okay. Slide 3. Slide 3 is the WASSIP  
40 Wood River sockeye salmon harvest rates. This one on  
41 the next slide was thrown in for Molly Chythlook and  
42 Dan Dunaway and you can see this is the same set up as  
43 the previous slide and the Wood River stocks are also  
44 primarily being harvested in the Bristol Bay fishery.  
45 There is a trace that comes in the South Peninsula  
46 fishery, but you can see it's actually split up into  
47 two parts. There's two histograms. C is the June  
48 fishery and D histogram is the post June fishery. The  
49 Wood River stock has a trace in the June fishery.  
50 There's also some fish on up in the North Peninsula

1 fishery. However, the overwhelming majority of those  
2 fish are harvested in the Wood River in the Bristol Bay  
3 fishery.

4

5                   The next slide 4, please. This is the  
6 WASSIP Nushagak River sockeye salmon stock harvest  
7 rates. Again, the Nushagak sockeye salmon are  
8 primarily harvested in Bristol Bay. There's a trace  
9 that shows up in the South Peninsula fishery in June  
10 and maybe a smaller number of fish being caught in the  
11 North Peninsula area.

12

13                   Slide 5, please. Slide 5 is the WASSIP  
14 Kvichak River sockeye salmon harvest rates. I threw  
15 this in for Lary Hill and Thomas Hedlund. The Kvichak  
16 stocks are primarily being harvested in the Bristol Bay  
17 fisheries. Some showing up in the South Peninsula in  
18 early June and a smaller number North Peninsula.  
19 Again, overwhelmingly most of the stocks are being  
20 harvested in Bristol Bay.

21

22                   Slide 6 is the WASSIP Naknek River  
23 sockeye salmon harvest rates. This one is for Daniel  
24 O'Hara, Richard Wilson and Nanci Morris Lyons. Same  
25 trend. The Naknek River stocks are being harvested in  
26 the Bristol Bay area.

27

28                   Okay. The following two slides are for  
29 some of you. Slide 7 is the WASSIP Black Lake sockeye  
30 salmon stock, which is at the Chignik harvest rates.  
31 This is for Alvin Boskofsky and John Jones. I believe  
32 they're both absent from this meeting. It does show  
33 you that the previous trend is different in this area.  
34 Although most of the fish for the Black Lake stock is  
35 harvested in the Chignik area, there are significant  
36 portions being harvested also in the South Peninsula  
37 June fishery and the South Peninsula post June fishery.

38

39                   Slide 8. Similar trend for the Chignik  
40 Lake stock. Most of the fish were harvested in the  
41 Chignik fishery; however, a significant portion of this  
42 is showing up in the South Peninsula post June and also  
43 in the southeast district mainland area fishery, which  
44 is B, the yellow area.

45

46                   Okay. In conclusion, WASSIP was a  
47 large collaborative effort. It involved a number of  
48 organizations and many people. I was told that it was  
49 10 years in the planning stage before any of it was  
50 undertaken. It covered a large geographic area and

1 numerous salmon fisheries. There was a tremendous  
2 number of chum and sockeye salmon collected and  
3 analyzed and details of the results were reported in  
4 nine annual reports.

5  
6 The information for this is available  
7 online at the Fish and Game website, which is  
8 [www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wassip.reports](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wassip.reports).  
9 Also, you can obtain these reports from the signatory  
10 groups which I mentioned to start off with. They all  
11 received a full copy of these reports. Lake and  
12 Peninsula Borough and Bristol Bay Native Association  
13 would be the two groups that would have hard copies of  
14 this report that you could access.

15  
16 Any questions.

17  
18 (No comments)

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I don't see  
21 anybody needing to ask questions or comments.

22  
23 MR. CRAWFORD: Okay. I would just like  
24 to invite the Council, if anybody is really into this  
25 or wants to look at those reports, has any difficulty  
26 interpreting them and needs a little assistance, the  
27 person who I talked to, Chris Habicht, who is one of  
28 the authors, is a really nice guy, very bright, will be  
29 glad to talk to you either on the phone or in person or  
30 you can email him, but that offer is available to you.  
31 Over.

32  
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan O'Hara has a  
34 comment.

35  
36 MR. O'HARA: What was your name again,  
37 please? This is Dan O'Hara.

38  
39 MR. CRAWFORD: My name is Drew Crawford  
40 and I'm with the Federal Subsistence Liaison Team with  
41 Fish and Game in Anchorage.

42  
43 MR. O'HARA: What is your phone number  
44 there?

45  
46 MR. CRAWFORD: It's 267-2138. If you  
47 got that handout, it should be on the bottom of the  
48 handout.

49  
50 MR. O'HARA: Okay. Thank you very

1 much. I'll give you a call. I just want to make sure  
2 the Bristol Bay Borough is a member of your  
3 organization.

4  
5 Thanks.

6  
7 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Donald.

8  
9 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
10 Drew, this is Donald. I'm kind of confused about the  
11 handout you were mentioning. Maybe you emailed it to  
12 me. I may have forgotten about that particular  
13 document, but I'll get it out to the Council if you can  
14 email it to me again, please.

15  
16 MR. CRAWFORD: Yeah. There was one  
17 document and the other one was the PowerPoint slides.  
18 I'll send it to you again. Over.

19  
20 MS. MORRIS LYON: Molly.

21  
22 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.

23  
24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes. Thanks, Molly.  
25 Drew, I just want to personally say thank you for going  
26 to these efforts and getting us this information. I  
27 was the main requester of this and I found it extremely  
28 helpful and I wish I could have seen the slides. I  
29 don't know, Donald, maybe if you can either forward  
30 them to me on email or some hard form I would really  
31 appreciate that. Thanks.

32  
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan.

34  
35 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Drew.  
36 This is Dan Dunaway. Thank you for going to the  
37 trouble of this. It's a mind boggling amount of  
38 information. I think after we made that request I  
39 ended up actually getting pretty deep into this stuff.  
40 I talked with Chris Habicht and some of the other folks  
41 and attended the Area M meeting last spring. We need  
42 the Board to see this better because I still struggle  
43 with the interceptions. One of the most interesting  
44 ones I found was the interception of Ugashik bound fish  
45 in the outer Port Heiden district, but we couldn't  
46 convince the Board that that should be changed.

47  
48 But, yeah, there's a phenomenal amount  
49 of information. I would think, Nanci, if Slim is  
50 available or if Carol is still there in the Fish and

1 Game office, they should or may have actual hard copies  
2 to look at because some of this -- I've got all of the  
3 files, I think, downloaded, but some of it I really  
4 need to have paper in hand to digest. It's a  
5 phenomenal study and I think it's pretty good science.  
6 It was not the silver bullet for anything. One of the  
7 things I think we missed was that the chum salmon were  
8 just -- there's no resolution. You can't really tell a  
9 Ugashik chum from a Kuskokwim chum, much to the  
10 disappointment of your farther north Kuskokwim/Yukon  
11 folks. It didn't even begin to touch an answer on  
12 that.

13

14 I'm trying to remember, but I think  
15 they're going to try to continue some of this work if  
16 they can find funding because this has, I think,  
17 spurred interest into the Kodiak and Cook Inlet issues.

18

19

20 Anyway, thank you very much, Drew, for  
21 all the work of bringing this to us.

22

23 MR. CRAWFORD: You're welcome. For  
24 your information, the genetics guys prepared four one-  
25 hour PowerPoint presentation each for the Board of  
26 Fishery and shared that with them. I just kind of  
27 cherry-picked the slides just to give you guys an  
28 example.

29

30 In follow up to your last comment there  
31 is that the WASSIP study itself has ended and the  
32 information was reported in 2012, the final results of  
33 that study. However, in places where they -- and this  
34 is as time and money allows, they are trying to fill in  
35 some of the gaps that they identified in the study.  
36 They had gone back to some of those areas to try to  
37 beef up their data.

38

39

Over.

40

41 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Thanks, Drew,  
42 for your presentation. Donald will distribute that  
43 handout that wasn't available to us today. Thanks  
44 again. If we can have the lights. I think our next  
45 presenter is BBNA, Frank.

46

47 MS. GOMEZ: Can you please say your  
48 name for the record, please.

49

50 MS. H. GOMEZ: No. You go.

1 MS. GOMEZ: Okay. I'm not going to do  
2 my PowerPoint, Madame Chair, if that's okay with you.  
3 It's really late in the day and I'm sure we need agenda  
4 items for February anyway. I'll cover it at the  
5 February meeting.

6  
7 MS. H. GOMEZ: I'll say my name.

8  
9 MS. GOMEZ: Shh, be quiet, please. Oh,  
10 you may say your name.

11  
12 MS. H. GOMEZ: My name is Haley Gomez.

13  
14 MR. DUNAWAY: Welcome, Haley.

15  
16 MS. GOMEZ: Say thank you.

17  
18 MS. H. GOMEZ: Thank you.

19  
20 MS. GOMEZ: I just wanted to make a  
21 quick update about BBNA here if I could find my notes  
22 that somebody has turned into a drawing pad. Okay. So  
23 BBNA's agency report. Danielle and Gayla have already  
24 talked with you and then Woodsy will talk in depth.  
25 Just a brief update. BBNA is part of a research team,  
26 Western Alaska Salmon Coalition chum genetics research  
27 project with ADF&G's Conservation Genetics Lab as well  
28 as UAF School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences and  
29 NOAA's Auk Bay Laboratory to try to identify some more  
30 genetic, I guess, analysis and really try to understand  
31 the chum genetics a little bit better. Developing new  
32 markers and trying to not only expand the dataset, but  
33 understand and try to tease that data out a little bit  
34 better, the data that's already there.

35  
36 BBNA really wants to thank the Bristol  
37 Bay Borough and the residents of Naknek for your  
38 awesome hospitality at the Board of Fish meeting in  
39 December 2012. We worked very hard at that meeting and  
40 we wouldn't have been able to work as hard especially  
41 if the Borough didn't provide us with good food options  
42 at the school since we're not able to leave very often.  
43 I love a D&D French dip, but you can only eat so much  
44 of that. So I thank you so much, Mr. Mayor.

45  
46 Another thing is that in regards to  
47 chumming and the chumming issue, we worked that  
48 proposal really hard. Myself and Nanci on the line  
49 worked the Board as well as the staff considerably  
50 trying to make sure -- and Davin Holen, who is not in

1 the audience anymore -- trying to make sure that the  
2 Board really understood that dynamic between the  
3 subsistence fishery there and letting people know that  
4 even though we as a person, traditional harvester, are  
5 considering our methodology to be of a subsistence  
6 practice, by regulation it is a sport fishing harvest  
7 and BBNA did submit in our newsletter some news  
8 articles with a picture showing essentially what would  
9 be considered chumming at Six Mile Lake in Nondalton  
10 with people fishing for whitefish or other resident  
11 species off the dock there at their processing camps.  
12 So that was definitely taken into consideration,  
13 although it did not change the outcome on that  
14 proposal. That was part of the process.

15  
16                   If I could just take a minute to talk  
17 about the customary and traditional use determination  
18 stuff from yesterday. I didn't address it on the  
19 record. I thought we could address it here. If I was  
20 able to read the proposal from the Southeast RAC  
21 correctly, I think what they're really saying is that  
22 it was boiling down -- the issue boiled down to  
23 managing Federal subsistence resources with the State  
24 of Alaska framework.

25  
26                   The eight-characteristic framework as  
27 adopted from the State Board of Fish. That's not found  
28 in ANILCA and they are really questioning whose  
29 decision is this to make and what statutory regulations  
30 are truly applicable here, if it's a State law that we  
31 should be following and the Federal Subsistence  
32 Management Program or if we should be following ANILCA.  
33 I think they were just proposing the regulatory change  
34 to try to realign that a little bit better to make it  
35 more applicable to ANILCA.

36  
37                   Other than that, as you can tell, BBNA  
38 has been very busy trying to help work with you, the  
39 RAC, and our local harvesters to make sure that their  
40 concerns are being met both on a State and Federal  
41 level. Now that we've survived a year without Molly  
42 since her retirement, I think myself, as the new  
43 director, and also our staff are definitely  
44 understanding some of the issues a little bit better  
45 and working through these regulatory cycles we learn  
46 something new at every meeting and are trying to find  
47 way to be more effective and efficient and we  
48 definitely look forward to working with you, the RAC,  
49 and your communities more in the future.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any comments or  
4 questions for Courtenay.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Frank.

9

10 MR. WOODS: I just wanted to update  
11 everybody here. Subsistence Division is myself and  
12 Gayla Hoseth. We had a meeting in Naknek with the  
13 migratory bird Yaquillrit Kelutisti Council on  
14 September 19th and that migratory bird is an extension  
15 of AMBCC, the co-management agreement for statewide.  
16 What I'm trying to do is educate that board like this  
17 board, all the procedural aspects of AMBCC.

18

19 In the last year we worked with 17A  
20 Moose Management Plan and we still have some regulatory  
21 stuff to work through. What came out of that was a  
22 pretty broad misunderstanding, I guess, or not enough  
23 -- everything in this book that you guys pass to the  
24 Federal Subsistence Board, all the regulations that are  
25 there align the state regulations. Like the moose in  
26 17A are managed under the State regulatory process, the  
27 permitting, the reporting. All the Federal regulations  
28 fall under the same hunt. Like the designated hunter  
29 form, like all the lands on the Peninsula, they're  
30 Federal that you have listed in their Federal hunt.  
31 Those hunts fall under the same regulations as the  
32 Federal regulations do.

33

34 One of the questions came up is why  
35 isn't Togiak harvesting enough moose to satisfy their  
36 needs. That was a pretty interesting question because  
37 their average harvest is only about 45 to 50 moose a  
38 year. The designated hunter form under the Federal  
39 system and the proxy hunter under the State system,  
40 proxy hunting you have to be disabled and you have to  
41 go through this process, pretty lengthy.

42

43 So what came out of that was we helped  
44 people and the Department, both Federal and State,  
45 educate the public in Togiak that the designated hunter  
46 form you don't have to be 65. Donald, as a resident of  
47 Togiak, can -- if he was a resident scenario, I can  
48 hunt for him. He doesn't have to be disabled. The  
49 designated hunter form becomes useable in that hunt.  
50 So that was kind of an interesting scenario that came

1 out of that. All these regulations that are in this  
2 book fall under the same regulatory powers of the  
3 Federal system.

4  
5 Of course, we worked on all the  
6 different Advisory Committee processes and the Board of  
7 Game Area M, Bristol Bay and Naknek. Other than that,  
8 we -- I'll just shut up. We're fully invested in  
9 helping people feed themselves at BBNA. Any issues,  
10 like always, in your areas and regions, might be a  
11 little farther out than more, but we need your  
12 interaction basically and we always do. We try to  
13 reach out to -- the farthest villages get the least  
14 attention. So if you know of any issues out in the  
15 outside, BBNA is there to help in subsistence  
16 resources.

17  
18 Thanks.

19  
20 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any comments.

21  
22 (No comments)

23  
24 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Frank, I want  
25 to, I guess, make a comment of the success that BBNA  
26 and the BBs in combining their efforts and their  
27 resources to get representatives from different regions  
28 to go into Board of Game, Board of Fish with one mind.  
29 I'm hoping that's still continuing because I think just  
30 from my past observation and Joe and I working with you  
31 folks our region was successful because we work with  
32 one mind and we supported each other with no  
33 conflicting testimony. I'm hoping that you're still  
34 doing that. It sounds like you are.

35  
36 So thank you. Thanks for all your  
37 work. Next on our agenda. We covered the fisheries  
38 update, Chignik fisheries. The next agenda is an  
39 action item. Future meeting dates. Donald.

40  
41 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. We moved the  
42 2013 annual report to number 8, so that was next on our  
43 agenda.

44  
45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. We can do  
46 that. Who is responsible for that report. Okay.

47  
48 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair, thank you.  
49 It's another round of the annual report cycle for the  
50 2013 annual report. You'll find in your meeting

1 materials your response from the Federal Subsistence  
2 Board on your annual report items you submitted a year  
3 ago.

4  
5 I had some notes that the Council may  
6 want to bring forward the importance of face-to-face  
7 communication, concerns on how staffing and budget  
8 decreases are affecting the support of the Regional  
9 Advisory Council system and requesting a briefing on a  
10 TRC at our next RAC meeting in Naknek.

11  
12 If there are any other issues from the  
13 Council on annual report items for the 2013 annual  
14 report, now is the opportunity to present those items.  
15 Madame Chair.

16  
17 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan O'Hara.

18  
19 MR. O'HARA: Donald, on the annual  
20 report reply by Federal Subsistence Board is a letter  
21 written by our Chairman of the Board. Under issue  
22 number two, stocks of concern, Council requests a full  
23 briefing on genetic information regarding the catch and  
24 interception occurring in the Area M fishery to  
25 determine the extent of the interception of sockeye  
26 bound for Bristol Bay Western Alaska. Was that the  
27 report we just got here recently, the WASSIP report?  
28 Is that what he's referring to?

29  
30 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yes, that is  
31 correct. That is the WASSIP report. If the Council  
32 feels that issue two, stocks of concern on the Area M  
33 fisheries, if you weren't satisfied with the response  
34 you got, we could always add that to the annual report  
35 item.

36  
37 MR. O'HARA: No, I thought it was very  
38 good. A huge amount of work went into that. I  
39 highlighted that in this annual report, so thank you  
40 very much.

41  
42 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any other  
43 comments regarding this.

44  
45 (No comments)

46  
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: So, Donald,  
48 you're requesting us if we need to highlight or add to  
49 the annual report, is that my understanding, or are you  
50 just updating?

1 MR. MIKE: It is the process for  
2 submitting annual report items to the Federal  
3 Subsistence Board. Right now we're just gathering  
4 annual report items and at our next meeting in Naknek  
5 I'll have a draft prepared for the Council to review  
6 and adopt as their final annual report item. If you  
7 have any additional annual report items you would like  
8 to submit, now is your opportunity to do so. Madame  
9 Chair.

10  
11 MR. O'HARA: Madame Chair. Is it  
12 required an action item to accept this annual report or  
13 not?

14  
15 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. I'm just  
16 trying to clarify. Mr. O'Hara, you're speaking on the  
17 2013 annual report response on Pages 14 and 15, is that  
18 correct?

19  
20 MR. O'HARA: 14, 15 and 16.

21  
22 MR. MIKE: That's our response and  
23 that's for the Council's information. We're on a new  
24 annual report cycle, so what I'm referring to is if the  
25 Council has any issues they would like to bring to the  
26 Federal Subsistence Board's attention, we can put those  
27 at our next annual report. Right now we're just  
28 gathering information and then I can just draft the  
29 document listing the annual report items that the  
30 Council has provided. At our next meeting the Council  
31 can review it and adopt it.

32  
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I guess my  
34 request would be since we're so involved with  
35 everything, I'd appreciate it if you would somehow get  
36 a hold of us midway or just before that is written to  
37 see if any of us have come up with any additional to  
38 add to that if that's what you're requesting.

39  
40 MR. O'HARA: That's a good idea.

41  
42 MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair.

43  
44 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.

45  
46 MS. MORRIS LYON: One of the ones I  
47 know that you guys are probably all tired of hearing  
48 about, but I'm not ready to give up on yet would be  
49 predator control. I guess I would throw it out there  
50 to see if anybody else would care to make sure that

1 stays in front of the Council and our feelings about  
2 it.

3

4 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan Dunaway.

5

6 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm not quite sure if  
7 this is the right place for it, but I had a good  
8 conversation with Courtenay and Danielle here and it  
9 gets back to my concerns about the Technical Committee  
10 not, I guess, taking some of these study proposals as  
11 seriously that are submitted by BBNA and other folks  
12 that kind of try to answer concerns we have.

13

14 What I'm understanding is that some of  
15 the staff that are listed in those proposals have kind  
16 of multi-disciplinary degrees, which may be a little  
17 unconventional for your hard-core scientist who might  
18 have a bachelors, masters, Ph.D. in fish. Somebody  
19 else might have one in game. We've had these folks  
20 that are kind of cross-trained and some of their  
21 proposals really are trying to get to questions we  
22 have. So what I'm getting at is I would hope these  
23 guys would kind of re-examine what they consider  
24 qualified people being involved in the proposal and  
25 maybe be open to some of these more broadly trained  
26 people that we have.

27

28 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: I had a  
29 discussion with Kathy over lunch and I'd like for her  
30 to come -- I think this would be a good time for you to  
31 come up and brief us on that. I was able to understand  
32 a little bit more. That's always kind of been my  
33 soreness, not really understanding the component of the  
34 Technical Committee, because of past work with BBNA it  
35 sounds like it's still an ongoing question mark. Then  
36 while you're still there, go ahead and cover the RAC  
37 work.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Thank you, Madame  
42 Chair. I will try to cover some of those items that we  
43 talked about that you wanted brought up at the end  
44 here. An update on the Technical Review Committee, how  
45 it's set up, how it's gotten to where it is right now,  
46 I think in the interest of time right now and  
47 thoroughness in a briefing to you, what I would suggest  
48 is that we put that on your agenda for your next  
49 meeting. I will have staff prepare a briefing for you  
50 and we can present it at that time, if that's good with

1 you.

2

3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: That would be  
4 good. And if we could have one of those Technical  
5 Committee members present to answer our questions.  
6 This has been ongoing. It was kind of a question when  
7 I was dealing with all that and then it sounds like  
8 it's still on the table. If we're going to be doing  
9 that, I'd like to have the Council be able to talk to  
10 somebody that's actually involved so we can hopefully  
11 get this cleared and understand it.

12

13 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Thank you, Madame  
14 Chair. I will do that. I would encourage the Council  
15 if there are any particular questions you have in mind  
16 about the TRC that you would like addressed, if you can  
17 forward those in through Donald and I will have whoever  
18 is preparing the briefing address those as well so that  
19 we make sure those are answered.

20

21 And to address your concern as to who  
22 would do the briefing, two of my senior staff co-chair  
23 that, Division Chief for Fisheries and Division Chief  
24 for Anthropology, both of those positions are currently  
25 vacant. We have acting members of our staff in those  
26 positions right now and I'm hopeful that at least one  
27 of those positions will be filled by your next meeting,  
28 so I can take care of that.

29

30 In terms of -- should I proceed?

31

32 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes.

33

34 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: A couple other  
35 items that we discussed. In regard to the C&T and the  
36 Council's position on that, what I wanted to bring to  
37 your attention and I did talk with some of the Council  
38 members about this is the Southcentral Council is  
39 meeting next week. As part of their Council meeting,  
40 the Southeast Council is sending two representatives to  
41 talk about the C&T. What Donald is going to pursue,  
42 he's also the Council coordinator for that Council, so  
43 he can check with the Chair of that Council and get a  
44 time certain on that meeting time for you.

45

46 If anyone happens to be in Anchorage  
47 next week and can participate, you would be welcome to  
48 participate. We will also have the phone line  
49 available. So you could listen and you could  
50 participate and ask questions during that process while

1 they're talking about it as well. It may add another  
2 dimension in terms of the discussion you had here  
3 yesterday. So we can make that available.

4  
5                   There was also a request about the  
6 possibility of getting a  
7 room set up here in Dillingham that if people wanted to  
8 participate in that call together and listen in during  
9 the C&T, if we could do that, make some arrangement  
10 there as well and Donald has volunteered to do that.  
11 So he's got to check with his Chair first and then see  
12 if there's any other space available and then, Donald,  
13 you can provide that information to the Council  
14 members.

15  
16                   MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. That's  
17 correct.

18  
19                   MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Any questions for  
20 me on that?

21  
22                   MR. O'HARA: Yeah, Kathy. Does  
23 Dillingham have Skype capability here anywhere? Who  
24 would know the answer to that?

25  
26                   MR. DUNAWAY: We've tried to do it with  
27 some radio meetings and it kind of works and it kind of  
28 doesn't.

29  
30                   MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Mr. O'Hara through  
31 the Chair. The videoconferencing that they're  
32 mentioning back there is the same type of a platform as  
33 Skype and we use it for a lot of our staff meetings  
34 amongst the refuges in Alaska, so that would be very  
35 similar. We can check and see if we can get that  
36 worked out. If we can make that available for the  
37 meeting, I would see that that would be a plus to that  
38 discussion as well.

39  
40                   I'm going to cover the next one real  
41 quickly on the rural determination process. As far as  
42 good news today, the extension did go through and  
43 that's the Board's extension of that. What that does,  
44 and I'm looking at the steps in the review process, so  
45 in essence that is going to shorten the time for  
46 analysis of all those suggestions by a month. I also  
47 wanted to make sure everyone is clear that the Board is  
48 going to be taking this up at their April meeting. At  
49 that point the Council Chairs are always present at the  
50 Board meeting. That will be another opportunity for

1 the Council to talk with the Board about any interests  
2 or concerns they have.

3

4 I also wanted to make sure everyone was  
5 clear that the Federal Subsistence Board now has a  
6 tribal consultation policy. They have conducted tribal  
7 consultations on the rural determination process  
8 already, but what they do have in the tribal  
9 consultation is any tribal entity can request a  
10 consultation with the Board at any time. So if there  
11 is additional consultation that others want to have  
12 happen on this, that can be done through the Office of  
13 Subsistence Management. So I just wanted to make sure  
14 that that was clear.

15

16 One other clarification for the record.  
17 On Wildlife Proposal 14-01, the comment from the ISC  
18 should have been that the ISC has no additional  
19 comments at this time. I just wanted to clarify that  
20 for the record.

21

22 Any comments, questions for me.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seeing none.  
27 Thanks for that additional little information. I guess  
28 we can move on. Dan and Richard need to leave, so  
29 let's confirm the date and location of winter.  
30 Normally we meet in Naknek for our winter meetings and  
31 it's been kind of the same dates.

32

33 Donald.

34

35 MR. MIKE: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
36 Yes, we'll be meeting in Naknek this winter, February  
37 11th and 12th of 2014. The Council can confirm those  
38 dates and then we can schedule for the fall meeting of  
39 2014.

40

41 Thank you, Madame Chair.

42

43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any discussion  
44 on the dates 11th and 12th. Dan O'Hara.

45

46 MR. O'HARA: Did you confirm -- did you  
47 actually contact the Council members on that date?

48

49 MR. MIKE: February 11th and 12th?

50

1 MR. O'HARA: Yeah.  
2  
3 MR. MIKE: Yeah, at our last meeting  
4 these are the dates that the Council came up with.  
5 That's why it's on the calendar. Maybe you were on  
6 vacation at that time.  
7  
8 (Laughter)  
9  
10 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. Moving on  
11 to fall 2014 if we're good with 11th and 12th.  
12  
13 (No comments)  
14  
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: The fall  
16 meetings, of course, are in Dillingham. Usually  
17 October. Donald.  
18  
19 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yes, the  
20 meeting window begins on August 17th and ends October  
21 18th, 2014. If the Council can select a date, then we  
22 can put those on a calendar.  
23  
24 MR. DUNAWAY: From my previous  
25 experience, it seems as late as possible works best for  
26 folks like Nanci and Tinny who have obligations and  
27 then the rest of us are trying to hunt. Looking at  
28 this Calendar, I'd suggest October 14, 15. I do like  
29 that recommendation of staying away from the first few  
30 days of the Federal fiscal year from this year's  
31 experience and other years. That's just my suggestion.  
32  
33 Thank you.  
34  
35 MS. MORRIS LYON: Madame Chair.  
36  
37 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yes, Nanci.  
38  
39 MS. MORRIS LYON: I have no idea what  
40 Tinny's schedule is, but I know he always has conflicts  
41 like I do. These dates again are all too early. I  
42 don't know -- at this point, I would actually just  
43 request that they would allow us an extension like they  
44 did this year and allow us to meet after the 20th  
45 sometime. That works much better for me.  
46  
47 Thank you.  
48  
49 MR. O'HARA: I'll second that.  
50

1 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: So we'll keep it  
2 open from October 20 to the end of the month. Remember  
3 AFN week.

4  
5 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, Madame Chair.  
6 I guess I would suggest if it would help Donald that we  
7 could possibly the 21st and 22nd as dates. That would  
8 work for us if everybody else would concur.

9  
10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Kathy.

12  
13  
14 MS. O'REILLY-DOYLE: Thank you, Madame  
15 Chair. If I could remind the Council, the reason that  
16 we have that cut-off date is to get everything prepared  
17 for the next cycle. That's why those dates are where  
18 they are. You're going to be hearing fisheries  
19 proposals and then a Board meeting on that is going to  
20 be in January. A one-week extension might be doable.  
21 I would also like to advise the Council at this point  
22 if that isn't an option, if you would want to pick a  
23 back-up date because after your Council meets then the  
24 next Council -- there's several other Councils meeting  
25 and if the 14th and 15th may work as second best option  
26 but another Council chooses that, that is no longer  
27 available to you.

28  
29 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: This coming AFN  
30 is going to be in Anchorage, so it's not going to be as  
31 conflicting. Joe is on the AFN Board. Do you guys  
32 have a date for AFN next year?

33  
34 MR. CHYTHLOOK: I don't have a date.

35  
36 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: It sounds like  
37 Nanci made a motion to hold the fall meeting after the  
38 20th of October and seconded by Dan O'Hara. I guess  
39 all in favor say aye for those dates.

40  
41 IN UNISON: Aye.

42  
43 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Nanci.

44  
45 MS. MORRIS LYON: Aye.

46  
47 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: No opposition.  
48 We'll deal with those dates, the 20th, and then I guess  
49 Donald will give us definite dates.

50

1 MR. MIKE: Madame Chair. Yeah, that  
2 will be helpful. Right now I'll put down October 21,  
3 22. If it's the wish of the Council, they can have an  
4 alternative date of October 14th and 15th just for a  
5 place holder.

6  
7 Thank you, Madame Chair.

8  
9 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Richard.

10  
11 MR. WILSON: Closing comments. It's  
12 kind of like carnivals. You keep one date and you keep  
13 it there so people know where you've got to go.

14  
15 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Dan O'Hara.

16  
17 MR. O'HARA: I really appreciate the  
18 audience being here. You guys seemed to have a lot of  
19 fun. It's been a great spirit. Does anybody know what  
20 this is? Red letter week. Drug awareness week. We  
21 made a big drug bust just two days ago. There's a  
22 community that's really coming up. They're very young  
23 moms and dads with children and our assembly meetings  
24 have 40, 50 out and they're standing there and saying  
25 something gets done here or there will be a change. It  
26 is being done. All the young people and elementary,  
27 went through the whole community and everywhere you  
28 look, on a door, on a window, it's a red letter week,  
29 so that's a really good thing.

30  
31 Thank you.

32  
33 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Is that just for  
34 Naknek area or could we use that red ribbon here too?

35  
36 MR. O'HARA: It's a national week. The  
37 Elks Club over there sponsors it. I mean like the  
38 clinic and the police department and state troopers and  
39 the Borough and planning and zoning and everybody is on  
40 board. They drug me up to school and said bring your  
41 car, you're going to take a bunch of students and  
42 you're going to go around to visit a business and put  
43 up the red letter. Every vacant spot in town is really  
44 good. We'd love to plan on Dillingham on doing those  
45 things as well. We all have the same problem.

46  
47 Thank you very much.

48  
49 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Any -- Dan?

50

1 MR. DUNAWAY: No.  
2  
3 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Okay. I just  
4 want to thank those of you that are faithfully sticking  
5 to the end. I know that the other ones had to go home  
6 because they'd be here an extra day. I still stress  
7 face-to-face. There's nothing that we can do with --  
8 well, you probably notice the reports that came out of  
9 teleconference, there was hardly any comments after the  
10 reports. It's so critical, especially with important  
11 issues, to be here to face us and we'll face you with  
12 the issues so that we can talk one on one. That's so  
13 critical. So I'm pushing for face to face. Come back  
14 again.  
15  
16 MR. O'HARA: If you don't let us go,  
17 you're going to adopt us here pretty sure and we're  
18 going to vote in your district.  
19  
20 (Laughter)  
21  
22 MS. MORRIS LYON: Molly, I would just  
23 like to echo what you just said. This is the first  
24 time I've ever attempted to participate by  
25 teleconference and it's awful. It's terrible to try  
26 and grasp the concepts and the meanings that are trying  
27 to get put forth. Yeah, I just totally ditto what you  
28 say, so thank you.  
29  
30 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Yeah, we miss  
31 you too, Nanci, and we'll see you at our winter  
32 meeting.  
33  
34 MS. MORRIS LYON: I'm looking forward  
35 to it.  
36  
37 MR. O'HARA: Madame, may I make a  
38 motion to adjourn.  
39  
40 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: There's a motion  
41 to adjourn.  
42  
43 MR. WILSON: Second.  
44  
45 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: Seconded by  
46 Richard. All in favor say aye.  
47  
48 IN UNISON: Aye.  
49  
50 CHAIRWOMAN CHYTHLOOK: No opposition.

1 Travel home safe.

2

3

(Off record)

4

5

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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STATE OF ALASKA )

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Salena A. Hile  
Notary Public, State of Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 9/16/14