

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.

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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 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

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

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

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

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
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.
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)

