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BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME II

Naknek, Alaska
October 2, 2007
8:30 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Randolph Alvarez, Chair
- Pete Abraham
- Alvin Boskofsky
- Dan Dunaway
- Thomas Hedlund
- Boris Kosbruk, Sr.
- Nanci Morris Lyon
- Daniel O'Hara

- Regional Council Coordinator - Clifford Edenshaw

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Naknek, Alaska - 10/2/2007)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Good morning. We're going to call the meeting back to order.

We kind of skipped around on the agency reports yesterday, so I don't now who hasn't reported yet, so I guess I'm going to leave it up to you guys to kind of take turns until we get done.

Ralph Moore, superintendent, said that -- or I got word from him that he'll be here about 10 and then he can report when he gets here, because he had some business to take care of this morning. So when he shows up, then we'll let him do his report.

So the rest of you guys I guess can just kind of take turns until we get done. I'm not sure who's.....

MR. LONS: Okay. We'll do Alaska Peninsula Refuge then. I'd like to introduce Dom Watts, he's our new biologist and he's going to give a presentation, Randy.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Daryle. All right. Thanks. Just a minute. Would you stop? We need to get you recorded here.

(Off record)

(On record)

MR. EDENSHAW: Dom, you can go ahead and start. Perhaps you could just go ahead and do your introduction again.

MR. WATTS: Okay. So Daryle asked me to come in and talk today about some of the projects we're doing on the refuge, and so I put together a slide show.

Just an overview of what we're going to talk about. Doing some caribou surveys, caribou parasite research, calf survival, introduction to the wolf ecology project, some avian influenza testing.

1 And then I'll sum it up with some refuge harvest
2 information.

3

4 So caribou projects. As you guys are
5 probably well familiar with, the population on the
6 northern Alaska Peninsula has declined significantly in
7 the last 10 years. Some work by Dick Sellers in the
8 late 90s noticed some chronic malnutrition, possible
9 respiratory disease. About half the calves he tested
10 had lung lesions that are indicative of bacterial
11 pneumonia. So that sparked interest.

12

13 And then the Fish and Game came in in
14 2004 and came out with a parasite study where they
15 noticed heavy loads in the caribou herd. And that same
16 study, mortality less than two weeks was 19 percent and
17 35 percent past two weeks. 31 percent of that,
18 however, was non-predator related. Just as a side
19 note, that was a pretty small sample size, but brown
20 bears were the principal predator.

21

22 So to keep track of the caribou herd,
23 we do caribou surveys, and we, of course, do those with
24 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The main
25 things we're looking at in those surveys are bull/cow
26 ratios, calf/cow ratios and pregnancy rates. And we'll
27 talk about why those are important in a minute.

28

29 So here's some data for the last three
30 years as far as pregnancy rates. The red area is where
31 the Alaska Peninsula caribou herd, or the Northern
32 Alaska Peninsula caribou herd is below what you would
33 want to see for a healthy population. You can see
34 there's a little increase there, but it's really --
35 it's not something to jump all over and say the
36 pregnancy rates area great, because they can vary
37 between years.

38

39 Important things to look at are
40 calf/cow ratios. That gives you an estimate of how
41 many caribou calves are going to make it into that
42 breeding population later. And so that's an important
43 parameter, and you can see it's pretty low in the
44 Northern Peninsula herd. And you see the effects of
45 that later when you look at bull/cow ratios for the
46 same years. You see declining bull/cow ratios.

47

48 And so just a quick summary. You have
49 low adult survival, low pregnancy rates, low calf
50 survival. Particularly the important part there is low

1 calf recruitment. Potential infection, disease. And
2 the effects of parasites.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dominic.

5

6 MR. WATTS: Yeah.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That one slide
9 there, on the cow -- with the brown and the orange
10 graph, the cow pregnancy right there. What's the
11 orange for?

12

13 MR. WATTS: Well, that orange area, the
14 top 80 percent is where you usually want to see a
15 caribou herd. A healthy caribou herd's going to have
16 at least 80 percent pregnancy rates. And so that --
17 the black area is what you see in the Northern Alaska
18 Peninsula, so that red is where we're below what you
19 would want to see in a healthy herd.

20

21 So with all that, obviously there's
22 some issues you want to address. So we started a
23 caribou parasite study with the Department of Fish and
24 Game. And the objectives were to examine the effects
25 of parasites on the caribou herd, particularly adult
26 survival, body condition, pregnancy rates, and then
27 later those are developed into the calf weights and
28 calf survival.

29

30 So in 2005 we captured 50 adult
31 females. Those animals are captured twice annually,
32 and they're retreated with a drug called Ivermectin.
33 It's a common drug. If you have dogs or horses, any
34 kind of cattle, they get this drug. And basically it's
35 just a broad spectrum anti-parasite medication. It
36 kills just about anything they've got.

37

38 So we looked at adult survival. We
39 radio collared the caribou. They're equipped with a
40 mortality sensor and that gives us information on not
41 only survival rates, how many are surviving, but also
42 the locations, the timing of survival, mortality
43 events. That kind of information is also important
44 when you're trying to figure out what's going on.

45

46 We looked at adult body condition, use
47 a rump fat index. And that little picture down at the
48 bottom corner is an ultrasound. It gives you a picture
49 of how much fat is on the rump. And then body weights
50 is another good indication of over-all body condition.

1 Then we look at pregnancy and birth
2 weights. We do the parturition surveys, look at
3 pregnancy, and that was those -- the black and red
4 graph we saw earlier. We also take blood samples when
5 we capture them, and that gives us an idea of early
6 term loss. So if they're pregnant early in the winter,
7 and then they don't carry that calf and drop it on the
8 ground, those blood samples will give us that kind of
9 information. And then we also capture the calves and
10 get the birth weights.

11
12 And just some initial results. We just
13 finished this study up this past summer, early May, so
14 we haven't gone through everything. But birth weights,
15 there's no detectable effect of the drug Ivermectin,
16 and the same thing with calf survival. And now we're
17 going to look at whether or not that drug allows the
18 adult cows to put on more body weight, and whether or
19 not it effects the pregnancy rates.

20
21 MS. MORRIS LYON: Hey, Dom?

22
23 MR. WATTS: Yeah.

24
25 MS. MORRIS LYON: So that means that
26 there's been no increase or decrease in it? I mean,
27 what are you telling us when you say there's no effect
28 that you can tell?

29
30 MR. WATTS: Right. So if we give them
31 the drug, hopefully the idea is that the pregnancy
32 rate's going to go up, or the calf weight's going to go
33 up, because that cow's not feeling the effects of
34 parasites. She hypothetically should be more
35 nutritionally sound, so she produces a bigger, heavier
36 calf, that kind of thing. And from what we could see
37 so far, there's -- there hasn't been an effect of that
38 drug on those parameters.

39
40 And so earlier we saw the graphs, low
41 calf/cow ratios, a few calves making it into the
42 population to breed later. So that brings us into the
43 next question, the calf mortality. Again Fish and
44 Wildlife works with the Fish and Game. We pretty much
45 do all our projects together. The objectives of the
46 calf mortality study, we look at calf weights. And
47 particularly calf survival in that first two weeks is
48 really the crucial period for caribou. Once they make
49 that two weeks, they should be doing pretty well, and
50 they should be surviving to be recruited into the

1 population. And then -- we want to look at causes of
2 mortality within that primary two weeks where most of
3 the mortality is going to take place, and what's
4 causing that mortality.

5
6 So we go out, we do some hand capture,
7 evaluate the age, weight, sex, and then we put a VHF
8 transmitter or just a little radio collar. It's
9 expandable so it won't choke the caribou or anything.
10 And it has a mortality sensor so we can go in. When
11 that animal quits moving for a certain period of time,
12 it starts making a different sound and we can tell. So
13 when we get a mortality, we go in, we look -- or we
14 check these calves daily for the first two weeks, and
15 then after the two weeks we check them weekly. When
16 there's a mortality, we go in, look at the site, we
17 look at the carcass, and just by the consumption
18 patterns of the predator you can pretty much tell what
19 did it. And there's a little leeway in there, but it's
20 pretty accurate. Yeah. Or it's very accurate. And
21 then to add to that, we do a detailed necropsy and look
22 for the parasites and disease, bite marks, stuff like
23 that.

24
25 So some initial results. Birth
26 weights. You know, there's not a ton of data as far as
27 birth weights for the caribou herd here, but they're
28 not extremely small or extremely large, but there again
29 we don't have a basis for comparison, because those
30 calf weights will change -- or they're different among
31 caribou herds, even ones that are close to each other.

32
33 But what we found is out of the
34 investigated mortalities, obviously, wolves and brown
35 bears and large predators are the major causes of
36 mortality in that first two weeks period. Now, if you
37 look at that, it looks like really high numbers. Those
38 all add up to 100 percent, so if you look out and 10
39 percent of the calves dies and we looked at them, out
40 of 100 calves, you're still going to have those same
41 kind of percentages. So it can be deceiving if you
42 just look at the graphs, but keep in mind that the
43 major issues with a young caribou calf less than two
44 weeks old is predation.

45
46 And really this isn't that uncommon to
47 see as far as the first two weeks, but where it really
48 becomes interesting is on the left there. You see less
49 than two weeks compared to say the Denali herd, the 40-
50 Mile herd, other stable or increasing herds. Our calf

1 survival is a little bit lower in that first two weeks.
2 But as they age, they become able to outrun predators,
3 keep up with mom. And in a normal -- or I should say
4 normal, but in a stable or increasing population,
5 you're going to see that survival rate increase so that
6 the bars on the right indicate other herds. You have
7 that gray area, and then you see ours in the red is
8 significantly lower. So that's the big question, why
9 aren't they surviving once they reach that critical
10 period.

11
12 That leads us to the next question. We
13 initiated a wolf project, again with the Department of
14 Fish and Game. The objectives for this study, it's at
15 this point more of a pilot study. We want to look at
16 the age structure, sex ratio, vital rates, see how many
17 pups they have. We want to map out the territories.
18 That will give us a rough estimate of how many wolves
19 are out there. Group sizes. And from that we might be
20 able to pick apart some effects of the wolf population.
21 And also just to look at spatial use, whether or not
22 these wolves follow the caribou on their migration
23 routes, whether or not they're making substantial
24 movements into the calving grounds where they might
25 have larger effects.

26
27 So we do do aerial darting. We knock
28 them down with some drugs. We put collars on them. We
29 take your standard complement of body measurements, and
30 we also take some blood samples. And that will give us
31 some baseline information to compare to. If you're
32 interested, there's the different kinds of diseases
33 we're testing for with the blood.

34
35 Just -- and like I said, this is just
36 preliminary stuff. This study just started in the last
37 year.

38
39 In 2006 we caught a dozen, and in 2007
40 we caught 17 more. Twenty-one of those are adults,
41 eight were sub-adults. And all those wolves together
42 represent seven packs. The average weights of our
43 wolves, they're not substantially larger or smaller
44 than what you typically see, and we've got a pretty
45 good age structure as far as the number we've got.

46
47 So just to give you an idea of some of
48 the information we're going to get from this. You map
49 out these territories. That's one group's territory
50 there. You can see that's a pretty large area. That's

1 Becharof Lake and the Ugashak Lake. So they move a
2 lot. And just from me radio tracking them, I've had
3 them move more than 25 miles in a day. And so these
4 wolves cover a lot of territory. But they do stay
5 within their territories, and if we can map the
6 different territories as we go along, we can gain
7 information on how many wolves might be out there and
8 their impacts on the caribou.

9

10 There again I was talking about spacial
11 movements, whether or not they're following the caribou
12 or moving into the caribou calving herds -- or calving
13 grounds. This is some more detailed version of the
14 same kind of information. You can see there's
15 obviously areas that they use more than others. So
16 hopefully we can tease out some information from all
17 that.

18

19 So the next thing I want to talk about
20 is testing for avian influenza. The Refuge worked with
21 the U.S. Geological survey on the peninsula this year
22 and last year. And what we're looking for is what
23 you've heard in the -- you know, in the newspapers.
24 H5N1. It's native to Asia. Birds carry it in the
25 intestine. It's passed through saliva and nasal
26 secretions and feces. It's highly pathogenic and it's
27 commonly transferred amount waterfowl and shore birds.

28

29

30 So just to give you an idea of what
31 we're talking about there, the H1N1 was responsible for
32 the Spanish Flu, a very similar kind of bug with 20
33 percent lethality. And in a year it killed --
34 estimates average around 80 million people in that
35 year.

36

37 So obviously humans can contract H5N1.
38 That's a cause for concern. Also it has high
39 lethality, 60 percent. So there's a potential for
40 danger among humans.

41

42 If you look at the major flyways, you
43 see the one on the far left in the orange. That
44 indicates that any bird that's hanging out in Alaska
45 may travel throughout the Americas. And if you look at
46 the dotted line on the far right of the screen coming
47 into Alaska, that's the East Asian Flyway. And you can
48 see that those birds from each one appear in Alaska.
49 And from the dotted line that's where the avian flu
50 that we're talking about is present.

1 And so one way we wanted to look at
2 that is which birds go between Asia and America and
3 have the potential to take the virus down through the
4 Americas. The tundra swan seems like a perfect one.
5 The distribution overlaps east Asia and they actually
6 do migrate into east Asia and they're highly
7 susceptible, and they'll carry the H5N1. So the Alaska
8 Peninsula carries 18 percent of the total Alaska tundra
9 swan population, so it's a really good bird and it's a
10 really good area to look at.

11
12 So we go out, we capture using hand
13 capture. We capture them in molting flocks. And we
14 use physical restraint. Take some basic measurements.
15 Put neck bands on them and leg collars so we can see
16 where these birds go in the event that they -- that
17 some avian influenza might show up. To test for the
18 avian influenza itself, we use cloacal swabs, throat
19 swabs, and we send those off to the U.S.G.S. National
20 Wildlife Health Center in Wisconsin.

21
22 As of 2006, we've had no positives from
23 any of the birds we've tested. In 2007 we caught
24 another 51, and those results are still at the lab.

25
26 However, it's important that I point
27 out that this is being done basically on every refuge
28 across Alaska, and nobody's found anything, so it
29 doesn't really look like there's any reason to worry
30 right now.

31
32 And so I'll get to the last part of the
33 presentation and I'll talk about the harvest on the
34 refuge. Just a brief background on the moose. They
35 were scarce before the 40s. They peaked in the 60s
36 when cows began to show signs of nutritional stress and
37 poor calf recruitment. And since the 1980s the
38 population declined by an estimated 60 percent.

39
40 So on the refuge we've gone out and
41 we've done some moose surveys the last three years, and
42 we used a Western Ecosystems technology, aerial line
43 transects. And this -- it's a company that we pay to
44 go through this data and make sure it's all done
45 correctly. And these surveys are conducted in the
46 Bristol Bay drainage. They're from the park boundary
47 down to Black Lake, only on the Bristol Bay side. So
48 it's important to know we're not talking about the
49 Pacific side at all. And from those point estimates,
50 over a couple thousand moose. Just barely over 2,000

1 moose were in that area.

2

3 So you look at the refuge moose
4 harvest. It hasn't been reported for this year, even
5 though the hunt's done, so I can't show you any of that
6 information from this year. But you can see it's
7 somewhat variable. It goes up and down I mean, that
8 makes sense. You don't always get a moose. You can't
9 find one, et cetera. But it's kind of bouncing around
10 that 40 stable area. No significant increases or
11 decreases in there I guess would be the important thing
12 to note.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Say, Dom.

15

16 MR. WATTS: Yeah.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What are the numbers
19 -- what are the harvest numbers like? What percentage
20 is by the local residents and what is -- what
21 percentage is by people that fly in from elsewhere in
22 the state or out of state?

23

24 MR. WATTS: Okay. You know, it's
25 actually -- I should point out on this graph that this
26 is only the commercial, air taxi transportation and
27 guided hunters, because that's the only people that are
28 required to report to the refuge. So as far as, you
29 know, one of us going out, getting a moose, bringing it
30 home, that's not going to show up in here, because we
31 don't necessarily report that. So this data, just air
32 taxi, transporters and guided hunters. That's this
33 report here. So can't really tease out how many local
34 harvest is in there. Well, it's actually not included
35 at all.

36

37 And that's the same thing for this bear
38 graph here. This is just guided reports and air taxi
39 reports, how many the air taxis haul back in. A little
40 bit more variable there. Still nothing significant as
41 far as a big change in the harvest of the bears on the
42 refuge.

43

44 And so just thanks to everybody, of
45 course. Lem's got a big part in all of this -- all
46 these studies, and wrapping all this up, and the
47 U.S.G.S. guys for their work with the swans.

48

49 With that, I guess I'd entertain any
50 questions.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks.
2 Yeah. You know, we would -- I'd like to see resident
3 harvest numbers there, you know, because that's why
4 we're here to -- we're here to help the residents, the
5 subsistence management plan here. You know, showing us
6 what the non-residents take, you know, is good
7 information, but that's not why we're here, you know.
8 And we need to know that. I'm real interested in how
9 many local people are getting moose compared to what
10 the non-residents or the fly-ins talk.

11
12 And also on the population of caribou,
13 you didn't give us a number on -- is the herd -- what's
14 that population now for the caribou in North Peninsula?
15 Is that coming up or.....

16
17 MR. WATTS: Yeah, I mean, we can give
18 you a rough estimate. I think Lem's probably got.....

19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well,
21 Lem.....

22
23 MR. WATTS:(indiscernible,
24 microphone off)

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, he'll come up
27 and record that. And I guess the calf survival rate,
28 too, I was -- is that getting better?

29
30 MR. WATTS: No, not really.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So, you know, the
33 main cul -- you know, they're dying. From what I
34 gather, most of the calves are dying from predation
35 from wolves and bears, but they're probably pretty
36 weak, because -- which is making them easy to get. And
37 so is that getting any better? The disease, is it.....

38
39 MR. WATTS: As far as the body
40 conditions and the disease like that, Ivermectin study,
41 you know, you should see improvements with -- you know,
42 it's really difficult to say with any certainty as far
43 as how the caribou population as a whole is doing,
44 because we're only looking at sections, and hoping that
45 that (indiscernible, microphone not on) -- or, you
46 know, letting that represent what's going on as far as
47 the entire population. But it's really difficult to
48 say that the calves aren't doing well, because of
49 nutritional stress, because we can't really look at
50 them after that two weeks. In that first two weeks

1 they're a lot easy to catch. But after that, it's very
2 difficult to watch them every day like you would, so
3 we're not really sure what's going on in that later
4 section of their life where they should be doing and
5 they're not.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I noticed
8 that one slide, the survival rate went down after two
9 weeks.

10

11 MR. WATTS: Yeah.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It was -- everybody
14 -- all the rest of the herds in the state were going
15 up.

16

17 MR WATTS: Right.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It concerned me
20 quite a bit there, you know, and that -- just something
21 wasn't right. And it's doing that, it's sure not
22 getting any better. Probably getting worse, you know,
23 and.....

24

25 MR. WATTS: That -- it's -- and I can't
26 say that it's an improvement or that it's getting
27 better, increasing or decreasing, because it's a few
28 years of information to look at, but it's def -- the
29 recruitment should be higher in that section after two
30 weeks, the survival rate. So there is a big problem
31 there, that they're not surviving when they should.
32 That first two weeks isn't (indiscernible, microphone
33 not on) to have those calves survive (indiscernible,
34 microphone not on). But after that, that's a real
35 concern there.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I got a
38 question for Daryle. You got to talk to the boss here.
39 Okay. What do we need to do? What do you guys -- what
40 are you planning on doing?

41

42 MR. LONS: With regard to
43 (indiscernible, away from microphone).

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The North Peninsula
46 caribou.

47

48 MR. LONS: (Indiscernible, away from
49 microphone)

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, this is your
2 jurisdiction, Daryle. What are we -- you know, we're
3 not just here to listen to you guys just to tell us
4 what's going on. We're here to help manage the -- our
5 game, fish and game. So we rely on you guys to tell us
6 what needs to be done so that we can propose things,
7 you know. So what do you suggest? What do you need to
8 do? What do suggest that needs to be done for North
9 Peninsula? I don't want to see doing nothing, let it
10 try to fix itself. It's not happening. It's been a
11 long time now since we weren't able to hunt North
12 Peninsula caribou. So, you know, I want some
13 suggestions from you. I'd like to know what your plans
14 are?

15
16 MR. LONS: For the record, Daryle Lons,
17 refuge manager for the Alaska Peninsula and Becharof
18 Refuge.

19
20 Good questions, Randy. At this point
21 all we can do is study the herd and learn more about
22 them for future management. There's not a lot we can
23 do. We've closed the season. It's a natural
24 phenomenon as far as populations cycling on a 50-year
25 cycle. So all we really can do is learn more about the
26 -- you know, the caribou for future management, and
27 work with the locals to not harvest cows. There is no
28 harvest, legal harvest now on caribou. So, you know,
29 other than learning about there, there aren't a lot of
30 management alternatives.

31
32 Well, I guess the one possible
33 management option would be predator control, but there
34 really -- you know, that's not going to guarantee that
35 the caribou are going to come back any faster.

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, it certainly
38 looked like that's what most of the percentage of the
39 caribou calves are dying from, you know. If they're
40 weak.....

41
42 MR. LONS: Well, yeah, that's true.....

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:they're trying
45 to protect them.

46
47 MR. LONS:but it's a normal
48 phenomenon for predation, you know, to occur. So
49 what's really happening as Dom pointed out is the big
50 concern is after that two-week period where calves

1 should be at the point where they're escaping predators
2 and they're not. And, you know, we can make some
3 assumptions on why they aren't, because they're not
4 healthy, and that goes back to possible habitat
5 concerns and parasite concerns. But, you know, there's
6 nothing to say that predator control would fix the
7 problem. It could possibly help, especially if caribou
8 numbers even get lower than they are right now.

9
10 And the Fish and Wildlife Service
11 considers predator control to be a legitimate
12 conservation tool, but the problem there is that we
13 have to justify biologically that it will do something,
14 and there's so many hoops to jump over -- or hurdles to
15 get over to implement predator control that it's a long
16 struggle. But it could happen, and, you know, we're
17 considering it. That's why I did start -- starting
18 wolf projects to learn more about wolves, because
19 without those numbers, you know, we couldn't even
20 consider implementing a predator control program. But
21 we need to know, you know, more about caribou, more
22 about wolves, more about bears, about the impacts, you
23 know, everything. And it will be a long, hard struggle
24 to implement predator control on a National Wildlife
25 Refuge. It's not to say that, you know, it won't
26 happen. And that's, you know, what we're trying to do
27 with these caribou and wolf studies is to gain more
28 information, so if we do get at that point that's a
29 potential, you know, possibility to do that. But
30 that's really the only management option, and that's a
31 tough management option to get to.

32
33 I wish -- I mean, I wish I had more
34 good news and an easy way to do it, but, you know, it's
35 a natural phenomenon for caribou to cycle, and on the
36 peninsula they've -- you know, in 1900 they hit bottom,
37 in the 1950s they hit bottom, and how they've hit
38 bottom again. I wish I could do something to make a
39 quick recovery, but, you know, there really aren't any
40 options.

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So your studying.
43 How long before you have enough information to realize
44 that you need -- what --to implement a plan?

45
46 MR. LONS: You know, I wish I could
47 say, Randy. I don't know. All we can do is with the
48 money that we have and the Staff that we have continue
49 to try to do everything that we can do, and we've put a
50 lot of effort and time, you know, into both the caribou

1 and the wolf studies the last several years. There's
2 no quick or easy answer though. Unless you guys have
3 one. I mean, we're very willing to listen.

4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, we have
6 suggestions, you know, but.....

7
8 Alvin, go ahead.

9
10 MR. BOSKOFISKY: You mentioned that back
11 in the years there they had the same kinds of problem,
12 but what was the cause of it?

13
14 MR. LONS: I'm sorry, I missed that,
15 Alvin.

16
17 MR. BOSKOFISKY: What was the cause?

18
19 MR. LONS: On caribou?

20
21 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Yeah.

22
23 MR. LONS: Well, that's what we've been
24 studying. We're not absolutely sure, but, you know,
25 everything that we look at, it tends to make us think
26 that it goes back to habitat. There were 20,000
27 critters, you know, back in the 80s and early 90s and
28 they basically eat themselves out of house and home
29 and, you know, they get nutritionally stressed, and
30 then that allows the critters to, you know, pick up
31 more parasites, and they get even more weakened, and
32 it's -- you know, it's a complex thing. Probably Lem
33 Butler's the biologist, should be talking about these
34 things more than, you know, I should be. But it's not
35 an easy thing, but it's a natural thing. It's -- you
36 know, it's happening -- it happens all over the state
37 with every herd in Alaska. It's happening with the
38 Mulchatna now, the Southern Alaska Peninsula caribou
39 herd it's happened to. You know, sooner or later when
40 you have caribou populations and they peak and they're
41 in a certain area for a long period of time, they get
42 nutritionally stressed and they cycle. They go up,
43 they go down, and right now we're in the bottom.

44
45 MR. BOSKOFISKY: Was there any kind of
46 indication of predator problems in those years?

47
48 MR. LONS: Well, there's predators all
49 over Alaska, but it's a normal, you know, occurrence
50 for predation to occur. It's just usually in a healthy

1 herd the predation occurs and the animals still, you
2 know, do okay.

3
4 MR. BOSKOFISKY: But not in the sense of
5 what we got now. I'm sure villages have been calling
6 in. There's wolves and bears are really thick.

7
8 MR. LONS: I'm not going to argue there
9 are. I know we realize there's a lot of bears on the
10 peninsula and there's quite a few wolves. We don't
11 know how many wolves, but that's why we've been doing
12 the study to try to figure out about how many there
13 are.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

16
17 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I guess with
18 -- I, like Randy and everybody else, am really
19 discouraged. I mean, I was hoping that some of these
20 Iver Mekin studies and what not, you know, were going
21 to produce some results that would be favorable, and I
22 find it very discouraging. In fact, I think that
23 they're negative rather than positive, because they're
24 done nothing.

25
26 And so then the other question that I
27 have, because I haven't heard anybody say anything
28 about it, is what about the habitat? Has anybody taken
29 another evaluation this summer on the habitat? Are we
30 looking at a longer effect because of, you know, the
31 things that they claim are going on in the environment?
32 You know, what is your theory or analysis of what's
33 going out -- on out there in the environment for the
34 habitat to help bring them back to get us a healthy
35 herd going again?

36
37 MR. LONS: Well, there's really nothing
38 that I'm aware of, Nanci, that you can do, you know,
39 for the habitat, to manage the habitat, you know, and
40 this sort of an ecosystem, so.....

41
42 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah I understand
43 that, Daryle, but I'm just saying has anybody
44 reevaluated that? I know that Ron had brought us some
45 habitat information I believe last spring, and.....

46
47 MR. LONS: No. No, we haven't done any
48 more recent habitat evaluation work. But we can -- I
49 mean, that's probably a good idea to do, but with
50 limited resources, we have to put our money somewhere.

1 And we can look at that, but even when we know more
2 about it, it isn't going to do anything as far as
3 bringing the caribou back faster. It's more of a
4 future management sort of a deal, you know, and --
5 there aren't easy answers on caribou.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Frank, you had a
8 question?

9

10 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods, Bristol Bay
11 Native Association. I (indiscernible, away from
12 microphone) the advisory committee in Nushagak brought
13 up a very real point for the (indiscernible, away from
14 microphone) members of that. During the 60s and 70s,
15 and early 80s, you had same day aerial wolf hunting.
16 The wolf population (indiscernible) go back
17 (indiscernible) a question. Is there any studies on
18 what the population, or are there harvest records for
19 wolf and bear at that times? Not only from your
20 organization, but the State (indiscernible). What was
21 the harvest records for wolf and bear during that time,
22 the early 70s, 80s, (indiscernible) and the increase in
23 caribou populations? Not for the Mulchatna, but
24 peninsula herds.

25

26 But also, you know, look in the records
27 and see what the laws in place at that time were
28 favorable or less (indiscernible) higher harvest
29 numbers. And if that could be researched, that would
30 be interesting to know. Yes, there is a big natural
31 cycle in caribou populations, but, you know, at this
32 point in time, I think it's (indiscernible) we
33 shouldn't be harvesting anything (indiscernible). I
34 feel for all the people on the peninsula
35 (indiscernible) because I'm from an area where at least
36 we get one of two. And I know you guys have a really
37 tough job, but there's (indiscernible) we can -- at
38 least anything that we can (indiscernible).

39

40 Thanks.

41

42 MR. LONS: I appreciate that concern.
43 I don't know if Lem can address any of those answers as
44 far as the historic data, but the refuge doesn't have
45 any.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, we'll get some
48 answers from Lem when he comes up and reports.

49

50 So does anybody else have anything for

1 Daryle. Fish and Wildlife. Dan.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm sorry if I wasn't
4 paying quite close enough attention. On this wolf
5 study, are you also looking at kind of what all the
6 wolves are eating? This picture in the newspaper all
7 over the internet of the wolf fishing at Brooks, I
8 wonder if -- you know, it kind of goes back to my
9 question a couple meetings ago as to what's propping
10 these wolves up if we have such sparse moose and
11 caribou, and is there alternative prey that's keeping
12 that population up, or are you looking at studying.....

13

14 MR. LONS: At this point in time the
15 study really isn't addressing that, Dan, but, yeah,
16 we'd like to get to that point, and I think Dom's got
17 plans to go in that direction at a later point. This
18 is kind of we're at the pilot point on the study.

19

20 Yeah, we know -- I mean, there's
21 documentation that wolves are eating salmon. I'm sure
22 salmon are important in the summer times. Beaver are
23 another, you know, source in the winter time and other
24 times of the year. Or summer time. But, no, our study
25 isn't specifically addressing that. We get some
26 incidental information when Dom and Dave are out
27 flying. You know, they will see wolves eating a moose
28 or a caribou, but that's not enlightening news to
29 anyone that wolves are, you know, eating moose and
30 caribou.

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, thanks and I'm glad
33 to see you're doing a real study.....

34

35 MR. LONS: We're trying. I mean, we're
36 throwing a lot of funding and money at caribou and
37 wolves and moose, but, you know, we have limited
38 resources. We can't do as much as we'd like to do, and
39 we can do all we can do, and we'll certainly listen to,
40 you know, things. If you guys want us to do things
41 that we aren't addressing, I'll certainly consider
42 that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Daryle.

45

46 MR. LONS: You're welcome. Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Who's up
49 next?

50

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

4

5 MR. EDENSHAW: Ted had another
6 PowerPoint. Krieg.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

9

10 MR. EDENSHAW: Ted. Make sure that
11 microphone's on over there, would you, please?

12

13 MR. KRIEG: Okay. Thanks for bearing
14 with me. Ted Krieg with Subsistence Division at Fish
15 and Game out of Dillingham. Robbin LaVine is also
16 standing by here. She was a big part of this project,
17 and she actually talked a little bit about some of this
18 project yesterday.

19

20 But what I'm going to present here is a
21 PowerPoint that we put together initially to present to
22 the communities that were going to be included in this
23 project. And I've modified it a little bit. I put in
24 some in some pictures that we took last summer, some of
25 the information that we gathered. This project is
26 Kvichak watershed subsistence salmon fisheries, fishery
27 ethnographic study. Funding was provided by Fisheries
28 Information Services, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
29 There will be a chance for questions at the end.
30 Robbin's going to have some things she may want to say,
31 but definitely we'll have times for questions.

32

33 And I guess I should start off by
34 saying the Partners, Park Service, Bristol Bay Native
35 Association, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game,
36 Subsistence Division, we'll talk a little bit more
37 about that later. The beginning date for this project
38 was June 2007. The project's scheduled to end in
39 December 2009. And as I said, there's the Partners,
40 Subsistence Division, Bristol Bay Native Association
41 and Lake Clark Park and Preserve, National Park and
42 Preserve.

43

44 Why do this study. I'm going to just
45 read this. I don't know if -- it may get a little
46 boring, but you can read it here also.

47

48 This ethnographic study will
49 investigate all families in four communities of the
50 Kvichak watershed, develop subsistence fishing

1 strategies, such as when to fish, where to fish, who to
2 fish with and how much to harvest in response to
3 changing social, cultural, economic and environmental
4 circumstance. So basically anything that was going on
5 in that year we wanted to try to -- you know, that was
6 decisions people were making about when they were
7 fishing, why they were fishing, why they weren't
8 fishing, that type of thing. This ethnographic
9 information about community patterns of subsistence use
10 and adaptation is lacking, but is essential for the
11 effective management of fisheries to provide for
12 subsistence uses. So, you know, just trying to get
13 things on paper.

14

15 If I can -- I was going to try to put
16 an arrow up there.

17

18 The four communities were Newhalen,
19 Iliamna, and Nondalton at Sixmile Lake, and Port
20 Alsworth on Lake Clark.

21

22 And I guess I should say -- I mean,
23 kind of the reason that this project came about was in
24 the years of low returns to the Kvichak for sockeyes,
25 you know, things were changing. Some of the fishing
26 patterns, when the fish were coming in. So people were
27 having to put in more effort to get what they needed
28 for subsistence. So in light of that, we started
29 looking at things and saying, well, maybe it's time to
30 do one of these studies where we just go in there and
31 spend time with people, and, you know, try to figure
32 out what's going on or how it's affecting the local
33 people.

34

35 So how do local families make decisions
36 about subsistence fishing. We kind of covered that all
37 right. Social, cultural, economic and environmental
38 factors that shape annual variations of subsistence
39 harvest of Kvichak sockeye salmon. And which of these
40 factors shape long-term trends in the fishery.

41

42 These are some of the methods that tie
43 in to the goals and objectives that I'll be hitting
44 here a little bit later, but to start out, review
45 relevant literature. Find out, you know, types of
46 studies like this that have been done in the past.
47 Anything that, you know, might help us decide what
48 we're going to try to document, what might be
49 important.

50

1 The method. The researchers
2 participate in fishing activities in each communities.
3 This was called participant observation, so what we did
4 was actually go and -- I can speak for myself. Robbin
5 can tell you about Nondalton.

6
7 I went to Iliamna and Newhalen, and I
8 was able to hook up with a guy there that was, you
9 know, going out on a regular basis, checking -- you
10 know, had some nets out, bringing in fish for actually
11 numerous families. But, you know, I was down there a
12 lot and felt like I got a pretty good feel for what
13 goes on in Newhalen, Newhalen River, at the mouth of
14 the Newhalen River. In Iliamna I spent some time, you
15 know, checking the nets that were along the beach there
16 and talking to some of the families. So that was
17 participant observation.

18
19 Let's see, researchers work with four
20 families to document fishing activities over a year.
21 And that's the part of this project that Robbin talked
22 about yesterday and, you know, may want to tell you a
23 little bit more. Researchers conduct key respondent
24 interviews. We haven't done those yet, and in fact I'm
25 probably -- I'm going to try to do some of those here
26 within this next week, and I think another one of our
27 coworkers was going to be in Nondalton also.

28
29 Administer systematic household harvest
30 surveys. Those are the types of surveys that
31 Subsistence Division has done for a number of years,
32 usually, you know, as there was a need. And then if
33 funding was available. But basically we'll be going
34 house-to-house and ask people -- you know, find out
35 what they harvested during the year. And this kind of
36 supplements the type of work that we -- or the
37 information that we get from the subsistence salmon
38 permits.

39
40 And that's another thing that maybe
41 I'll touch on a little bit later, because it came up
42 yesterday about these permits. And, you know, I guess
43 from my point of view and I think Subsistence Division
44 in general, you know, the information that we get back
45 on those permits, the harvest numbers, that's the most
46 important thing. And, you know, those numbers help
47 support -- there's an amount necessary for subsistence
48 that's, you know, documented for each community, or
49 sometimes by region, but you know, that's where those
50 numbers come from, that amount necessary for

1 subsistence. And if people aren't reporting those
2 numbers, it doesn't go into the, you know, whole mix of
3 factors for escapement and other things. So those
4 numbers are really important to the community, and we
5 realize that, you know, there's -- probably not
6 everybody is getting permits, probably not everybody --
7 you know, some -- not everybody is reporting. These
8 household surveys help supplement that, and hopefully
9 get more accurate information. But I guess that's my
10 pitch for, you know, anything that any of you Council
11 members can relay to people in your communities or your
12 areas about the importance of doing this, because, you
13 know, there are -- there's -- there are -- when it
14 comes down to it, the Board of Fish or whoever is
15 looking at these things, and they say, you know, we
16 don't have the information. It's not there.
17 Communities aren't reporting it. So there we have to
18 relay on our harvest surveys.

19

20 Anyway, I got a little carried away on
21 that, but back to this.

22

23 So the next step would be to prepare a
24 draft final report with study findings. Community
25 review meeting. When we get done with our preliminary
26 draft report, we go back to the community, present that
27 to them, ask them if they have questions. If things
28 don't look right, you know, we try to find out why, and
29 answer some of those questions. So, you know, we do go
30 back to the community.

31

32 And as I started out, we took these --
33 this PowerPoint and presented it to each of the four
34 communities when people were available. And, you know,
35 we have to get permission from the village council,
36 tribal council before we go in and start any work. So
37 we don't do that without first getting the okay from
38 the community.

39

40 And then as much as possible, when we
41 have -- need to hire people, and, you know, we try to
42 have people participate as much as possible. We
43 usually hire someone to help with the harvest surveys.
44 And we always do. That's an important part of it is
45 having somebody local help us figure out who we need to
46 go talk to or where people are, and then actually learn
47 to do the surveys also.

48

49 And then the final thing will be, you
50 know, the final report.

1 Here's the goals and objectives. I'll
2 just try to read through these without adding too much
3 else. But starting summer of 2007, participation at
4 fish camps, and in the winter of 2008 the household
5 surveys. So through participant observation and key
6 respondent interviews, prepare a description of the
7 subsistence sockeye salmon fisheries of the communities
8 of Nondalton, Newhalen, Iliamna and Port Alsworth in
9 2007. This includes photographs, taking notes, et
10 cetera, with permission of those residents involved.

11
12 The second goal, through systematic
13 household surveys, estimate the subsistence salmon,
14 sockeye salmon harvest for the communities of
15 Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen and Port Alsworth in 2007.
16 We say sockeye, but if people are catching any other
17 species of salmon, we document those, too.

18
19 Continuing on, No. 3, through a
20 combination of data gathering methods, such as log
21 books, journals, photographs and audio recordings,
22 document the social aspects, such as division of labor,
23 consumption and sharing of subsistence fishing for
24 salmon and other fish for four families over the course
25 of one year. That was what Robbin talked to you about
26 yesterday. Describe the decision-making process of the
27 four families, and annual subsistence harvest of salmon
28 and other fish, including adjustments made in response
29 to resource abundance, the species selection process
30 and the selection of family members for harvesting.

31
32 Pretty wordy, but these goals and
33 objectives go into our investigation plan. That's part
34 of the process of getting funding for this type of
35 project.

36
37 Pulling it together, this is -- most of
38 that was the field work, or the part of the work that
39 would be done in the communities. Identify the social,
40 cultural, economic and environmental factors that shape
41 subsistence salmon harvesting activities in Nondalton,
42 Iliamna, Newhalen and Port Alsworth in 2007.

43
44 The sixth goal, describe changing
45 subsistence fishing strategies and patterns in the
46 subsistence salmon fishery, including harvest levels,
47 harvest locations, social organization of production
48 and processing methods that have developed in the four
49 communities over the 20 to 25 years. And I think that
50 20 to 25 years is based on the last time that this type

1 of a study, or ethnographic study was done in any of
2 those communities.

3

4 Agency participants. Dr. James Fall,
5 he's the statewide research director and principal
6 investigator, Division of Subsistence at Fish and Game.
7 He's in Anchorage. Daven Holen in Subsistence Division
8 out of Anchorage, and I'm Ted Krieg with Division of
9 Subsistence, and I'm in Dillingham. Robbin LaVine at
10 BBNA. Karen Stickman with the National Park Service.
11 And Michelle Ravenmoon with National Park Service. The
12 interns that worked this summer, Victoria Flores with
13 BBNA, Jessica Hague with the National Park Service, and
14 Cecilia Yazee with Subsistence Division.

15

16 How does this benefit the communities.
17 It demonstrates the importance of subsistence for rural
18 residents to non-rural residents, aids in management
19 decisions, and gives the communities a voice in those
20 decisions. Documents use of the land and water by
21 residents of the communities to support subsistence
22 fishing rights under State and Federal law. Creates
23 material that can be used in schools or for other
24 community use.

25

26 And the time line which we kind of
27 covered already, but April to May of last year, or
28 2007, was community presentations. June, starting the
29 field work in Newhalen and Iliamna. I went to Newhalen
30 and Iliamna. I arrived there June 11th and I was
31 actually there for almost six weeks into about the
32 third week in July. In July, participate in fishing in
33 Nondalton and Ports Alsworth. And that -- Robbin and
34 Dave were up in Nondalton and they also did some
35 extensive time in Ports Alsworth with Michelle
36 Ravenmoon. Karen Stickman, of course, was at
37 Nondalton, that's her community. So September and
38 October, that's where we're at now, participating in
39 fishing for red fish near Iliamna and Nondalton.

40

41 And I'm actually planning a trip here
42 on Thursday to go and try to go out with some people
43 from Newhalen and spend some time in Newhalen and
44 Iliamna. Maybe if somebody's going out in Iliamna, can
45 do that, too. I mean, we will -- we'll try to do as
46 much as we can. Daven is planning to go to Nondalton
47 also and be there when people go out. But for fall
48 fish or spawned out, people -- you know, it's hard to
49 -- from what we've understood, people say -- you know,
50 they'll wake up one day and say it's time to go, so

1 they don't -- there's not too much planning ahead for
2 that usually is our understanding. So we'll see if we
3 can hook up with people to do that.

4
5 October of 2007 to September 2008, work
6 with the four families to document their annual
7 subsistence fishing activities. So that's going to go
8 on for a whole year. Robbin's part of this.

9
10 February 2008, systematic household
11 surveys in Iliamna, Newhalen, Nondalton, and Port
12 Alsworth. So in February we'll plan to do those
13 household -- we're planning to do those household
14 surveys.

15
16 Main contact information. Daven's name
17 is there, my name, Robbin and Karen, and our email
18 addresses, phone numbers. If anybody wants that
19 information, we can get it to you later, too.

20
21 Just got a couple of photos on the end
22 here, and then there's some maps that I'm going to let
23 Robbin -- for Nondalton, and I'll let Robbin talk to
24 you about. This is right at the mouth of the Newhalen
25 River. One of the expert fish cutters. I learned some
26 things about fish cutting that I didn't know. And so
27 here's the map, so -- we'll have time for questions,
28 but if Robbin.....

29
30 MS. LAVINE: Actually I don't know if I
31 have anything really to say about the mapping. For the
32 record, this is Robbin Lavine. And I don't know if we
33 have anything specific to say about the maps other than
34 that we've been documenting where the various active
35 fish camps are, and the folks that are using them, and,
36 of course, how they're related to the people who own
37 the land.

38
39 One thing we found that kind of -- that
40 Ted touched on is that there are a lot more people
41 conducting subsistence sockeye salmon fishing than is
42 documented in the harvest permits. And also the
43 permits generally get at -- they're household permits,
44 and people don't -- they don't subsist jut by
45 household. It's a family thing, which is why we also
46 talked about following a family, working with families.
47 Often these are not folks that are living under one
48 roof, but they're families, they're people who are
49 connected via blood or marriage or other means, and
50 they work together to make sure that everyone has the

1 fish they need. A lot of folks travel from out of the
2 community, that are originally from the area, but now
3 live elsewhere, but it's incredibly important to make
4 sure that families remain connected by these
5 activities, and also by the fish, which once they are
6 canned or they're vacuum packed, or they're -- all the
7 various means that they're processed, they go all over
8 the state and all over the nation where family members
9 may be just so that they have that taste of home. And
10 they have what -- this resource that is so important to
11 people.

12
13 Let's see. This is fish camps. These
14 are -- oh, they're talking -- we're documenting
15 structures as well. A lot of folks, as you can see
16 there, there are a number of -- at the very top of the
17 screen, there are a number of fish camps in town, and
18 people can actually live in town and put up their fish
19 there. But I think a lot of people really enjoy
20 relocating to fish camp during the summer. Multiple
21 generations are all -- while they don't usually live
22 under the same roof when they are in town, multiple
23 generations will get together at the same camp during
24 the summer months of harvest, so we're also documenting
25 permanent structures, cabins and smoke houses and the
26 like. Steam baths.

27
28 And I think that's it. Are there any
29 questions.

30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Have you got any
32 other (indiscernible, microphone not on).

33
34 MS. LAVINE: Yes. You know, I have to
35 say that there is definitely difference, a taste
36 difference between the fish that we get in Dillingham
37 that my family puts up and the fish that we get up --
38 or the folks get up on Port -- in Nondalton and Port
39 Alsworth. And I really don't want to offend anybody,
40 but I think I'm going to be putting up my fish next
41 summer in Nondalton.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. I guess
44 I'd like to hear from ADF&G. I guess, Lem, can you
45 give your report on caribou, moose, and bear and what
46 you've been up to? We've probably got some questions
47 for you on some of that.

48
49 MR. BUTLER: Yes, let me.....

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Sure. We'll take a

1 minute off and then we'll do that.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Lem.

8

9 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
10 Council. My name is Lem Butler. I'm the area wildlife
11 biologist for the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian
12 Islands, including the Lake Clark area. I manage
13 wildlife on State land, Federal land, private land and
14 corporation land, so I'm very familiar with the
15 wildlife populations that this Council addresses, and
16 manage a lot of the hunts that you're interested in.

17

18 I really don't put reports together per
19 se for this Council. I usually leave that up again to
20 the National Wildlife Refuge or Park Service Staff that
21 I work with very intimately on many of these projects
22 to bring you up to speed on a lot of those issues. So
23 I really don't have too much to contribute. I thought
24 they did a fantastic job of presenting the information
25 so far. I'm simply here to answer any questions that
26 you may have and participate in the discussions.

27

28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That's good,
29 because we've got some questions. And I wanted you to
30 come up here and -- so can you give us what kind of
31 population estimate is the North Peninsula caribou at
32 now, and also we had -- they gave us moose population
33 numbers from the Refuge on the survey side, it was
34 about 2,000, but what do we have from there on up to
35 Lake Clark, or individual areas if you could probably
36 separate them out a little bit.....

37

38 MR. BUTLER: Sure. Yeah, we haven't
39 actually tried to count the Northern Alaska Peninsula
40 herd in at least two years now. Probably the last
41 count was in 2005. What we are doing is we're looking
42 at the numbers of caribou on the rutting grounds
43 typically just south of King Salmon here, between the
44 Naknek and Egigik Rivers. Last year we saw 1900
45 caribou, which put the population at a minimum guess of
46 2,000. We haven't updated that number. Based on calf
47 recruitment and adult survival, it's again likely that
48 the population's declined since then. But that's about
49 as good as I can tell you is that we have at least --
50 we had at least 1900 last fall, fall of 2006.

1 In terms of moose populations, we
2 really don't have any surveys designed to estimate
3 moose populations aside from the one that the refuge
4 conducted down in 9E, which was actually a density
5 estimate, which extrapolates up to a population
6 estimate. We can do similar calculations with less
7 data in other areas. I concur with the 9E estimate of
8 roughly 2,000 moose in that area. State lands in 9C,
9 in other words non-Park Service lands, you're probably
10 looking at another 800 moose. And then in Unit 9B
11 you're looking at about 2,000 moose. But again those
12 are all based on extrapolations based on density and
13 moose habitat. So they're not really surveys designed
14 to estimate population size.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's 9C,
17 800, you know, that.....

18
19 MR. BUTLER: Again, that's non-Park
20 Service land. The majority of that unit, 90 percent of
21 it or so is going to be.....

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: But 9D at 2,000.....

24
25 MR. BUTLER:Park Service.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think that's way
28 -- I think, my opinion, that's too high. You know,
29 that's been 2,000 for a long time, you know, and since
30 Sellers was around. But I don't think we -- I believe
31 that our population isn't what it used to be. In fact,
32 it's been going down, you know, and I think you've
33 probably been hearing that for the last couple of years
34 or so, that it seem like it's declining. So you know,
35 we would like -- next meeting, if you guys could work
36 on that, because, you know, we're going to have some --
37 we're going to be discussing game proposals at the
38 winter meeting in February. And in fact we'll probably
39 end up making a couple of proposals here later on for
40 game. And, you know, without having accurate numbers,
41 it's hard to do that, you know, because we don't see a
42 prob -- if there are 2,000, there really isn't much of
43 a problem, but there's people -- you know, you've been
44 hearing from me and other people that it's hard to get
45 moose, and we're not seeing very many flying around.
46 So there must not be that much. And our objective is
47 just to have good numbers so we can make sound
48 decisions.

49
50 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the

1 Council. I can't change my numbers per se. We are
2 going to try to get more information this winter. I'll
3 try to do the moose surveys. But as I've relayed in
4 the past, the moose density's been low. It's been .5
5 moose per square mile since the 1980s, so those are the
6 numbers that my predecessor had for his entire career,
7 which was quite long for a biologist in the area. And
8 those are still the numbers I'm seeing in my trend
9 areas.

10

11 I don't doubt that there are probably
12 regional fluctuations. In other words, there may be
13 some changes in parts. The surveys that we're doing
14 are designed to look at the larger area. You know,
15 again I'll certainly try to get you more information,
16 but, you know, I don't think that negates the
17 extrapolation, which again is just an extrapolation.
18 It's not a hard number, but just again looking at those
19 densities which haven't changed much, you know.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When do you do your
22 surveys?

23

24 MR. BUTLER: In November when we have
25 the best snow cover for observing moose.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do you do them any
28 other time?

29

30 MR. BUTLER: No, I'm considering
31 adjusting the moose survey strategy for the area simply
32 because we have had difficulties in November. I think
33 the most important thing we don't want to lose is the
34 bull to cow ratio and the calf to cow ratios, which we
35 can only get in the fall while the bulls still have
36 antlers. It's just -- we just can't get that at other
37 times of the year. But there is opportunity to get
38 better density over larger areas in March.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. That's.....

41

42 MR. BUTLER:which would mean that
43 we'd sacrifice the bull to cow ratio. So what I'm
44 considering is a random survey of adults in the fall to
45 get the bull and cow ratios and then doing one of these
46 more modern density estimate based on stratified random
47 sampling in larger areas to try to provide better,
48 more, you know, scientifically sound population.....

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Because, you know,

1 in the.....

2

3 MR. BUTLER:densities.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:springtime, you
6 know, like the moose tend to bunch up and head along
7 the rivers, you know, like Kvichak River, Branch River,
8 you know, and that's what I'm familiar with. And
9 you'll -- in springtime they're all just bunched up
10 like cattle, and it would be an excellent time to get a
11 population, you know, although you're not getting the
12 sex ratio, but it is an excellent -- you're getting a
13 good population estimate. In my opinion, that's the
14 best time.

15

16 And what I've been noticing, for
17 instance, this last spring, flying down the Kvichak and
18 then from here to there and then down the Branch, there
19 wasn't nearly as many. I think this spring, for
20 example, I think I seen one day about six moose from
21 Igiugig to Levelock. And usually we see 80, 70, 80, 90
22 along the river. And that's -- on the average it's
23 probably 50 to 70, you know, in the last few years,
24 but, boy, last years there was no moose. I don't know
25 what happened. And my uncle even said that this spring
26 was the first time he hasn't seen any moose when we
27 were hunting birds in the spring, going down to the
28 flash about 10 miles down below Igiugig, he hadn't seen
29 any moose. And he usually sees sometimes half a dozen
30 in the springtime just from Igiugig to there. And, you
31 know -- so it just makes me believe that we just don't
32 have the moose any more. And I don't think they're
33 going -- you know, they travel around, but they tend to
34 stay in one area, you know, although they move around,
35 but not like caribou, so they won't go 50 miles away
36 and decide to move there, would they? I think they're
37 kind of territorial.

38

39 So people -- I think people want us to
40 do something, because they're not harvesting moose.
41 And, you know, most of the local people use skiffs to
42 hunt moose. Sometimes they go on four-wheeler up the
43 road, but most of the time they rely on skiff and
44 outboards to go up the rivers and creeks.

45

46 And I asked -- I talked to you about
47 this. I asked, you know, could it be that they're
48 coming out later? You know, like the weather's
49 changing and maybe -- you know, some of the returns for
50 salmon have been a little bit later. And could that be

1 part of their problem, that the bulls aren't -- the
2 moose aren't coming out of the hills and coming down,
3 walking around until later on, and we're just hunting
4 too early or something? I don't know. I'm just asking
5 if that -- can you respond to that?

6
7 MR. BUTLER: Sure. Yeah, moose are
8 large-bodied animals, so they're going to be very
9 influenced by the ambient temperatures and the amount
10 of sunlight. That's pretty much what you're seeing,
11 exactly. They just aren't moving around as much so
12 they aren't as likely to be encountered by hunters. It
13 doesn't have any effect on the timing of rut, they
14 still rut at the same time of year. It's just purely
15 activity levels that get changed. You know, through
16 time the peninsula's become progressively more
17 colonized by alder. Alder doesn't shed its leaves. It
18 doesn't need the massive sleeps the way other deciduous
19 species do, because it's associated with nitrogen-
20 fixing bacteria. So, you know, those moose are in a
21 lot of times thick brush. And if they aren't moving,
22 you just aren't going to see them while you're out
23 hunting, particularly in the fall. That had a big
24 effect on the moose harvest in 2006. I have yet to
25 hear how it affected this year. It sounds like the
26 people were seeing more moose in general from all the
27 reports that I have, other than again what I've heard
28 here at this Council meeting, but temperature's
29 certainly going to have a big influence.

30
31 But, you know, again where do you go
32 with that. If you're already, you know, right up
33 against rut and rut doesn't change, it's based on
34 length of daylight. We've studied moose in captivity
35 for, you know, 30 years now on the Kenai peninsula,
36 monitoring the influence of temperature and other
37 environmental variables on timing of rut, and there's
38 been no change. It's rock solid through the years. So
39 again, you know, I don't know how you adjust a season
40 on those lines

41
42 Certainly, you know, these local
43 issues, you know, people aren't getting moose in
44 specific areas. I think, you know, there is some
45 support for that. Right now I'm watching the King
46 Salmon Creek really closely. And it's an area where,
47 you know, quite frankly we have very liberal seasons
48 for residents. I mean, I can't imagine any other area
49 of the state that has this, the length of seasons that
50 we allow in Unit 9 for low density moose populations.

1 And particularly, you know, during the winter months,
2 if you get some really good travel conditions, there's
3 a lot of opportunity there to get out and harvest
4 moose. Granted, some years you don't get the
5 conditions and moose harvest may be in reasonable
6 levels for the population. But if you get winters
7 where access is high, you can make a big dent in the
8 moose population, that it's going to be hard for these
9 populations to recover from. Very low fecundity
10 population right now -- or not fecundity, but
11 recruitment, so potential for growth. So if
12 populations are impacted too heavily, it's going to
13 have a big impact.

14
15 And like you say, a lot of the moose
16 that we've looked at in this area don't make large
17 movements. Other parts of the state, there are moose
18 that move 50 miles. This area so far, the moose we've
19 collared, which mostly have been in the Becharof/Alaska
20 Peninsula area with Fish and Wildlife Service, don't
21 move very much. They typically live their entire life
22 within a five-mile radius. But that's not to say that
23 they don't elsewhere.

24
25 But again, the point is that in local
26 areas people can have a big impact. If you really want
27 to make a big difference for moose populations, I think
28 that's where we should begin to look is at these long,
29 liberal resident seasons. And I -- you know, I think
30 cultivate the population, maintain what you have. We
31 can make a big difference.

32
33 We can talk about other variables that
34 may influence moose populations. Predators for
35 example. I hear a lot of discussion about brown bears
36 in particular. You know, we've always surmised that
37 brown bears probably have a big influence on calf
38 recruitment in this area. Typically we're looking at
39 anywhere from three calves to 23, you know, calves,
40 which basically we're always on either the average or
41 low side of calf recruitment. Brown bears are the most
42 likely culprit for a lot of that. Certainly wolves
43 are playing -- having an influence. I haven't seen
44 anything to indicate that the moose are having
45 nutritional problems or disease issues similar to the
46 caribou that may be brought into bear there. But the
47 reality of bear management is that it's very hard to
48 get the bears that are usually causing the problems.
49 All the bear studies, if you look at the ones around
50 McGrath, it's usually a few -- a handful of bears who

1 are making a big difference for the moose calves.
2 They're specializing on moose calves. I think all
3 bears will take moose calves opportunistically, but
4 only a few will take them, you know, as spring strategy
5 for producing the majority of their forage and energy.

6
7 What that means, you know, is that it's
8 very difficult, even if you reduce the population of
9 bears, to have a functional response in the moose
10 population, any kind of growth or real turn around in
11 the calf ratios. So really, you know, while bears are
12 a likely alternate target, aside from these human
13 seasons and bag limits, they really aren't a practical
14 one. Not one that we're likely to see a response in.
15 And again particularly if the one -- the bears that
16 we're trying to target are sows with cubs, which are
17 going to be protected by law anyway. It's going to be
18 really hard to access those particular bears.

19
20 So again, you know, my recommendation
21 is to take a hard look at these seasons and bag limits
22 which, you know, in this unit keep getting extended.
23 And I think that we're going in the wrong direction
24 with those regulations.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that was what
27 somebody had suggested, you know. Somebody even said
28 that maybe moose season should be closed altogether for
29 awhile to allow it to build up, you know, because it's
30 getting pretty bad when somebody suggests that. That's
31 what, you know, how they feel about it.

32
33 You didn't say -- you know, I think the
34 first place when you start doing -- reducing a season
35 like that, you need to start with non-resident, you
36 know, before you start eliminating too much the
37 resident harvest, you know.

38
39 Do you have numbers of what percentage
40 is taken by non-resident and what percentage of the
41 moose is taken in the wintertime compared to in the
42 falltime?

43
44 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. I don't have
45 those numbers on me. I'm certainly willing to work
46 with you on the State regulations where we can, you
47 know. We've looked at this with several Board of Game
48 proposals over the last few years. You know, right now
49 for all of 9B, five moose were taken by non-residents.
50 I mean, that's all of 9B, five moose. And when the

1 Board was presented to a proposal to get rid of non-
2 resident hunting in that area, you know, they didn't
3 feel like it was going to make any significant
4 difference for local hunters.

5
6 Keep in mind, too, that non residents
7 are often hunting with airplanes in areas removed from
8 local hunting areas, and they're also bringing a lot of
9 meat into communities and villages. You know, I talked
10 to some people in Port Heiden just this last week that
11 had received moose from non-local hunters that dropped
12 off meat and camped.

13
14 You know, I think one proposal that I
15 would like to see go through the Board of Game is a
16 requirement to have meat on the bone, so that when
17 these non-locals do come here, harvest moose and drop
18 it off in communities, that meat shows up in the best
19 shape possible.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I thought that was,
22 or is that only in 9B?

23
24 MR. BUTLER: 9B and 17.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.

27
28 MR. BUTLER: But we -- but 9E, 9C, you
29 know, a lot of the meat that we're seeing coming
30 through the Fish and Game check stations or with the
31 troopers, you know, we're seeing bags of meat that are
32 just parts and pieces and it's difficult for us to even
33 say if they have all the meat. So I think that is
34 something that we can improve.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And the problem,
37 too, there is it's probably no good, you know, like
38 most of those guys, they go out for a week. If they
39 shoot a moose on the first or second day, it's been
40 hanging for five days. And my uncle and aunt, that's
41 how they've been getting their moose. Well, I guess
42 he's not really my uncle, but my aunt and her husband.
43 And he wanted some ribs. He called one of the air
44 taxi, one of the services up in King Salmon and told
45 him he wanted some ribs when they brought some ribs.
46 Well, he called him up, I've got an airplane in that's
47 going to be bringing some ribs. And so he went up
48 there, and he walked -- he didn't even get down to the
49 dock, and he could smell the ribs from 50 feet away.
50 So he didn't -- he jumped back in his car and took --

1 left. He didn't want those. You know, and maybe that
2 needs to be a regulation that they need to bring their
3 meat in and it's -- so that it's still good. You know,
4 it should be part of -- like wanton waste, just leaving
5 it. It's just as bad as leaving it in the field when
6 they bring it back like that. You know, maybe we need
7 to do something about that.

8

9 MR. BUTLER: Yeah. Other options, you
10 know, we could consider it be something, say, along the
11 lines of a drawing permit, to spread out some of this
12 non-local pressure and kind of pigeonhole it in places.
13 Again, places like 9B where we already have -- we only
14 have five moose being taken by non-resident hunters,
15 yeah, I'd be afraid of putting a drawing permit up in
16 that unit, simply because I think we'd draw more people
17 to the area if we had a permit drawing.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.

20

21 MR. BUTLER: So I think there's
22 probably various solutions that we can consider, and I
23 am willing to work on state regulations.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

26

27 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. I disagree with
28 you on that completely. I live in Iliamna, and as far
29 as I know Iliamna and Newhalen got two moose this
30 season. Nondalton I don't think got any. Pedro Bay I
31 know didn't get any. I didn't get any. And I'm a
32 guide, too. And one guide brought in six. One guide
33 brought in six horns in 9B, shipped them out of 9B
34 anyway. And all I know is, you know, from three vil --
35 or four villages, two moose were gotten, and one guide
36 brings in six horns. I think your theory or your
37 information is wrong somewhere.

38

39 MR. BUTLER: I'd be willing to discuss
40 which part of it you think is wrong. I really don't
41 have the numbers for this season. I mean, we just
42 don't have that reported yet, so I can't tell you what
43 has been harvested in 9B this year and what hasn't.
44 You know, we could both take -- hazard guesses as to
45 where those moose came from, but Iliamna is a jumping
46 point for Unit 17 as well, so I -- you know, just
47 because they go through Iliamna doesn't imply that
48 they're coming out of Unit 9B even. So, you know, I
49 think we can get more information on that certainly.

50

1 But, you know, again harvest rates in
2 general for even local hunters are typically better
3 than local hunters elsewhere in the state. 2006 is an
4 exception. Our local hunter success came down, but so
5 did non-local success, and I think a lot of that again
6 was weather influenced. But typically we're looking at
7 better than 30 percent success rates for locals.
8 Better success rates for guided hunters, which have
9 professional hunters hunting with them, typically in
10 the 40 percentile. But those are really good success
11 rates for statewide moose hunting. I've compared it to
12 all the GMUs in the state that I can -- I could
13 tabulate it for based on the management reports, and,
14 you know, I mean typically you're looking at 20 or less
15 in terms of percent success in a lot of these areas.
16 So we do have fairly good rates.

17
18 Again, it is a low density population.
19 I won't dispute that. So I don't know if that's being
20 questioned at all, but, you know, I mean, the odds of a
21 moose hunter going out there, it -- you know, I agree,
22 it's a tough place to hunt moose. It's low density
23 populations, but that doesn't mean that there's been
24 any change in the moose population, you know.

25
26 MR. HEDLUND: I disagree with you there
27 again, because it just doesn't have the moose
28 population. I mean, it just isn't. I've been going up
29 this one river for 30 years and I've always seen at
30 least a cow moose. This year I didn't see anything.
31 And I wasn't the only one that went up there. Nobody
32 got a moose up that river. And, you know, I mean, just
33 because 10 years ago 100 people went out hunting and
34 they got 40 moose, and this year 10 people go out and
35 they get 4 moose, I mean, it doesn't mean that, you
36 know, this population is still there. It might be the
37 same averages, but it doesn't mean the moose are still
38 there.

39
40 And I just believe that, you know,
41 we've got to do something, or we're going to never see
42 a moose again.

43
44 MR. BUTLER: Well, again I'm still not
45 really sure where we're missing each other on that
46 particular point. But I agree, you know, there's real
47 potential here for particularly some areas that receive
48 more pressure to have localized issues with moose
49 populations. You know, my surveys are conducted on a
50 unit-wide basis. So I'm not looking at any one

1 locality. And the experience of any one particular
2 hunter can be different from my experience. They can
3 see increases in their hunt area, they can see
4 decreases. Again, I'm trying to just assess a larger
5 area. So I'm not -- I wouldn't dispute you on what
6 you're saying.

7
8 And I agree. Again I think that we do
9 need take a hard look at these moose regulations,
10 particularly because they come up so frequently at
11 these meetings as being an issue. And I'm telling you
12 I'm interested in looking at them closely and seeing
13 what we can do. But I think it is going to be
14 reductions in human harvest.

15
16 I wouldn't -- I could -- we could talk
17 about this no hunting idea, which I don't think is
18 really going to provide the answers that people are
19 looking for, but, you know, we can -- I'd certainly be
20 willing to suggest again options for shortening seasons
21 and such. That may make a difference on local levels.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Lem, what's
24 an option that you would consider?

25
26 MR. BUTLER: Well, I think the biggest
27 is to get away from these any bull seasons throughout
28 the winter. You know, you guys I think passed a
29 proposal at the last meeting to change that to an
30 antlerless hunt in the winter in 9E. I think that's a
31 great start. I want to see that put in anywhere that
32 we can't completely eliminate the winter season. And
33 the winter season is just I think bad for moose. It's
34 too long, there's too much potential for harvesting
35 cows, particularly when there's an any bull season and
36 it goes through the winter, I think in a lot of these
37 areas, at least what I'm seeing in this local Naknek
38 area, is that these -- the cows get worked over by
39 every snowmachiner that goes up into the area.
40 Repeatedly. You know, and I don't -- I'm not saying
41 that people are, you know, actually harvesting cows, we
42 can speculate on that, but I think they're -- if
43 nothing else, they're getting harassed, and there's a
44 great potential for a cow harvest even by a well-
45 intending hunter. So I think that's certainly the
46 place I'd start.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

49
50 MR. HEDLUND: I've got a question.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

2

3 MR. HEDLUND: You said there's .5 moose
4 per square mile. And I mean, it's obvious there isn't,
5 especially in our area, 9B. And I just -- you know,
6 like him, I'd like to see a little bit, you know,
7 stronger facts. I mean, instead of -- I don't know
8 where you're coming up with the .5. You know, it -- we
9 don't have it. We might have had it, you know, 20
10 years ago, but we don't now. We do not have that many
11 moose. I'd like to see a little bit better, I don't
12 know -- like you say, maybe in March, counting moose
13 instead of in November. Because we just don't have it
14 in, you know, 9B.

15

16 MR. BUTLER: Well, again, you know, if
17 we modify the survey technique and apply it in March, I
18 think we can come up with another way of looking at
19 that. What I'm reporting is based on trend areas.
20 It's the number of moose observed in a given area.
21 And, you know, that's all I can tell you is that, you
22 know, if you divide the number of moose by the square
23 mile area of the subunit, I get .5.

24

25 MR. HEDLUND: Well, you've got a lot of
26 people telling you they're getting (indiscernible,
27 microphone not on) one biologist telling there is. And
28 I think there's something wrong with (indiscernible,
29 microphone not on).

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem, you believe
32 that there's on the average of .5 in 9B of moose per
33 square mile. And Kenny doesn't think so and I don't
34 think so either. Kokhanok called me up. They didn't
35 get any moose. They wanted to see if they could get an
36 extended season, but, you know, and I was -- talked to
37 them for a while. You know, we need to do something.
38 I could support shortening the winter season. But I
39 will -- you know, but to do that, we also need to do
40 something about the non-residents.

41

42 We had two moose in Igiugig. My uncle
43 got one. I helped him. And Dan Salmon got lucky and
44 went up the beach and there was one. But there was --
45 I got back there one day, and here somebody lands with
46 -- come back from the hills, and he had a nice big rack
47 they got from back there. And when I went up the
48 Branch River with some friends and cousins, there was
49 five of us, and we got one small bull. And we stopped
50 and talked to one lodge owner up there, and he said the

1 big lodge down below, the first day of the season that
2 they were -- they got two big bulls up almost to
3 Nonfanick (ph), so I know, you know, there's a lot more
4 -- I don't know, I believe that they were probably
5 non-resident that got those, because they shot them out
6 there on the 5th, the first day that the -- that non-
7 residents can hunt. So they're probably -- they've
8 been probably keeping an eye on -- you know, they had a
9 lot of boats there, and so I think that from what I can
10 gather, the non -- there was probably as many or more
11 non-resident harvest than there were local resident
12 harvest.

13

14 And people are -- they figure if we
15 need to -- that's where we need to start, with them,
16 and I could support shortening the winter season if we
17 could do something about that. But not just to limit
18 the locals and not do anything about the non-residents.
19 That's not going the right way as far as I can see.

20

21 But I do realize, and a lot of other
22 people, something has to be done. Somebody even
23 mentioned close the season for awhile to build it back
24 up. They feel it's that bad. So, you know, and the
25 Board of Game isn't going to meet for another year and
26 a half, but we've got next fall or next spring probably
27 is the call for proposals, right, for Board of Game in
28 our area?

29

30 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, it will be fall
31 2008.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And we --
34 well, we can make some reg -- we could propose
35 regulations here at this meeting. We have until the
36 19th on Federal lands in our area, and we probab -- you
37 know, some people think that we need to do that so that
38 we can, you know, help the situation, but.....

39

40 Do you -- let's talk about -- move on
41 to bears and wolves. Do you guys -- what's your
42 estimate on population of those?

43

44 MR. BUTLER: Well, as Daryle told you
45 before, we really don't have a population estimate on
46 wolves. You know, we've tried to extrapolate them
47 through time, but I think at this point since we are
48 getting more information, we should just try to see if
49 we can't refine that estimate. I mean, to be honest, I
50 think wolves have fluctuated through time, and they --

1 I'm sure that they've increased since the late 1990s
2 for sure even. You know, you look at the calf
3 mortality study that Dom mentioned done in the late 90s
4 and, you know, there was very little wolf predation,
5 and calf survival was much improved. It's anecdotal.
6 There were a lot more caribou around. Certainly the
7 prey base show is different, so it doesn't necessarily
8 have to be just a change in the wolf population since
9 we have a change in caribou population. But it
10 certainly suggests to me that, you know, wolf
11 populations have increased. And we have multiple
12 reasons to believe that not only was there a rabies
13 epidemic in the late 90s which we think knocked the
14 wolf population back to some degree, but, boy, you
15 know, I mean, everyone I've talked to is seeing more
16 wolves out there, you know, whether you're a commercial
17 pilot for Pen Air, a Fish and Game biologist working
18 for Commercial Fish, everyone is telling me more
19 wolves. And I think that's probably true. I think in
20 part it's probably related to increased movements of
21 wolves as the prey base declines, perhaps packs
22 fractionate into smaller pack sizes and move around
23 more in search of prey. So to some degree it's an
24 encounter rate that increases, but again I'd hang my
25 hat on the increase in wolf population.

26
27 Bear population we extrapolate to be
28 8,000 for Unit 9, and that includes bears in national
29 parks. To some degree that's a refined estimate now
30 that we've done line transect surveys in all but
31 Subunit 9E. But where probably, you know, a lot of the
32 bears are. It's a big subunit, but that's a fairly
33 good guess in other words.

34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I realize that
36 there's a lot. They're still hanging around down
37 breaking in -- breaking doors around here the last
38 week, so.....

39
40 MS. MORRIS LYON: Lem, can you tell us
41 though what is that as far as trend goes? Do you have
42 any numbers from past years on how up that is, or what
43 percentage or where you'd like it to be?

44
45 MR. BUTLER: Well, certainly it's a big
46 increase from the late 1970s when the bear population
47 was over-harvested. There was a lot of illegal guiding
48 and harvest out here in the area at that time, bears
49 being shot from airplanes, et cetera, that really
50 knocked back the population. I saw one estimate in the

1 early 80s which was an extrapolated guess again of
2 3,000 bears in the -- you know, on the Alaska
3 Peninsula. And I'm tell -- you know, now it's -- we're
4 looking at 6,000 probably in that equivalent area. And
5 that's certainly what our trend data through time
6 suggests on the streams is that there has been an
7 increase through the 80s and 90s. We went to this
8 alternating year bear hunt management, which has been
9 very effective at recovering the bear population from
10 those low numbers.

11
12 Today it's likely that it's stable. It
13 fluctuates as harvest changes.

14
15 MS. MORRIS LYON: But what would you
16 like to see that number at, or what do you think would
17 be a reasonable number for all purposes, predation as
18 well as the health of the bear population?

19
20 MR. BUTLER: Really two conflicting
21 questions. You know, the State has certainly put a
22 priority on this area for managing for brown bears.
23 National parks in the area, national wildlife refuges
24 all cite brown bears in their, you know, founding
25 language as to why those areas are -- I mean, this
26 quite frankly is a unique bear population worldwide,
27 and it's going to receive attention on those merits.

28
29 Again, if we were trying to do
30 something with brown bear to see a functional response
31 with the ungulate populations, the moose or caribou
32 that we're interested in, you know, I mean
33 predator/prey studies throughout the state indicate
34 that, you know, you want 50 prey per predator. And
35 right now, you know, we're looking at one to one if not
36 worse to that. Again -- and that shows you the extent
37 to which you would have to reduce bears and wolves to
38 see some of the responses. I'm not saying that
39 predation isn't an op -- or predator control isn't an
40 option for the area, but that's kind of the magnitude
41 at which you'd have to conceivably make a difference.

42
43 Again, bears, even with that, some of
44 the management that we've tried elsewhere in the state,
45 you know, again if -- particularly if you're dealing
46 with sows and cubs or what have you, animals that are
47 protected by law, it can be really difficult, even if
48 you're taking a significant number of bears to see a
49 response in some of these ungulate populations.

50

1 You know, and keep in mind, too, this
2 is a trophy brown bear area. We get a lot of bears
3 harvest -- we harvest 25 percent of the statewide brown
4 bear harvest from this area. 600 brown bears will be
5 taken this fall and the following spring from my areas.
6 It's a significant bear harvest. But, you know, those
7 guys come out here to harvest trophy bears. If we
8 knock the bear population back, we lose our trophy
9 value. No one's going to come out here to shoot a
10 small brown bear. So, you know, again brown bear
11 management to see an effective response is just laden
12 with problems, and it's not likely to produce tangible
13 results. Unfortunately.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: But 600 out of 9,000
16 -- I mean, 8,000 though is -- it doesn't seem it's a
17 big dent in it. Even if it was 15 percent, that would
18 be 12 -- twice as many is 1200. 15 percent of 8,000
19 would be 1200 bears. So, you know, it could handle
20 that, but -- I guess.....

21
22 Kenny.

23
24 MR. HEDLUND: I've got a question for
25 Lem here. What happens if you -- okay. We've got a
26 one every four year area. What happens if you open it
27 up to one every year, and open up the season every
28 year? You know, I mean spring and fall. Would that
29 help? Because, I mean, what -- I can see what you're
30 saying. We've got bears and no moose, and bear's got
31 to eat something besides fish. And I know it's a
32 trophy area, and we don't want to see all our bears
33 gone, but I think -- could it sustain a hunting season
34 spring and fall is what I'm trying to say.

35
36 MR. BUTLER: You know, I mean certainly
37 you could do a spring and fall hunting season if there
38 were changes made to the system, you know. And one of
39 them would be that you'd have to go to a permit system,
40 which is something we've avoided in Unit 9 to try to
41 structure the harvest differently. I think there would
42 be a big reluctance in the State to go to an every
43 spring and fall season.

44
45 In terms of the one every four versus
46 one every year question, the majority of the bears are
47 being taken by non-residents. 70 percent are being
48 taken by non-residents. The likelihood of a non-
49 resident bear hunter to come back every year and take a
50 bear, you know -- odds of a non-resident to come back

1 more than once in his life for -- you get the
2 occasional non-resident will come back from two bears,
3 maybe three at the most.

4
5 But, you know, really what we've seen
6 with that one every four versus one every year is that
7 it doesn't really make a big difference. For some
8 local hunters it might in some areas, but even then
9 most people just don't want to spend that much money on
10 taxidermy work and the hassle of a brown bear.

11
12 MR. HEDLUND: Why would you have to go
13 to a drawing or permit?

14
15 MR. BUTLER: Well, for the reasons
16 stated, you know. Right now Randy was trying to do
17 quick math on it, but you're looking at about 6,000
18 brown bears on huntable lands. 600 brown bears taken
19 means that you're taking 10 percent of the population.
20 In that time -- we alternate seasons to keep that
21 within controllable limits to achieve trophy value,
22 high density brown bear populations. If you go to an
23 every year season, and you don't see a reduction in the
24 harvest, you are going to see a decrease in trophy
25 value. You're going to see changes that again are
26 going to be -- (A) they're -- you're going to lose your
27 appeal of the area to non-locals who are taking the
28 majority of the bears, and, you know, (B) you're --
29 again we're going to run into conflicts with several of
30 the Federal lands which, you know, have their own
31 objectives. I just don't see it as being feasible
32 without again trying to reduce that harvest. We just
33 couldn't do what we're doing now with an open liberal
34 season every all and every spring and hope to see it
35 (A) make the differences we want it to make in terms of
36 the ungulate populations, and (B) be something that
37 we'll be able to do for very long without having some
38 consequences associated.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Let's -- one
41 more question and then we need to move on, because
42 we're going to be talking about this again when we
43 bring up some proposals. So one more question. Dan.

44
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
46 Chairman. A couple of things.

47
48 First I want to commend Lem and the
49 other agencies for their cooperative work. It really
50 makes me feel good to hear folks are working together

1 to get a lot of this stuff done. And it's a lot easier
2 for me sitting up here to deal with it, rather than for
3 competing and arguing issues.

4
5 The second thing leads more to what you
6 were saying, Mr. Chairman, is that I was hoping Lem
7 could be -- stay in the meeting so we get -- because I
8 think I emailed you some time ago, and one of the
9 questions I want to get to is this concern I heard
10 earlier this year about there's some folks fear that
11 too many bears are being harvested in some part of
12 Katmai preserve, and I was hoping you could be around
13 to help us discuss that later.

14
15 That's all I have. Thanks.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Lem, we're
18 going to be on new business take a -- I'm not sure if
19 we're going to make proposals, but we may make some
20 proposals for bears and moose, maybe even caribou.
21 We're going to discuss Mulchatna caribou, because from
22 what we understand the Board of Game is going to be --
23 is taking up in Unit 18 Mulchatna caribou. So, yeah,
24 we would like you to stick around if you could for
25 that.

26
27 And let's move on then, and we thank
28 you for your report or your answering questions. And
29 so I guess -- I see Mr. Moore, our superintendent is
30 here, and I guess we could -- if you're ready, we could
31 take your report and free you up.

32
33 MR. MOORE: Good morning. Thank you.
34 For the record, Ralph Moore, superintendent of Katmai
35 National Park and Preserve, and Aniakchak National
36 Monument and Preserve.

37
38 I wanted to follow up on a few items
39 that we discussed at the last meeting.

40
41 The first one concerns the ATV use at
42 Kokhanok and Igiugig. At our last meeting we
43 circulated a draft report on Kokhanok and our plan was
44 to go ahead and mail this out to the community, but we
45 wanted the Council to take a look at it first and
46 provide us some comments. We did receive some
47 comments. And as we were preparing our mail-out, we
48 realized that we also had a draft Igiugig report. And
49 so then we had some discussion of should we mail these
50 out together, but the Igiugig report was not ready to

1 go. And then we had discussion, maybe we should have
2 just one report since a lot of the access in the
3 northern part of the preserve from these communities,
4 the trails once they enter the preserve were the same.
5 And so -- and the users were -- some of the users were
6 -- had used the same trails to get into the preserve.
7 So we thought for clarification it would be better to
8 have a combined report.

9
10 As we looked at the draft report from
11 Kokhanok more closely, we realized that it didn't have
12 enough detail at present to help us make a
13 determination. What we needed to find out was who had
14 accessed the preserve and when, and where did they go
15 once they go in the preserve. We had some information
16 on how folks had gone from Igiugig and Kokhanok to the
17 preserve. Once in the preserve the routes were a
18 little more vague, so we have to rely on oral
19 histories. A number of oral histories were collected
20 by Don Calloway and some transcripts were produced, but
21 we haven't -- we wanted to transcribe more of that and
22 provide more of that information in those reports.

23
24 So what we did was we contracted with
25 the University of Washington, Dr. Douglas Dewer who
26 also assisted us with a project at Aniakchak on
27 traditional use. Dr. Dewer will be working this fall
28 and winter to go through the transcripts from the oral
29 histories of these two communities and try to beef up
30 the information that's in there. So we'll have a more
31 complete picture of who accessed the preserve and when.

32
33 The reports were very good as far as
34 more recent was concerned. We had information from the
35 90s and the late 80s. But we were -- we wanted to go
36 back further and before 1980 and get a better picture
37 of that use. And so with some additional time, we'll
38 have a better report that's anticipated -- we
39 anticipate having a first draft of that mid April and
40 then the final in June of next year.

41
42 Another piece of this that we're
43 looking at is a more complete information as far as
44 maps go. This summer we did have some folks go out and
45 GPS the existing trails, but again that just shows us
46 where the trails are now. And we wanted to take a look
47 at some old maps and for the report be able to say that
48 so and so had used this route and then the years. And
49 that would give us some -- a time frame for basing our
50 determination.

1 So it's going to take a little bit
2 longer to get this report, but it will save time in the
3 end from us having to go and redo it, because we'll
4 have more complete information..

5
6 The report that we've contracted with
7 from the University of Washington also will incorporate
8 some technical papers from ADF&G and some maps, some
9 transcripts from -- or some topographic maps and then
10 that information will be digitized and produced --
11 user-produced GIS maps which will accompany the report.

12
13 So I think that's all we had on that.
14 But it did get delayed, because we were afraid that
15 what we were headed toward was making a determination
16 on Kokhanok and then separately making a determination
17 on Igiugig and it seemed that it was more appropriate
18 to make a combined determination for both, because of
19 the access.

20
21 So any questions on that issue.

22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. I thank you
24 for that, your report, Ralph Yeah, I feel that you
25 need -- it probably should be in -- you know, they're
26 two separate communities, and -- but it probably should
27 be one determination instead of two determinations, you
28 know, and it -- Kokhanok can -- is more accessible to
29 the preserve than Igiugig. Igiugig has to wait until
30 freeze up, then we -- that's when we travel back up
31 there. And there's a couple of different routes that
32 we use to get there. And then once we get there, it
33 kind of -- then you just spread out.

34
35 And I guess I should comment on
36 Kokhanok's use of that. You know, they seem that --
37 because of the amount of game available, not much
38 moose, they seem to -- you know, they get in trouble
39 whenever they go up there by illegally harvesting
40 animals, and it doesn't look good when we're trying to
41 help them here at this meeting and support them. And
42 they go up there and illegally take that, you know,
43 game. And there's only -- in my opinion it's a small
44 percentage of people that do that, but they -- you
45 know, I hate to see them ruin it for everybody and the
46 future residents. I could see, you know, just taking
47 your time and getting it right. And I support that.
48 But, you know, they said they didn't get any moose this
49 year, and whenever they see anything, just the way they
50 are, is it's open, and it's not a good policy, because

1 there's -- you know, they're economically depressed.
2 There's no jobs and -- so I want to.....

3
4 And you're probably going to be
5 traveling up there, when, later on this fall or this
6 winter?

7
8 MR. MOORE: We had planned to -- I had
9 planned to go up there with Dan O'Hara in June and we
10 scheduled twice and the weather didn't cooperate for
11 those trips, but hopefully we'll get up in the off
12 season and do that. We do want to get up there.

13
14 We did have an illegal take of some
15 caribou up there this summer, and the troopers did
16 contact the individuals that had taken the animals, and
17 they were issued some citations. And that is
18 unfortunate. We do appreciate the Council's support in
19 helping us get the word out.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, when they
22 do that, it makes us look bad, because we're here to
23 try to help them, and, you know, better their
24 situation, and then they go and do that and it goes
25 against what we're trying to do, so I feel that they
26 need to be reprimanded, but not loose -- everybody
27 loose the opportunity to go up there, because of only a
28 couple of people.

29
30 Any more comment on the report from the
31 -- that part of the Ralph's report. Cliff.

32
33 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. I just
34 wanted to ask Ralph, do you have your Council booklet?
35 If you look on Page -- and I'm referencing the
36 Council's annual report, if you could just go ahead
37 with the bullets. If I'm correct, on Page 31, the
38 bottom one, that one is -- I just want you to -- my
39 take is that the first two, four, six -- the first
40 seven bullets are completed, and the bottom one would
41 be ongoing?

42
43 MR. MOORE: Yes.

44
45 MR. EDENSHAW: And then on Page 32, the
46 top bullet, the last sentence, the Igiugig and the
47 Kokhanok reports will be incorporated into a single
48 draft document and put out for public review in the
49 spring of '08. Because the Park Service wanted to go
50 out and talk to community residents -- I forgot what

1 you were talking about. Will this allow the Park
2 Service to then incorporate both of those communities
3 into a single document? Because I think when we spoke
4 last year, you said that the Kokhanok one, or the
5 Levelock one was -- the Igiugig, excuse me, was still
6 being -- it hadn't been completed yet, is that correct?
7

8 MR. MOORE: First, as far as Levelock,
9 we decided to not include Levelock in this. The folks
10 from Levelock were generally accessing a different part
11 of the preserve. And the Igiugig and Kokhanok oral
12 histories led us to the conclusion it was -- it made
13 more sense to combine those into one report. We're now
14 looking at having that report finalized in June of 2008
15 and sent out probably -- once we have the final report,
16 it would probably be in the summer.
17

18 And the other part of your question,
19 I'm not sure I -- I haven't answered that, but I'm
20 trying to -- could you say that again?
21

22 MR. EDENSHAW: No, I think you answered
23 that.
24

25 MR. MOORE: Well, I think you were
26 asking about the oral histories, and if there are
27 additional oral histories that Don Calloway feels will
28 be needed, they will collect those. But I think they
29 felt they had enough information. It just -- it was
30 just that from the information that was transcribed, it
31 didn't make it into the report, and so they didn't --
32 it made it appear that it was -- that there were some
33 gaps.
34

35 MR. EDENSHAW: So the point that you
36 made earlier was that the Park Service wants to go out
37 and ask residents what they used the ATVs to go out and
38 harvest, or pick berries, or the uses, is that correct?
39

40 MR. MOORE: It's more the routes that
41 they took and when.
42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: Oh, okay.
44

45 MR. MOORE: We'd like to develop a good
46 chronology. The Kokhanok report started with that.
47 But the goal of this final report is to have a good
48 chronology, you know, and we can say who accessed what
49 parts of the preserve and when. And that will be for
50 both communities. And that will help us with our

1 determination.

2

3 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. And then the GPS
4 routes, that's completed, so.....

5

6 MR. MOORE: Yes.

7

8 MR. EDENSHAW:and that would be
9 just those -- actually just those bottom two there, and
10 then the one on the top I just mentioned, so there's
11 just basically those four left, those four bullets
12 remaining.

13

14 MR. MOORE: On Page 32, yes.

15

16 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah. Okay.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

19

20 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
21 Chair.

22

23 Ralph, so you're already formulating a
24 Levelock decision, or are you waiting.....

25

26 MR. MOORE: No.

27

28 MS. MORRIS LYON:on this
29 together, or.....

30

31 MR. MOORE: The report hasn't been
32 prepared for Levelock. And so rather than wait until
33 that one was done, because the access from Levelock was
34 for a different part of the preserve, it made more
35 sense to just look at Kokhanok and Igiugig together,
36 and look at -- because they were accessing one part of
37 the preserve.

38

39 MS. MORRIS LYON: All right. So you're
40 going to wait on everything, Levelock included? I
41 mean.....

42

43 MR. MOORE: No. We're.....

44

45 MS. MORRIS LYON:that's what I'm
46 getting at, is what are you doing with Levelock?

47

48 MR. MOORE: I believe the approach was
49 to deal with Levelock after we have completed Kokhanok
50 and Igiugig. It would be a separate process.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.

4 Chair.

5

6 I have mixed feelings about what I'm
7 going to say. For one thing I defer to the Igiugig
8 resident as far as our decision to combine and all, but
9 -- and I also -- I've recently become aware of seeing
10 some damage from ORV access in areas around Dillingham.
11 At the same time, I used to work in Igiugig quite a bit
12 in the early 90s, and this was a burning issue then.
13 And this has been an agonizingly slow process. And it
14 begins to look like bureaucratic foot dragging to me
15 when I started reading this thing. And I think there
16 are people out there waiting for a decision. So,
17 again, I'll defer to Randy who lives there, but I just
18 felt I had to say I was in a bureaucracy and there was
19 times when we decided we needed to get things done, and
20 there's probably a few times where things kind of got
21 back-burnered, but when I see this thing again, and
22 this is -- I had hopes they could be a little more heat
23 under this issue and get it out for folks.

24

25 MR. MOORE: That's one of the reasons
26 we chose to contract it, because with our existing
27 Staff and with the regional office Staff, we felt it
28 would move more quickly if we had somebody from
29 outside, because everybody already has full workloads,
30 and they're trying also to do this as part of this
31 workload, and constantly pulled aside with other
32 issues. We felt with contracting we would be able to
33 move it along.

34

35 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.
38 Yeah. Dan's kind of right. Some people were also
39 commenting on that, but, you know, like you were
40 saying, that you can't really make a determination
41 until you get out there and get the information from
42 the villages, so we're still waiting for interviews,
43 for you guys to come and do that. So I know it's going
44 to take time, and so we were -- I was prepared to, you
45 know, wait a little longer. I know how long everything
46 takes now, you know, with the -- to do this, so
47 it's.....

48

49 MR. MOORE: Well, my understanding is
50 that they have a fairly complete set of oral histories.

1 I think we just need to make sure that we've included
2 some of the folks that you had mentioned earlier, and
3 I'd given those names to Don. So if we do need to do
4 additional ones, then Don would go out. But I thought
5 they had a fairly complete collection of these oral
6 histories, it's just that they didn't carry over and
7 then put that information in the report so we could see
8 who went in where and when.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I think that's
11 what we're waiting to -- for you guys to show up to
12 collect that information, you know, so we're still
13 waiting for you guys to come and do that. You guys
14 were going to do that this fall, but haven't got around
15 to it yet, so we'll just wait until that contracting
16 company comes and does I guess.

17

18 MR. MOORE: Well, they have the
19 transcripts that were taken when Don came out in the
20 90s. Or, no, not in the 90s. I can't remember when he
21 came out and collected those oral histories, but they
22 have that information. So I don't know how much more
23 additional they will need. If they do feel there's a
24 need, they would collect it, but there may be enough
25 already to put that chronology together.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I remember we -- I
28 gave some information -- I know it's been so long now,
29 you know. I remember doing -- telling him that, but
30 they were supposed to come and follow up on it, and it
31 never happened, so I was thinking that was going to
32 happen, but it -- we'll talk about that I guess at the
33 next winter meeting in February and see what's
34 happening again then on it.

35

36 MR. MOORE: Right. The report should
37 be fairly well along since the draft is due in April at
38 that point.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. You can
41 continue then, Ralph, on your report.

42

43 MR. MOORE: Okay. The next issue I
44 wanted to talk about was on Pike Ridge. And Pike
45 Ridge, just for reference, this is along our eastern
46 boundary. This is Naknek Lake here, and there's a
47 staircase boundary there. There's an ATV trail that
48 goes along the ridge top and links up with the King
49 Salmon Creek trail. And there's a lot of folks who go
50 out and hunt along there, but because of that staircase

1 boundary, the ATV track goes in and out of the park.
2 And so we wanted to work on resolving that issue.

3

4 One of the things that we had looked at
5 was doing a boundary adjustment. The first step was to
6 go out and collect data about that trail. And this
7 past summer we had some folks go out and they mapped 28
8 miles of that trail and the spur trails along the way.
9 They also recorded the condition and generally found
10 that that trail was in fairly good condition, but
11 they'll be using that to generate a good map that will
12 help us. If we do any boundary adjustments, we need to
13 have a very good location of where the trail itself is.

14

15 This past spring the National Park
16 Service did commit to the Board of Game, because this
17 was one topic that had come up in conjunction with
18 another hunting issue on the Douglas Forelands, that
19 the Park Service would begin to address this hunting
20 access issue along Pike Ridge.

21

22 Once we've compiled this -- once we
23 have some good maps, and we're hoping to begin after
24 the first of the year with a public scoping process,
25 and we'd like to find out how local folks are using
26 this area, and what their desires are for management of
27 this area, and then we'll move forward on determining
28 the best way to manage along that area. But it seems
29 to make sense to us to try to find a workable solution
30 so people are clear. And we didn't want to have a
31 series of signs, welcome to Katmai, now leaving Katmai,
32 welcome to Katmai and so forth. So we think this makes
33 a lot of sense, and we hope to begin the public
34 scoping. We'll probably have meetings in Naknek and
35 King Salmon after the first of the year.

36

37 Any questions on the Pike Ridge issue.

38 Okay.

39

40 The next issue, and I'm not sure
41 whether this -- maybe this would be more appropriate
42 under the new business, because that was the bear
43 hunting in the preserve, and so I think I'll wait until
44 you address that, and then I'd be welcome to come up
45 with Lem and we can talk about that issue.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Ralph, thank
48 you. Is that it?

49

50 MR. MOORE: I'm done. Yes.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So this --
2 you've been here for a year now right?
3
4 MR. MOORE: A little over a year, yes.
5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.
7 Congratulations. Another -- thank you. Now you're
8 getting your feet in, both feet in.
9
10 Okay. Is that it for the agency
11 reports? Or is there anybody else. Frank.
12
13 MR. WOODS: Frank Woods from Bristol
14 Bay Native Association. I'm the new subsistence
15 coordinator. I filled in Hans Nicholson's position I
16 think. He sat in my position for years.
17
18 And I'm here to report that we're just
19 finishing up and finalizing our migratory bird
20 subsistence harvest survey. It's ongoing in the
21 region.
22
23 I'd like to report that under the
24 direction of the Bristol Bay Native Association the
25 Board requested Natural Resources to do exactly what
26 you guys are talking about this morning, is the decline
27 in the caribou and the moose populations in the region.
28 They're not only hearing it on a local level, but
29 they're also -- I mean, they've taken it up as a board
30 to address that issue and directed to Molly Chythlook
31 and myself.
32
33 Me and Robbin LaVine met with the
34 managers this spring, with Lem Butler on line. He was
35 on teleconference. We had Jim Wellington and Paul
36 Liedburg from Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. They
37 gave us their latest and updated reports. That was in
38 May. Toward the end of May. And we reported that --
39 them reports to the executive committee.
40
41 And our findings that -- and this
42 request from the board is that it's -- local knowledge
43 of the decline in population is really, really
44 prevalent. There's a demand for our managers to
45 address the declining population of not just moose, but
46 the caribou. And that's where direction under -- where
47 I'm coming from is we're here to feed not only our
48 families, but people in the region.
49
50 Our main goal is to help people sustain

1 themselves to the point where they don't have to depend
2 on the grocery store or the cash economy that drives
3 our culture today. People have to eat, and we don't
4 want to make criminals out of them trying to fee their
5 families. I think that we have a long ways to go.

6
7 And, you know, I'm new to this whole
8 process. I've always left it up to somebody else to be
9 involved. I've got a family now, and I want my kids to
10 be able to do what I do, and that's to support them and
11 basically fill their -- they'd rather eat moose meat
12 and caribou than beef.

13
14 You know, speaking personally, that
15 I've always been a subsistence hunter and fisher, and,
16 you know, I like to thank the Feds for addressing the
17 wolf and the predator populations. It's the first time
18 I've heard someone in a management facility talk about
19 that as a possible management plan. I travel a lot
20 during the winter, and the wolf and the bear
21 populations have increased with our subsistence needs
22 of the moose and caribou decreasing. That population
23 for me, it scares me, because I know what wolves can
24 do, I know what bears can do. And they don't stop
25 eating.

26
27 What we asked the managers to do, and
28 me and Robbin were, you know, really fortunate that,
29 you know, they stepped forward and really shared the
30 information that they did, and I really thank, you
31 know, Jim Wellington and Lem Butler and Paul Liedburg.
32 And I'm just getting to know the other National Park
33 directors and managers and workers as I go.

34
35 Like Randy said at the beginning when I
36 sat here listening in the beginning of the meeting,
37 it's time to not sit back and do nothing approach. I
38 think that the board directed us to at least devise a
39 working group that would include all interested -- all
40 users in this program. They want us to get together a
41 working group that include the sports hunters, the
42 subsistence users, the managers, and not only with our
43 region, but maybe AVCP. Start with small groups.
44 They'll be able to brainstorm and ideas that would help
45 enhance the population, and include all the different
46 options, be it higher hunting pressure on the
47 predators, be it bear, wolves.

48
49 But I think the biggest thing for me
50 that I have a hard time sitting here listening to all

1 the different conservation efforts of the subsistence
2 users in the rural, and basically every time that
3 there's a decline in population, the first people they
4 turn to to drop and ask for that population to enhance
5 itself is the subsistence users and the people that
6 depend on it the most. And every declining population
7 from -- it might be -- I mean, just about everything,
8 the first people they turn to is the subsistence users
9 for that conservation effort. I think that's wrong.
10 And I'm speaking from my own personal observations and
11 my own personal experience.

12
13 I would like to see very option
14 available to us, including intensive management
15 strategies. From this Board you can request different
16 strategies to include that. And it's a tough call,
17 because it's a lot of work for the people involved, and
18 the managers, that they're -- the populations they're
19 managing. But somebody's got to do it, and if we're
20 not feeding our families, we're not -- you know the
21 Governor's opening address is that all resources should
22 be open to all residents of Alaska, not just the sports
23 hunters or the rural -- non-resident hunters that come
24 in from our area. It should be people that are
25 dependent on it for a living. It's all of us that need
26 to be -- we need to be addressing.

27
28 If we're the only people that are
29 taking a conservation effort, and especially in the
30 caribou -- I'm talking about the Mulchatna herd, if we
31 eliminated sports hunting, what would that do to the
32 sports industry? If you eliminated -- if we enacted
33 predator control. And I'm just throwing out ideas here,
34 because I think it's the right place. Not only I need
35 to be heard, but I think the people in the region need
36 to hear all the different choices that we have.

37
38 I'm one of the -- I'm from a generation
39 that left it up to you guys to take care of, and I
40 appreciate all your efforts here. You look at my age,
41 and there's very few people my age involved in this
42 process. And it's not because of -- they don't want to
43 get into the political ramifications of all the
44 different -- because it becomes political after a
45 while. And most people my age, they just want to do
46 what they do and take care of their families. You
47 know, they don't want to have to worry about what
48 agency has, or the State policy versus the Federal
49 policy, or what -- we're stepping on whose toes because
50 of this. They don't want to deal with all that stuff,

1 but as I started getting involved, I realized that this
2 is a real important place to take care of business,
3 because if I don't get involved, who's going to watch
4 out for my kids or my grandkids hopefully.

5
6 You know, and I was sitting there
7 watching and talking a little bit beyond, but I'd like
8 to, you know, invite all the managers here, and I
9 really appreciate their reports, because it makes light
10 of what we're dealing with. And you guys have got a
11 big job as far as advisory committees. What I don't
12 like to see is what the managers -- that they're
13 bringing information to you to make decisions on to
14 better manage their job, right? They're bringing
15 information for you guys to get advice -- give advice.
16 And that's what, you know, the process is supposed to
17 be. You know, if I come here as a manager with an
18 agenda or no agenda, you know, that's -- the process is
19 clear that -- you know, I'm new to this, but the
20 managers bring information so that they become better
21 managers, not only from you guys, but the public
22 process.

23
24 And you don't see very many public
25 people coming in here and speaking on behalf of the
26 users themselves. I think the public process needs to
27 be involved, and maybe that might be another option. I
28 don't know. But this is my first meeting and I don't
29 think any of my friends ever think about coming to
30 these meetings and speaking their mind or talking about
31 the process or resolutions. Well, that needs to
32 happen. You know? When my friends complain, they need
33 -- and maybe they need to be complaining to you guys,
34 but I don't know what that process is. See, this is my
35 first meeting.

36
37 And my first meeting to help, you know,
38 maybe address the population decline. And, you know, I
39 don't to step on anybody's toes, but, you know, I have
40 some strong feelings about that. Because it affects my
41 life.

42
43 I had a hard time getting a moose this
44 year. I had to share one with my uncle, because I
45 couldn't -- I mean, I'm -- I travel everywhere.
46 Hundreds of miles on a river, spend thousands of
47 dollars on gas. If I bought as much -- if I bought
48 beef as much money I spent on gas, I'd have four or
49 five freezers full.

50

1 But I'd like to thank you and I'm here
2 to represent BBNA on behalf of the board to address the
3 population decline not only just in moose, but the
4 North and South Peninsula caribou, the Nushagak and --
5 we revised that to the Bristol Bay drainage moose
6 population decline. Because if we don't -- I mean,
7 people are screaming from all over our region. They
8 have a hard time getting moose where there was always
9 moose. And, you know, it's -- they don't say that
10 they're not there or they're there, or -- you know,
11 they're hard to find.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Thank you.
14 And I've been hearing that, too, you know. People tell
15 me they're not getting any moose, or hard to find
16 moose, and I think -- I'm disappointed more people
17 don't show up at the meetings to testify to that. Or
18 call the Fish and Game or the Fish and Wildlife Service
19 people to tell them that, too. And -- you know, and it
20 is our job to try to -- what we're doing here is try to
21 implement -- propose new plans, you know, plan of
22 attack or change seasons, or stuff like that. That's
23 what we're here for, and I think -- I believe that we
24 need something -- it's time to do something, you know,
25 for that. We've got to start somewhere. But thank you
26 for your report.

27
28 Anybody got any questions.

29
30 MR. WOODS: Can I say one more thing?
31 Does anybody from your Council want to help sit on this
32 panel? Because it's going to be important to get as
33 many people in the process as possible, be it maybe
34 Randy for advice or someone on the Board that -- maybe
35 even Dan. Because it -- you know, I think the more
36 people we get involved locally to give input, the
37 better off we are, including the managers and all their
38 reports and all their strategies that they have. We
39 need to include all options, not just, you know, what's
40 been going on in the last few years is -- it's pretty
41 bad. I feel for the people in Chigniks. I know Boris,
42 his family. Basically, you know, they're starving for
43 caribou. Everybody in this region. And it's almost
44 criminal this day and age. You know, that's why they
45 imported reindeer back in the early -- I think it was
46 the 1900s. But, you know, I hate to see people hurting
47 for what they need to take of -- to feed their
48 families. Because my -- you know, in my region
49 sometimes there's villages where people don't have any
50 other options. You know, they don't have an AC Store

1 to go to or a Naknek Trading or N&N or -- you know,
2 they don't have them options. They subsist off what
3 they end up taking out of their freezers, and that's --
4 you know, that's all they have, some of them.

5
6 So I appreciate it, and thanks for
7 listening.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Robbin, do
10 you have something to add? Can we make it brief?

11
12 MS. LAVINE: Yeah, I just -- we worked
13 together earlier this spring on this issue, so I wanted
14 to summarize that what -- there are strong feelings by
15 my associate and, of course, everyone throughout the
16 region on the issue of the declining herds in both
17 caribou and moose populations. And so what the board
18 of directors, BBNA board of directors has requested
19 that Frank with Molly Chythlook's guidance do, and I
20 was sitting in during her absence for a couple of
21 months, is that small working groups be formed with not
22 a large affair, but rather a small streamlined approach
23 to working with the information gathered from the
24 resource managers, both State and Federal in the
25 regions to address locally local concerns regarding --
26 and to come up with a plan regarding the declines of
27 the peninsula caribou herds, Mulchatna caribou herds,
28 and Nushagak moose. And to work with also the -- maybe
29 perhaps some of the other regional nonprofits that are
30 also affected, like AVCP. And so as Frank said, we
31 spend some time talking to some of the refuge managers
32 and the subsistence managers in the area. And the next
33 step is to identify working groups to come up with
34 plans based on the information that we've gathered, and
35 then perhaps to have a BBNA Board approved plan for
36 each population, and then, of course, bring it before
37 the Bristol Bay RAC as well for approval. And we think
38 that perhaps -- if we look at the manager's as
39 references, reference guides, they can come up with
40 plans for management of these populations, but we might
41 be able to have our own venues, course of action,
42 working with them, but basically it's up to these
43 working groups to decide and to come up with plans that
44 they bring forth. And that's the idea of the working
45 groups.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Maybe you can work
48 with Dan, and he can report, just you guys -- that's an
49 option, and he can tell us or you can come back and
50 report at a next meeting, you know. Either way.

1 MS. LAVINE: And the next meeting would
2 actually be ideal as that's usually the one with the
3 wildlife focus.

4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Go ahead,
6 Dan.

7
8 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. As a
9 member of this Council, and also an alternate member of
10 the Nushagak Advisory Committee and a resident of
11 Dillingham, I guess it's partly my responsibility to do
12 these kinds of things, and to remind folks my phone
13 number's listed in the book. I do try to keep my ear
14 to the ground on concerns and I haven't got a moose the
15 last two years. I have to admit I've watched two bulls
16 walk away from me. I promised not to shoot one, and
17 the other one I couldn't shoot. But, yeah.

18
19 The other thing though, too, I'm glad
20 to see Frank getting involved, but to the extent
21 possible, BBNA can then pass back to their membership
22 that, hey, we're here, we're available and call us up,
23 catch on a street corner, get the discussion going both
24 ways, but I'll help however I can.

25
26 Thank you very much for your report.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Dan. Thank
29 you, guys.

30
31 Who else -- do we have any more agency
32 reports to do.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. I guess not,
37 so then we're down to new business. Do we want a break
38 or work through all this until we're done, which is
39 going to take a couple hours. Maybe more.

40
41 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
42 away from microphone)

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have until 3:30?
45 Then what.

46
47 MR. EDENSHAW: Alvin's scheduled to go
48 out at 3:30.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Everybody else has

1 until 5:00?

2

3 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

4

5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And I'd like to
6 leave before then, by 5:00. Maybe we should break for
7 an hour, unless, you know, work until 3:00 o'clock,
8 people are going to start getting hungry.

9

10 (Pause)

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, if you
13 take an hour and a half until 1:00 o'clock, that's a
14 long time. We can try to get back before then. Yeah,
15 let's try to get back before 1:00 o'clock.

16

17 (Off record)

18

19 (On record)

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Call back to order.
22 We're back to order. New business. No. 14. The water
23 rights issue for Lake Clark, the Sixmile area. We will
24 table until February, would be appropriate time for
25 fisheries proposals. So that we'll table to the next
26 meeting.

27

28 Next, let's take Mulchatna caribou.
29 Laura wanted to report on that. And Laura, you have
30 the floor. Or do you want to do that right now?

31

32 MS. GREFFENIUS: On Mulchatna?

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.

35

36 MS. GREFFENIUS: First I want to find
37 out some of the things you want to discuss. Yeah, I'll
38 be glad to.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, I'll
41 start then. The Federal -- isn't the Federal
42 Subsistence Board going to be taking that issue up
43 because of the subsistence in Unit 18 for Mulchatna?

44

45 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council.
46 The Board of Game is going to address Unit 18, that
47 portion for the Mulchatna at its March meeting. And
48 what we wanted the Council to consider is to submit a
49 proposal to the Board of Game to address Mulchatna in
50 Units 9 and 17, and ask that they submit a proposal to

1 the Board of Game to eliminate non-resident hunting.
2 And then also that would entail an agenda change.

3
4 The Y-K Council on the Federal side has
5 submitted a proposal which is in this book on Page 3 --
6 or 2. And Laura's here to help draft a proposal for
7 the Council, but, you know, that the gist of it. And
8 the Federal Subsistence Board before the deadline of
9 the proposal period would submit a proposal as well to,
10 you know, to eliminate non-resident harvest of
11 Mulchatna caribou. But they wanted to make sure that
12 those Councils that have a vested interest, you know,
13 that hunt the animals be provided an opportunity to do
14 so.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're saying a
17 proposal to the Board of Game for an agenda change
18 request for Mulchatna caribou?

19
20 MR. EDENSHAW: Just a motion for the
21 Council to submit a proposal to eliminate non-resident
22 hunting for Units 9 and 17 and that they also -- a
23 motion to do an agenda request that would be submitted
24 to the Board of Game.

25
26 MR. O'HARA: So two different motions.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Two different
29 motions. One to the Federal Board and one to the Board
30 of Game

31
32 MR. EDENSHAW: No, they're both to the
33 Board of Game, because the Federal Board won't address
34 -- I think -- well, before I can get into specifics of
35 it on the Federal side. But this is for the Board of
36 Game.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah. Let's
39 see, the Board of Game is going to be taking up Unit
40 18, Mulchatna caribou. So that's.....

41
42 MR. EDENSHAW: That's correct. But we
43 want the Council to -- we want them to consider
44 submitting a request to the Board of Game for an agenda
45 change, and also a proposal to eliminate Mulchatna --
46 caribou harvest of non-residents in Units 9 and 17.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Everybody got
49 that? Laura.

50

1 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah. Thank you. Mr.
2 Chair and members of the Council. This is Laura
3 Greffenius, I'm a wildlife biologist with OSM. I'll be
4 glad to help clarify. When you asked me to come up, I
5 didn't realize you were ready to start talking about
6 the Mulchatna. I didn't know if you wanted to have
7 some presentations from the other Staff first.

8
9 So there are several things here as far
10 as proposals. Just to clarify, there's the Federal
11 proposals that -- I'm not talking about the Mulchatna
12 right now, but just the Federal proposals that the
13 Council can submit or an individual. And those are the
14 ones for this Council as far as the deadline being
15 October 19th. So that's one set of proposals. Like if
16 we do one on bear or moose or whatever.

17
18 But then the ones I'm talking about, or
19 that we are talking about for the Mulchatna, what we
20 need to consider, and just so that you're aware,
21 there's -- this is for the Board of Game at its meeting
22 in Bethel in November. They have several proposals
23 before them, and these are the state ones that the
24 State Board of Game will be discussing. And there are
25 several that are in the -- the Board of Game puts out
26 all of its proposals, and there's actually three of
27 them that deal with Unit with the Mulchatna Caribou
28 herd. And I can just go through them real briefly.

29
30 Proposal 3 has to do with making two
31 seasons instead of one continuous season. There would
32 -- the proposal is to make a fall season and a winter
33 season. And that was put in by Patrick Jones. And
34 then there's two proposals, No. 4 and No. 5 for the
35 Mulchatna that are both requesting to close the non-
36 resident caribou season in Unit 18. One was put in by
37 the Association of Village Council Presidents and the
38 other one was put in by Lester Wilde, a resident of
39 Unit 18. And so both of those are asking for the non-
40 resident season for the Mulchatna caribou herd to be
41 eliminated.

42
43 So there are several options here. If
44 you want, OSM always puts in comments pertaining the
45 Board of Game proposals. Anybody as an individual can
46 put in comments, as you so choose, and the comments are
47 due by, let's see, October 26th, the end of this month.
48 And OSM will be putting in comments. And if there's
49 some things that you specifically want us to include in
50 our comments, we'll do so. Or we can also have the

1 Council put in comments that come from the Council and
2 I would draft those and do it that way. So we've got
3 ones from OSM and then if the Council chooses to have
4 comments that pertain to eliminating the nonresident
5 season. So that's one thing I wanted to mention.

6

7 And also if for Units 17 and 9 you
8 wanted to have something that parallels this one about
9 eliminating the non-resident season, we can also put
10 together a proposal to go before the Board of Game to
11 be taken up at his spring 2008 meeting, but they don't
12 normally cover Southwest Alaska during that meeting.
13 It's mostly going to be covering the Interior regions
14 in the March 2008 meeting. But we could put in for an
15 agenda change request and they can consider something
16 out of their normal cycle where they'd consider
17 something for Units 9 and 17 on the Mulchatna, if you
18 wanted to put together a proposal dealing with
19 eliminating the non-resident season.

20

21 So I just wanted to put those things
22 before you, that those are the options. And if there's
23 any questions, I'll be glad to answer them.

24

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

25

26 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.
27 I'm actually ready to make a motion if the Board's
28 ready to hear it.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's discuss first
31 what your motion is, and then take it from there.

32

33 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. And, Laura and
34 Cliff, correct me if I'm headed in the wrong direction
35 with this. But my motion would actually be to actually
36 kind of ball both motions into one. I would make a
37 motion that Laura would draft for us an agenda change
38 request to be put into the Board of Game on our behalf
39 for caribou in Units 17 and 9 in light of the fact that
40 they're the same caribou that are being debated upon in
41 Unit 18, to eliminate a non-resident hunting season for
42 those caribou in Units 17 and 9 as well as 18. And
43 that would be my reasoning and justification for her to
44 use when she submits the our proposal.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That sounds
47 good to me. So anybody else have any suggestions or
48 comments.

49

50

1 Laura.

2

3 MS. GREFFENIUS: Well, just to make
4 sure we're all inclusive, I referred to 17 and 9. It
5 would be 9B, and there's also 19A and B, because that's
6 whole range of the herd, but that's the foundation you
7 meant.

8

9 MS. MORRIS LYON: That's correct. The
10 ones that are relevant to the Mulchatna's migration.

11

12 MS. GREFFENIUS: Right. Uh-huh.

13

14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Sorry.

15

16 MS. GREFFENIUS: That's fine.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem, can you come up
19 here for a second. I've got a question for you. Lem,
20 is the population of the Mulchatna still the same as
21 what we heard last spring, 46,000 with 15 percent
22 bulls, and out of those 15 percent, 9 percent large
23 bulls? And the calf -- the calf reproduction was low?
24 Is it still those numbers? Have you guys done anything
25 this summer?

26

27 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
28 Council. Again, Lem Butler.

29

30 For the most part that information is
31 correct. That data comes from the fall 2006
32 composition survey. The population count from the
33 summer of 2006 was 45,000 to the best of my
34 recollection anyway. We didn't do any work this summer
35 in terms of population counts with the Mulchatna herd.
36 We'll try to follow up on that again next year. And I
37 -- over the course of the next week we're going to look
38 at the composition again, but again the information
39 that you just read off is about as accurate as I have.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks. I
42 was just wondering if there was anything new.

43

44 Any more? Dan. I guess we're getting
45 there.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: I don't think there's
48 been a second to the motion, but.....

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, we -- there's no

1 motion yet. I just asked Nanci to explain her motion
2 first, and then we'll discuss it, see if that's what we
3 wanted to do, make a motion on it, okay, so we wouldn't
4 have to change it.

5
6 MR. DUNAWAY: I think my correction
7 permanent -- or pertinent then. I always get a little
8 muddled when we get in the agenda change request
9 process. And one side, I think to make the agenda
10 change request, don't you have to be specific to what
11 you want to address, so could you -- would Nanci's
12 approach be more appropriate or Laura's in how -- if
13 this request got sent to the Board of Game? A single
14 proposal, or an agenda change request separate from a
15 proposal?

16
17 MR. BUTLER: I think Laura was correct.
18 If it's out of cycle, you need to go through the agenda
19 change process. The Department of Fish and Game will
20 be making a similar request. We, of course, like to
21 consider all Mulchatna units simultaneously. Right now
22 the Mulchatna's spread out between three regions and
23 four game management units. You know, just for
24 coordination, I expect we'll have the same agenda
25 change request before the Board to consider all areas.
26 I'm not sure which meeting they'll request that change
27 for, but that's expected to come again.

28
29 MS. MORRIS LYON: Dan, just for
30 clarification, my motion was just one motion to include
31 two different items.

32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Okay. Great.
34 Well, that really helps a lot though, Mr. Butler, from
35 just kind of knowing that the Department, too, will be.
36 I attended the advisory committee, I'm looking at
37 Woods, he's -- it might help me remember, but I've been
38 focused on this meeting and some other stuff, and the
39 restructuring issues, and I'm blank on what we did
40 regarding caribou and this whole issue with the State
41 advisory committee there in Dillingham. But we can get
42 to that later I guess.

43
44 MR. BUTLER: Now, having said that, I
45 still recommend that you put in your request though as
46 you -- I mean, it's no problem with coming from both
47 the State and the Regional Advisory Council. So that
48 certainly carry on with what you're doing.

49
50 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, certainly. That

1 would probably add more weight to the issue. Thanks.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Kenny.

4

5 MR. HEDLUND: Shouldn't we include Unit
6 19? The Mulchatna herd goes into 19A I know.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, actually all
9 the way up into Stoney, Lime Village.

10

11 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. It would be
12 better if the Council just sticks to the units -- the
13 Western Council -- is that the Western Interior? --
14 hasn't met yet, is that correct, Laura? And if so,
15 we're asking the other Councils that have involvement
16 with the Mulchatna in their home units to do likewise.
17 So it's just preferable if the Council sticks to Units
18 9 and 17.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Laura.

21

22 MS. GREFFENIUS: You're correct. The
23 range does cover that 19A and B and when we did the
24 Mulchatna proposal last year, we made sure it was
25 inclusive of all the units and then we just crossovers
26 with the other Councils, so we would make sure that it
27 would be inclusive. So right now before the Board in
28 Bethel, because they're considering Unit 19 -- Unit 18,
29 they'll be dealing with that at the Bethel meeting in
30 November, this coming November, next month. But they
31 wouldn't be covering -- the Board of Game would not be
32 covering the Units 17 and 9 until spring of 2009, so
33 that's why we're suggesting if we want to take it out
34 of cycle, this would be a time to be able to address
35 it, in spring of 2008. But it does require not only
36 the proposal that we can put together, but then also --
37 we'll find out procedurally to make sure for the agenda
38 change request.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

45

46 MR. EDENSHAW: And also you can ask
47 Laura to put language in there just as Kenny had stated
48 that, you know, the Council recognizes which units, you
49 know, inclusively cover all of the Mulchatna, but
50 ideally what they're -- from what I heard in the office

1 is what they would like to do is -- Lester Wilde is the
2 Chair for the Y-K Council. Even though he submitted it
3 as an individual, you can certainly bet when they meet
4 in Bethel that he'll be there as a representative of
5 the Y-K Council. So OSM is -- you know, the direction
6 I was given was basically they asked the Council to
7 consider submitting a proposal to eliminate non-
8 resident harvest of caribou in Units 9 and 17, i.e.,
9 the Mulchatna. But the Council in their proposal, they
10 can ask Laura to sit there and have language which
11 recognizes all the units that cover the Mulchatna, but
12 for this Council in regards to caribou hunting, it
13 would be for Units 9 and 17. But, you know, you can --
14 and you can also ask Laura in her proposal, and there
15 will be a time when the Council can sit there and say,
16 we support the Western Interior which, you know, I'm
17 not sure which units those are, and the Y-K in Unit 18,
18 because there's also communities for Unit 18 that have
19 C&T for caribou that are in the Y-K region, so -- but
20 the simple thing right now is just to submit the
21 proposal, asking them to eliminate the non-resident
22 hunting in Units 9 and 17.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So are we
25 ready for a proposal then. I mean a motion. Nanci.

26

27 MS. MORRIS LYON: Okay. I'll try it
28 again, and I'm open to friendly changes as well. I
29 would propose that we would ask Laura to draft -- well,
30 first of all to contact the Board of Game and to
31 initiate an agenda change request on our behalf for a
32 proposal that would include the areas used by the
33 Mulchatna caribou herd in 17 and 9 in recognition of
34 the declining numbers of the herd and recognition of
35 the request for other areas of the Mulchatna herd to
36 eliminate the non-resident hunting privileges for that
37 herd.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And the motion's
40 been made, and it sounds pretty clear. Is there a
41 second.

42

43 MR. BOSKOFKY: Second.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Alvin seconds. Is
46 there any question -- any more comment.

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none. All in

1 favor signify by saying aye.
2
3 IN UNISON: Aye.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
6
7 (No opposing votes)
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried, 6-0.
10 Okay. Then that would be all for Mulchatna caribou.
11
12 Do you guys want to discuss the Katmai
13 bear proposal first or the moose?
14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: Which one will go
16 quickest?
17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think the bears
19 would probably go quicker than the moose. Let's do
20 bears.
21
22 Cliff, did we get any -- did we submit
23 anything for a bear hunting season in the preserve?
24
25 MR. EDENSHAW: There weren't any
26 proposals. Last year. Mr. Chair, the Council provided
27 comments regarding Board of Game proposals, and that
28 was it. And there haven't been any, to my
29 recollection, proposals addressed by the Council
30 regarding brown bears.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We have the
33 Park Service here. Ralph, you have the floor.
34
35 MR. MOORE: Yes. Do you have a
36 proposal on brown bears or.....
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, but we were
39 thinking about we need to propose one, because of the
40 situation at hand, so you -- I guess you can fill us in
41 on -- with your information, and we'll discuss from
42 there. Well, the way I see -- what I understand is
43 that there is no Federal season in the preserve. It's
44 just what hunting has been going on has been carried on
45 through the State regulations from what I understand.
46 I didn't even know there wasn't a Federal season in the
47 preserve. Am I correct.
48
49 MR. HAMON: Yeah, that's correct.
50 We're never had a request for a subsistence harvest of

1 bears up there, and so it's never -- it's never been
2 put into any of the Federal regs. The harvest that's
3 currently available in the preserve is under the State
4 sport hunting regulations, and it's available to
5 residents and non-residents, but there's nothing in the
6 Federal regulation book.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you,
9 Troy. And this fall, earlier this fall I heard that
10 there was entities from Homer that wanted to have the
11 preserve closed for bear hunting, and proposal will
12 probably come before us at the next meeting. So I'm
13 thinking that we need to -- or we should submit a bear
14 proposal for subsistence bears in the preserve.

15

16 Go ahead, Ralph.

17

18 MR. MOORE: We had received some
19 correspondence from some of the environmental
20 organization concerning their concern about bear
21 harvest in the preserve. And we rely for our figures
22 heavily on what ADF&G comes up with, and their aerial
23 surveys indicated that the population appeared to be
24 relatively stable, and so we didn't see any concern,
25 and replied back to those organizations that at present
26 we didn't see any concern based on their numbers for
27 regulation of that.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Troy.

30

31 MR. HAMON: And just to add -- sorry.
32 For the record, this Troy Hamon with the National Park
33 Service.

34

35 The request that we have seen and the
36 correspondence was actually not for a proposal to the
37 Board of Game. I'm not aware of anything that we've
38 heard about a proposal to the Board of Game. What they
39 actually asked was for us to actually step in and close
40 the hunt, as Federal managers to close the State hunt,
41 and we elected not to go there for a number of reasons.
42 Like Ralph said, there's no indication that it's
43 needed. But I actually would assume that there will be
44 a Board of Game proposal, but I haven't actually heard
45 anything about that. So if that's coming down the pike,
46 we haven't heard it yet.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. If -- but,
49 yeah, the Board of Game just met last spring, so it
50 will be two years from then before they take up the

1 area again. But there might -- I would expect to see
2 something maybe before the Federal Subsistence Board
3 for this cycle, which would be next -- early next
4 summer, or next spring probably when that would be
5 discussed. And I think there's a lot of bears up
6 there. I've flown up there before, and it's -- there's
7 just -- because of the amount of salmon that have been
8 returning. And we're talking about around Marine
9 Creek, upper end of Kukaklik and around Kukaklik there.
10 And that's -- there's been so many salmon returning
11 that the bears have just flocked in there, and it's
12 been -- Dan Salmon that lives in Igiugig, he said he
13 flew up there and counted 150 bears in Marine Creek and
14 Funnel Creek, which is just five miles long probably
15 from the mouth.

16

17 And then Lem had said -- we were
18 talking -- we mentioned at one of our fish and game
19 advisory committee meetings in Igiugig, and Lem said he
20 flew up there and he counted about 200 bears. So
21 there's no shortage of bears, you know. And we -- you
22 know, we need to have the season continue and not --
23 and speak out in opposition to that. And in fact if
24 there's no subsistence season for bears, maybe we
25 should propose one.

26

27 Anybody else. Kenny.

28

29 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. I don't see why we
30 -- you know, if we've got a commercial hunt, why don't
31 we have a subsistence hunt. And there's plenty of
32 bears. Always has been up there. And like he says,
33 when there's fish, bears ain't dumb. They're going to
34 go where there's grub. And there's been plenty, so I
35 don't see why we shouldn't have a subsistence season.
36 We do in Lake Clark.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

39

40 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. This is partly on
41 here to discuss, because I was listening to the radio
42 there in Dillingham, and there was this big news item
43 in July sometime about all these folks worried about no
44 bears and it just didn't match up with anything I hear
45 at these meetings, and I was like confused at where
46 exactly they're talking about, what exactly they're
47 talking about, who's talking about it. And I actually
48 contacted KDLG and asked them to please contact Lem and
49 other folks to get a broader perspective on it. And I
50 hear they're still going to do that, but, yeah, we hear

1 a lot of concerns about too many bears at this meeting
2 and advisory committee meetings, so I was just trying
3 to get a handle on what's going on, and maybe and all
4 would -- whoever has some information, I'd appreciate
5 it.

6

7

Thanks.

8

9

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

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CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. Speaking from
2 a lot of experience, too, at Brooks, you get people
3 that are calling in to come see bears the first and
4 middle part of June when there aren't any bears there.
5 I think a lot of it has to do with public education as
6 well, and you guys are usually very good at that, but I
7 know -- I mean, that would be my advice, too, is to
8 explore some more of that outlet, because people need
9 to understand bears are not trained animals. They do
10 not come because they're there to see them.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Troy.

13
14 MR. HAMON: Yeah. Just additional
15 update in terms of our work up there. We've had a crew
16 of bear techs that go up to Marine Creek every other
17 year, or occasionally in consecutive years for the last
18 six years or so now, and they are looking at a pretty
19 small segment of the water, and so it's not a real --
20 it's not a real good indicator of broader-scale
21 activity, but we've seen a pretty consistent level of
22 bear activity in that stretch..

23
24 We've also been working with two
25 different -- maybe three different larger data
26 collection efforts. One that we've reported on here
27 before was an effort to do a parkwide bear survey which
28 we reported back, and that showed that our parkwide
29 bear population is pretty healthy.

30
31 We've been trying to keep -- we've been
32 trying to be understanding of what we don't know about
33 the preserve, and so some of the things we felt like
34 weren't addressed well with that larger scale data set,
35 just because we didn't have as much at the preserve
36 level, but we've tried to work with Fish and Game, and
37 we've provided some funding to them, and I think
38 they've conducted some of these surveys on their own.
39 And Lem's done some surveys during August, which is
40 during the viewing season, and if you're interested in
41 having an update on that, I'd prefer he talked about it
42 himself. I can give you the rough details, but he's
43 right here.

44
45 And the other thing that we've been
46 pursuing within the National Park Service funding
47 cycles is a project to fund sort of a detailed
48 assessment of the population of bears. That would be a
49 spring survey similar to what we did parkwide, but more
50 localized in the preserve. You know, all of these

1 different tools can tell you a little bit, but it's
2 really, really hard to develop a management strategy
3 for a small area like this. And we're trying to work
4 with Fish and Game, viewing it in the context of the
5 larger area that it's a part of. And certainly at that
6 scale our current evidence suggests that there's no
7 problem. And even at the smaller scale we don't see
8 evidence of a problem biologically, so we're trying to
9 obtain the data that we need.

10

11 But now that we have that data, like
12 Nanci says, I think there's a lot of -- right now the
13 answers don't look anything like a bear population
14 problem. And so now it's how to connect the dots,
15 because some of the people that we're getting letters
16 from are fairly noteworthy on the public scene, so
17 we're trying to make that connection.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Thank you,
20 Troy.

21

22 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

25

26 MR. EDENSHAW: While Troy's up there
27 with Ralph, under our Federal regs on Page 53 it says
28 for no -- for brown bear for Units 9A, C and D, they
29 say there's no Federal season. So this Council,
30 there's -- 9D is Kodiak/Aleutians, and there's no
31 hunting in 9A, is that correct? For brown bear? In
32 the park there's.....

33

34 MR. HAMON: The park's in 9C and I
35 don't have it.....

36

37 MR. EDENSHAW: Well, in 9A there's a
38 portion of the park in 9A.

39

40 MR. HAMON: No, that's Lake Clark.

41

42 MR. EDENSHAW: That's what I'm saying.
43 There's.....

44

45 MR. HAMON: We're not Lake Clark.

46

47 MR. EDENSHAW: Well, Ralph's here --
48 he's not Lake Clark either.

49

50 MR. O'HARA: (Indiscernible, microphone

1 not on) it looks like it would be just a very small
2 part.....

3

4 MR. HAMON: Oh, part of the Douglas,
5 but that's closed.

6

7 MR. EDENSHAW: That's okay. That was
8 my question. So the Council could just address Unit 9C
9 then?

10

11 MR. HAMON: Right.

12

13 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah. Okay.

14

15 MR. HAMON: And, yeah, actually that's
16 an interesting question. I think I'd have to ask Lem
17 whether that map is accurate to that level.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So there is no
20 season in 9C for brown bear.

21

22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Well, is that a
23 problem?

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.

26

27 (Conversation - microphones not on)

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For instance,
30 there's a guy from Levelock that I know has gone up
31 there past Branch River, in Federal land and got a bear
32 in the fall time, and I guess it's -- there's no
33 season. It's illegal then. Unless he does he does it
34 under the State regs.

35

36 MR. HAMON: That's right. If he did it
37 under the State regs, it would be.....

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm not sure how he
40 did it.

41

42 MR. HAMON: It would be legal under
43 State regs to go up and take a bear in the fall. If
44 he's taking a bear under State regs, he's not required
45 to salvage the meat. If he was to take a bear under
46 subsistence regulation, he'd be required to salvage the
47 meat for consumption.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

50

1 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. Mr. Chair. If a
2 resident goes and gets a bear this time of year, it's
3 for the meat and the flesh -- I mean, the fat. It's
4 very seldom they'd want the hide. I mean, I've seen it
5 where they left the hide and took the meat. And so
6 that's - I would like to see us make a motion to have
7 hunting in the preserve for that reason, because, you
8 know, the State law says you can take the hide and all
9 that, but you don't need to, you know. But I'd like to
10 see us, you know, make a motion to -- because people do
11 hunt them for the flesh.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Would we need to --
14 if we made a season, would we need -- for subsistence,
15 would we need to get a permit?

16
17 MR. HAMON: Since we haven't had a
18 Federal season, we've not -- we've not ever actually
19 chased that around our heads between Ralph and I, so we
20 probably would need to ask somebody else who's more
21 familiar with the regulatory side to come up and offer
22 some advice. I know that under the State system you'd
23 have to get a tag. I assume that a Federal hunt
24 wouldn't necessarily require a State tag, but I'm not
25 positive about that, and we probably should ask
26 somebody else who's a little more familiar.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Do you guys
29 know what they do in Lake Clark?

30
31 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

32
33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

34
35 MR. EDENSHAW: I think, you know, if
36 the Council submits a propo -- you know, for one,
37 there's already -- Ralph and them already say there's a
38 State registration permit hunt, so whether it's you or
39 whomever is going to go in there and hunt a brown bear
40 has to have, you know, whatever requirements under a
41 State registration.

42
43 If the Council submits a proposal for a
44 subsistence brown bear hunt in Unit 9C, I'm sure those
45 things would come up in the analysis. I have a hunch
46 right now that the individual wouldn't need a brown
47 bear tag. The Council could stipulate in their
48 proposal, we don't need a tag, we don't need a Federal
49 registration permit, and then the Park Service, you
50 know, with the analysis, with the wildlife biologist,

1 they could sit there and go through and modify it just
2 as we do on all of our regulations. But I think if you
3 open the front of our book, they have certain
4 stipulations, and I'd just have to go through those
5 with the methods and means in terms of what is
6 required.

7
8 MR. HAMON: And, members of the
9 Council, this is Troy Hamon again. In looking at the
10 other brown bear hunts that are authorized in Unit 9,
11 they vary between registration permits that are
12 authorized by the Federal and the State entities, but
13 it's not a registration permit for the sport hunt, the
14 State hunt up there. It's a tag. And the hunts that
15 are authorized in Unit 9 under regulation with the
16 Federal Board right now say that no resident tag is
17 required provided that the hunter has a Federal
18 registration permit or a State registration permit,
19 depending on which location, so it would probably have
20 to be part of the way that the hunt was administered,
21 but it could be done in manner that didn't require the
22 State tag if it was done through the Federal system it
23 looks like.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Could that be done
26 over the telephone, because, you know, the village,
27 those people, that they're going to be hunting out of
28 Kokhanok, Igiugig or Levelock, they can't afford to go
29 to King Salmon and get a tag.

30
31 MR. MOORE: I'm sorry, I don't know how
32 that system is administered. Just a second. Mary?

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We were wondering,
35 would we be required to have a permit, or how do they
36 do it up in Lake Clark? Are they required to have a
37 permit? And if so, could we do it over the telephone,
38 because the people in Igiugig or Kokhanok or even
39 Levelock, or here wanted to go up there -- but if
40 they're here, they can stop at King Salmon and get a
41 permit, but up there, you know, it's not feasible to
42 fly down here and get a permit. If they had to have a
43 permit, could they do it over the telephone?

44
45 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, Lake
46 Clark National Park.

47
48 Let me see if I understand your
49 question. Are you referring to the Unit 9B hunt in the
50 -- 9C, okay. Well, 9C is not within Lake Clark, but we

1 do have a special bear hunt that is just in the 9B
2 portion of Lake Clark National Park that has a 10-bear
3 limit on it. Is that the hunt that you're referring
4 to?

5
6 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes. (Indiscernible,
7 microphone not on)

8
9 MS. MCBURNEY: Okay. Yes, that is
10 administered by the Park, and essentially what the Lake
11 Clark SRC had come up with was by working the
12 biologist, that they came up with the 10-bear limit,
13 and with the provision that when four females were
14 taken or 10 bears, that the hunt was then closed.
15 People that want to go and participate in that hunt,
16 they do stop by the headquarters or contact the
17 headquarters in some way so that they can get the
18 permit. They do need to have a permit, but that's also
19 a way so that the park can monitor who's out there, how
20 much effort there is, and also keep track of how many
21 bears are harvested, because with that specific harvest
22 level you really need to know how many folks you have
23 out there that might potentially be harvesting bear at
24 any given time.

25
26 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They did have
27 (indiscernible, microphone not on).

28
29 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes. And follow-up
30 calls are also made to the people, you know, once they
31 come out of the field. If they do not contact the park
32 office in Port Alsworth either by phone or by person,
33 usually one of the rangers will make a follow-up call
34 just to check and see, you know, whether the hunt was
35 successful or not, how long they were out, you know,
36 and any other information.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So they have
39 a permit to hunt up there for brown bears. So if this
40 hunt -- if we proposed a hunt, it would probably need
41 to have a permit, but then could we just call over the
42 telephone to get a permit, because coming into the
43 office in King Salmon is not very -- you know, people
44 can't afford to do that. It's not practical and they
45 can't afford to do it, so if we have to have a permit
46 to hunt in that area, then I'm asking if -- could you
47 just do it over the telephone?

48
49 MS. MCBURNEY: And that could be done.
50 And it just means that there's just that extra

1 responsibility on everybody's part that everybody knows
2 who's out, when, and having the follow up of when then
3 return and whether they were successful or not.

4

5 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

8

9 MR. EDENSHAW: Could I -- Mary, does
10 the Park Service generate their own permits for that
11 hunt?

12

13 MS. MCBURNEY: Yes. And it's not even
14 a permit per se. It's -- we keep a list and that way
15 we can, you know, be sure that you don't have any more
16 than say 10 people out at a given time that might
17 potentially be taking bears so that your entire limit
18 is gone, you know, all at once. So we do need to -- we
19 do main a list that way. And that's why it's important
20 to know when people return from the field so that we
21 know how many bears there still may be available for
22 people to take.

23

24 MR. EDENSHAW: So could we.....

25

26 MS. MCBURNEY: And Ralph just asked the
27 question of whether it could be done by fax so that
28 there would be some sort of a signature and an
29 affidavit, that would be perfectly fine.

30

31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
32 away from microphone) signed letter and it's faxed.....

33

34 MS. MCBURNEY: It's just the tracking
35 that would, you know, the big issue there to make that
36 workable.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's kind of
39 the same thing, it's over the telephone line. Okay.
40 So I guess we need to make a motion.

41

42 Dan, you had a comment.

43

44 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I keep looking over
47 here at Lem and wondering.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: All I wanted to find out
50 was what was going on in hearing this news thing. This

1 thing's spun out a lot bigger, but there's the
2 unintended consequences.

3

4 I was curious if Lem would like to
5 offer his perspective on what we're talking about here
6 as far as is -- I'm pretty convinced we don't have a
7 problem except for maybe too many bears, but how's it
8 running with the State program already? Any other
9 information you can provide, I'd appreciate.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
14 Council. My name is Lem Butler. I think the Park
15 Service has done a good job of representing the issue
16 here. Basically we have a population of bears that
17 doesn't live in a preserve. It moves in and out of
18 these political boundaries that we draw on a map. So,
19 yeah, we're looking at a regional population or a
20 regional bear harvest. All the signs and indications
21 that I have indicate that the current level of harvest
22 in the area is sustainable. Mostly I think what we are
23 dealing with is user conflicts. Bear viewers want to
24 see populations of unharvested bears. Bear hunters want
25 to see a lot of bears. You'd think that they'd both
26 agree on that point, they both want to see a lot of
27 bear, but again there's an inherent tension between
28 those two user groups that has expressed itself in this
29 particular area. Probably in part I think due to its
30 proximity to McNeil and a few other issues in that
31 area.

32

33 But currently, you know, we are
34 monitoring the population closely, as closely as we
35 can. I've got several harvest indices that I follow.
36 In cooperation with the Park Service, of course, we've
37 done the line transects. We're doing stream surveys to
38 monitor the population. I feel that what we have
39 currently is sustainable based on the distribution of
40 bears. Should that distribution change, the harvest
41 may need to be addressed, what's currently in that
42 area. But again, for now I feel comfortable with
43 what's happened given the current biological picture.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. What I'm
46 saying, Lem, is, you know, I think we just need to have
47 a hunt and there's -- instead of no open Federal
48 seasons. In my opinion, I don't think it's going to
49 change the amount of harvest. You know, somebody may
50 go up there and shoot a bear, but it's just -- I think

1 it's protecting ourselves mainly. That's the reason
2 why I brought it up, because we're going to see a
3 proposal to see it closed I think anyway. I'm pretty
4 sure. And I -- I'm feeling that this is, you know,
5 it's -- this area's been hunted a lot longer than
6 there's been bear watchers, and as long as there's
7 enough bears for a hunt, it should be allowed to have a
8 hunt there.

9

10 Anybody else. Oh, Lem, you wanted
11 something?

12

13 MR. BUTLER: Well, just a side comment
14 I guess. You know, I think that through the Federal
15 process any proposals would have a hard time gaining
16 any traction. Again, there is no biological concern.
17 So I think in terms of the Federal Subsistence Board
18 taking action on this particular issue at this point,
19 I'd be very surprised if that were to happen. And, you
20 know, from the Board of Game point of view, I think as
21 long as, again, the data show that there is a
22 sustainable harvest, I don't think that we'll see a lot
23 that way either.

24

25 I certainly see what you're trying to
26 do, and I'd agree, I don't expect any -- you know,
27 we've -- I've never heard of anyone showing interest in
28 this area. You know, I have two areas with subsistence
29 brown bear permits right now, and neither of those two
30 areas get much attention at all. I think two brown
31 bear permits are issued, and very rarely are they
32 successful in their harvest of brown bears.

33

34 I don't really see the need to do this,
35 but I don't have any arguments for it or against
36 either. I'm neutral in other words on this idea.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

39

40 MR. HEDLUND: I'd like to make a motion
41 we have an open season in the preserve for brown bear.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 9C?

44

45 MR. HEDLUND: 9C.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion for
48 a subsistence hunt, 9C. Do we have a second.

49

50 MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Nanci.
2 Cliff, are we missing anything.
3
4 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes. You should
5 stipulate the seasons and harvest limits.
6
7 MR. HEDLUND: I think that would be up
8 to the Park Service, wouldn't it?
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We could.....
11
12 MR. HEDLUND: They should have a --
13 well, okay.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Could we work --
16 could Staff work on that and bring it before -- I mean,
17 at our next meeting when we discuss the proposals.
18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: Well, it would be
20 preferable to have something in paper -- in writing,
21 because the proposal period closes October 19.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mary.
24
25 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, Lake
26 Clark National Park.
27
28 One of the things I wanted like to add
29 about our subsistence hunt in 9B in Lake Clark National
30 Park, the hard park, is that the season is open
31 essentially year round. There is no closed season for
32 that particular hunt. What is the limiting -- well,
33 excuse me. Well, it's a year round hunt, and the
34 limiting factor there is having the harvest limit. And
35 the hunt is closed when either 10 bears have been taken
36 or four females. So if that's the sort of, you know,
37 harvest regime that you would like to pursue to make it
38 something similar to what Lake Clark has. I just
39 wanted to put that before you, that that's the way that
40 that hunt is administered.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So it's -- in Lake
43 Clark the season is from July 1st to June 30th, so
44 basically it's open all year round. And 10 bears. Do
45 you think there needs to be a limit.
46
47 MR. DUNAWAY: I think Mary wants to
48 tell us something.
49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Mary.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: (Indiscernible,
2 microphone not on)
3
4 MS. MCBURNEY: No, I was actually
5 answer a question (indiscernible, away from
6 microphone).
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Dan.
9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. It seems like
11 in a lot of the Federal regulations where populations
12 permit and social circumstances permit, that the
13 Federal regulations pretty much just mirror the State
14 regulations. So I guess I would wonder if Kenny would
15 consider just something like that as part of his
16 proposal. It would be just to say that the Federal
17 subsistence hunt mirrors the State. If that works. I
18 realize the farther we get into this, the less I
19 understand about some of the details of a bear hunt.
20
21 And also I wonder if we're part of that
22 Western Alaska Bear Management area, and I see Lem
23 walking back up here ready to say something, so I'll
24 stand down.
25
26 Thanks.
27
28 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. I'd like to say, I
29 mean, if that was the case, why not leave it the way it
30 is. And, you know, I mean, through the State. But
31 this way, like Lake Clark, you've got a chance to go
32 out and get a bear whenever you want it, not having to
33 wait for a season. And I'd, you know, prefer to see it
34 similar to Lake Clark.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So would you suggest
37 the same open season with a limit?
38
39 MR. HEDLUND: Yes, I'd like to see, you
40 know, a limit on it. You know, and that would be up to
41 the Park Service. You know, I don't think it has to be
42 10 bear. I mean, that's a lot of bear. And I know
43 Kokhanok people, you know, used bear. And like you
44 say, I think it's an awful long ways for Igiugig, but
45 you know, people at Kokhanok, I know they use them.
46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're saying
48 there's a lot of bear up there, or you're saying 10
49 bears is a lot of bear?
50

1 MR. HEDLUND: I'm saying 10 bear is a
2 lot of bear. I don't think you need 10 bear. Five
3 bear probably would be sufficient, you know, per year
4 for subsistence. And Lake Clark is a lot bigger. You
5 know, you've got four villages versus, you know, over
6 there at Kukaklik, you've only got one village
7 basically. I don't think Igiugig goes up.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, Leve -- like I
10 said earlier, Levelock goes up the Branch and takes
11 bears.

12
13 MR. HEDLUND: Oh, I'm sorry, they can
14 go up. Yeah. I forgot about that.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: In Igiugig, two
17 people go down there.

18
19 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. Uh-huh.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I know Mike Kanader
22 (ph) has gone up there.

23
24 MR. HEDLUND: That's right. I was
25 thinking about going overland. And whereas if they
26 went up the Alagnak, they'd be -- they'd have it a lot
27 easier than Kokhanok actually. So maybe 10 bear would
28 be sufficient.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Ralph.

31
32 MR. MOORE: Just judging from the
33 passion in these letters that we've received, I think
34 if we were to have the subsistence hunting going on at
35 the same time as the prime bear viewing, I think we
36 would get a lot -- there would be a lot of conflict.
37 The prime bear viewing time up in the preserve is
38 generally the month of August. If there was some way
39 to resolve -- or sort of separate those times where
40 some people are bear viewing versus when they're
41 hunting. It seems like we're just set -- we could be
42 setting ourselves up for a lot of conflict that might
43 be avoidable if people were to avoid the prime time
44 that people are in there bear viewing.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, the State
47 season isn't open in August up there, is it?

48
49 MR. MOORE: Yeah, the State season
50 opens October 1st. And the prime bear viewing is

1 August and it's probably well into September as well.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I could support
4 having it closed in August, just to eliminate the
5 conflict, but September is, you know, it -- if people
6 are going to drive up the river, it will be after
7 fishing season, and it's going to be before it freezes
8 up, so I don't want to us limited in September. But,
9 you know, August, you know, we could do that.
10 Otherwise, if you limit it August and September, then
11 there won't be any -- you're basically eliminating that
12 -- being able to hunt.

13

14 Lem.

15

16 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
17 Council. I can't urge you strongly enough to avoid
18 September, August and July. What's going to happen is
19 these bears are going to pack up on the Interkuluk (ph)
20 area right there by Battle Lake, Battle Creek, Kulik
21 River is another hot spot. All the bear viewers, all
22 the fishermen, and all the hunting activity, if there
23 is any that were to be drawn -- I mean, it's going to
24 surround that same general area. You're really -- I
25 mean, it's going to put the pinch on a lot of things.
26 It's going to bring it to a national level. And I
27 think in terms of Unit 9 bear hunting in general, and
28 probably in terms of bear hunting statewide, I think
29 that would be a real bad idea to even create that
30 potential.

31

32 I think what you're doing with an
33 October 1 to October 21st season is you're setting a
34 precedent. You're saying, hey, you know, there's a
35 subsistence hunt going on there. I think you
36 accomplish it with just opening that window of
37 opportunity. Extending it into the bear viewing
38 season, boy, you know, I again just can't say enough
39 about how bad an idea I think that would be.

40

41 Thanks.

42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

44

45 MR. DUNAWAY: (Indiscernible,
46 microphone not on)

47

48 MR. BUTLER: The State bear season is
49 October 1st to the 21st odd numbered years in the fall,
50 and May 10th to May 25th in the spring of even numbered

1 years. I think that would be the option here until
2 there's a proven need to go beyond those dates.

3

4 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

7

8 MR. EDENSHAW: Just to push this along,
9 when Mary got up and said the bear season year long,
10 and this is just a proposal, and, you know, Laura could
11 get together with whether it's Troy and Ralph or Lem,
12 if the Council, you know, or else you know when the
13 proposal is -- when Laura writes up the proposal,
14 she'll be working in conjunction with the other
15 agencies, but, you know, you can just keep in the
16 proposal, year round. It probably wouldn't fly in
17 terms of having a year round brown bear season in 9C,
18 but you can bet it's going to be packed down and cut
19 into. But for -- you know, this is proposal right now,
20 so if the Council is going to submit a proposal, just
21 say year round and that stuff will be modified for sure
22 between now and when we meet in February.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem.

25

26 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair, I disagree with
27 that advice. People are going to see the proposal
28 written in the Federal proposal book as it's written.
29 So I would strongly urge you to make the best effort
30 you can to narrow that date -- that window right now.
31 I think you're just going to create that potential
32 friction even if it never comes to that, it will just
33 start the precedence and get that ball rolling.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're saying to
36 have it in October for a month. That's, you know -- I
37 think it needs to be open in wintertime and in the
38 springtime. You know, during the bear viewing, it
39 could be closed, but I think it should be opened all
40 year round. Otherwise, if it's open the same as the
41 State, just one month of hunting there, you know,
42 what's the -- why have it? Why bother with that. You
43 know, I would support a longer season, and just try to
44 not to conflict with the bear watchers, and if it has
45 to be August and September, and July would be fine,
46 too, but I don't know, if people are going to shoot a
47 bear, I think it's going to be in the falltime, you
48 know, or in the wintertime, and springtime, too.

49

50 Dan.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, again I'm kind of
2 bandying this all around, but what if it was something
3 like October 1st to May 31st, or something like that to
4 kind of give a large range, but kind of give a nod to
5 avoiding the outrage of a year round season that might
6 add to this latest California politician stuff.
7 But.....

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, September's
10 the hunting season. It's always been the hunting
11 season in September.

12
13 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm trying to remember.
14 I think we have an earlier open date in Unit 17. I
15 think it's September sometime, do you know, Lem,
16 or.....

17
18 MR. BUTLER: I'm not familiar with 17.
19 9B opens up September 20. My guess would be that 17
20 would open up September 1st if it's the standard bear
21 season, but I don't have the State regs, and I'm not
22 familiar with that area.

23
24 MR. DUNAWAY: That's not the State reg.
25 Yeah. Mr. Chair. I see even in the Federal regs, for
26 17A and B it's September 1 to May 31st. And I kind of
27 think that may be fairly close to State regs, because I
28 went and got a bear tag after seeing bears when I was
29 moose hunting. And I know they liberalized it over
30 there to kind of address local interest and also to
31 broaden the harvest of bears. People are figuring
32 they're chewing on the moose.

33
34 Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have motion and
37 seconded, and discussion now. Do you want to modify,
38 amend?

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That's fine
43 with me. Laura.

44
45 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah. Laura
46 Greffenius.

47
48 Just a quick comment to note that for,
49 and you can make another motion to add on to this or do
50 it separately, but right now if you wanted to open up

1 the preserve in 9C, the C&T that's in the Federal
2 regulations for 9C is only for rural residents of Unit
3 9C. If you wanted to included the villages, the
4 locales that are in 9B, it would just need to be -- we
5 would do it as like a companion proposal. There would
6 be one analysis on the C&T to include the communities
7 of 9B, and then we would do it for the wildlife side.
8 So we'd address it pretty much as a package deal, but
9 it would need to -- your mot -- your proposal would
10 need to include that as was if you wanted to have some
11 of those communities that are closest to the preserve
12 to be able to be hunted (sic) there. So I just wanted
13 to make sure that we noted that.

14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Yeah. That
16 should be noted.

17

18 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

21

22 MR. HEDLUND: I'd like to include -- I
23 didn't realize that, that was 9B was excluded. But,
24 yes, 9B. And mainly for Kokhanok, Igiugig and
25 Levelock. I mean, that's the ones that, you know,
26 utilize the animals there, and that's pretty much what
27 I'm looking for.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So would you agree
30 -- would your second agree to that? Nanci?

31

32 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: To have those three
35 villages in 9B being able to hunt that 9C area.

36

37 Any more comment. Laura.

38

39 MS. GREFFENIUS: Just for specificity,
40 do you want it only three villages or all the villages
41 in 9B? It just would influence how the anthropologist
42 would proceed. So, you know, that's up to the Council.
43 And just whichever locations would be most apt to use
44 it, or do you want it inclusive or -- we just need to
45 know what it is.....

46

47 MR. HEDLUND: I'm just concerned with
48 the three villages. You know, I don't know if Naknek
49 utilizes it or.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, Naknek is 9C.
2 They're already in it. King Salmon, South Naknek, but
3 -- 9.....
4
5 MR. HEDLUND: (Indiscernible,
6 microphone not on)
7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That would be
9 fine. If some -- we could always modify it later on if
10 some other village was -- wanted to do that.
11
12 MS. GREFFENIUS: So right now it's
13 Levelock and Igiugig and Kokhanok. Okay. So those
14 three.
15
16 And then also just on the dates, just
17 whatever dates you do choose, just if we had some dates
18 that the Council at least is aiming for, since it will
19 be put in the proposal book, and then we can always end
20 up modifying, or -- if there's -- whatever all the
21 different opinions that will be coming in on this. But
22 at least we'd have a framework from which to start.
23
24 MR. HEDLUND: I'd say (indiscernible,
25 microphone not on).....
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Just a
28 second, Ralph.
29
30 Would you agree to that, you're second.
31
32 MS. MORRIS LYON: Do you want to amend
33 your motion to include those dates?
34
35 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.
36
37 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah.
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Ralph.
40
41 MR. MOORE: I just wanted to say one
42 more time about the passion these groups had. When we
43 had the Board of Game proposal -- well, actually it had
44 passed, the motion to open the Douglas Forelands to
45 hunting, these organizations generated over 10,000
46 letters opposing that nationwide. And the Board of
47 Game reversed their decision.
48
49 This is a very popular area for bear
50 viewers in September. We've had -- we have had a

1 number of people go in this September and we had some
2 news groups go in in the last few days and do some
3 filming. And there will be conflict if we have the
4 September 1st through September 30th. There will be
5 considerable conflict.

6

7 MR. HEDLUND: Where are we talking?
8 What area are you talking about? Are you talking
9 McNeil, or are you talking about like Kukaklik.

10

11 MR. MOORE: This is within the
12 preserve, and this is Kukaklik, and let's see, is there
13 a map?

14

15 MR. HEDLUND: The area we're talking
16 about is Moraine and Funnel Creeks.

17

18 (Pause)

19

20 MR. MOORE: If a season of October 1st
21 through -- I forget what had proposed, May 31 -- 30th.
22 It seemed like that would be a good way to evaluate how
23 that went, and that could always be amended later on,
24 but that way it would be established that there is a
25 subsistence season, and it seemed like that would be a
26 good start.

27

28 MR. HEDLUND: Okay. I'd like to amend
29 my motion. Let's move it on back to -- I mean, if it's
30 going to cause a real big stink, let's go on back to,
31 you know, the 1st of October then. It's -- you still
32 could, you know, travel with a boat until like the 15th
33 of October.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's -- why don't
36 you just say end of September then, the 1st of
37 October.....

38

39 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:you would
42 be.....

43

44 MR. HEDLUND: The end of September to
45 the end of May.

46

47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:legal to hunt
48 bear.

49

50 MR. HEDLUND: And not consider the 2nd

1 of October.

2

3

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.

4

5

6

MR. HEDLUND: Would that -- do you think that would be less conflict?

7

8

9

10

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50

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank

1 you, Nanci.

2

3 Yeah. You know this probably won't
4 even get hardly any harvest, I don't think, you know,
5 any more than there is now. But just to put on the
6 books that we have it if somebody for some reason
7 wanted to do that, and not close it.

8

9 MR. HEDLUND: That's the same thing
10 with me. I'm a commercial harvester. I mean every one
11 that's (indiscernible, microphone not on), you know,
12 subsistence user to catch a bear (indiscernible).

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So anyway -- is that
15 clear now?

16

17 MR. HEDLUND: Very.

18

19 MS. MORRIS LYON: Question.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Question's been
22 called. I guess we didn't -- we need to vote on the
23 amendment, or should we just vote on the.....

24

25 MR. HEDLUND: We just vote on.....

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:vote on the
28 whole motion. Okay. We will do that. The motion's
29 been made for a bear season in Unit 9C by -- and there
30 is a season, a limit, a time limit and a harvest limit.
31 All in favor signify by saying aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

36

37 (No opposing votes)

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried 6 --
40 5 to 0. Okay.

41

42 One more little bit of business we move
43 on. Now Boris wants to go to the bank, and I know him
44 no, because we have to have a quorum. And where's
45 Cliff now? You know, I let Dan -- Dan O'Hara had to
46 work today, which it's his job, so he went -- Pete said
47 he had an appointment at the hospital, but I don't --
48 why couldn't he have -- why did he have to have that
49 today. And Alvin had to go to Anchorage. But, Cliff,
50 he needs to inform the Board members that we need to be

1 here for the whole time. And if Boris takes off, then
2 we don't have a quorum. We might as well all leave.

3

4 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They had me
5 scheduled to leave here at 5:30 (indiscernible,
6 microphone not on).

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, we can't do
9 that. The last meeting we didn't have a -- we barely
10 had a quorum and I got reprimanded by one of the
11 Federal Subsistence Board members. You know, it's
12 costing a lot of meetings for these meetings, and we
13 can't have -- we need to be here. If we can't be here
14 for the meeting, maybe we should consider not being on
15 this Board, this Council. Anyway, that's what I also
16 wanted to stress to Cliff that they need to get us down
17 here and back in the shortest amount of time as
18 possible without spending one day or two days in
19 Anchorage coming and going, you know, so -- anyway, I
20 just wanted to comment on that.

21

22 And what happened -- where did Cliff
23 go? Okay.

24

25 So we are on moose, Unit 9. Unless --
26 is that all for -- you guys had the report on the.....

27

28 MR. MOORE: That's all we had on the
29 bears.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: On the bears. And
32 that's probably -- that took care of what I had in
33 mind. Thank you, guys.

34

35 MR. MOORE: Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we'll switch to
38 Unit 9 moose. I'll start off and say that contrary to
39 what the State believes, I don't think there's as many
40 moose as they think there is, mainly because we're
41 seeing less moose and we're harvesting a lot less
42 moose. And people are approaching me and telling me we
43 need to do something so that there's more moose
44 available. I don't want to go as far as closing the
45 whole season for moose everywhere, but, you know, I
46 could go along with shortening the resident season, but
47 if we do that, we need to -- the non-residents would
48 have to -- the non-subsistence user would have to bear
49 part of the burden also. So I'm -- you know, I'm open
50 to suggestions.

1 Kenny, what do you think?

2

3 MR. HEDLUND: I don't know. I know
4 we've got to do something. I'm in the same boat as you
5 are. I've got five villages telling me there's no
6 moose, and that something has to be done. But I don't
7 know what has to be done. It's -- you know, if non-
8 residents are only getting five moose, I don't -- you
9 know, five moose ain't going to help us. And to
10 shorten the season, you said, it's -- you know, it's
11 only going to hit ourselves over the head. So I don't
12 know where we're going to go. To start it by, you
13 know, cutting it off to non-residents, you know, that's
14 probably a good place to start.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I serve on the
17 Igiugig Village Council, and our Council, you know,
18 they want to see, you know, the sport hunt in the
19 Katmai Preserve in Unit 9C -- you know, I talked to
20 Ralph Moore earlier, and there's a couple of
21 concessionaires that are allowed to take bears, moose
22 and caribou in the preserve. Our Council would like to
23 see moose and caribou eliminated from them being able
24 to take those, you know, up there in the preserve, 9C.
25 It's a start.

26

27 As some of you might remember, we asked
28 last year, and we took it up last spring, a corridor
29 for moose, two mile corridor along some rivers and
30 stream. Well, it didn't fly, because it's against
31 ANILCA. What will we have to do? Make it into Tier
32 II, Tier I?

33

34 Is Lem here? Can you tell us the
35 difference between a Tier II and a Tier I?

36

37 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, before Lem
38 gives his explanation between a one and a two, on
39 Federal lands the recourse is to close Federal to non-
40 subsistence users, and that would have to -- of course,
41 the biologists for those areas would have to come to
42 the Council and provide them with the biological
43 information that shows that there are not enough
44 harvestable moose to go around, you know, and that
45 hasn't -- I don't think I've seen a proposal up in the
46 lakes area, I think that's where you're talking about.
47 So, you know, that's one avenue. And then whatever the
48 State does on State lands is under their purview.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem.

1 MR. BUTLER: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I
2 believe fairly accurate. Yeah, Tier I, Tier II are
3 part of the State system. They're based on amount
4 necessary for subsistence. Once you fall below the
5 upper range you enter Tier I. Tier I is residents of
6 Alaska only. Below Tier I, when you've reached the
7 lower limit of the ANS, you enter Tier II, which is,
8 you know, the application based on a number of
9 criteria, where you live, where you get your food, how
10 much gas costs, et cetera. Much more restrictive in
11 terms of who can actually receive a Tier II.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you.

14

15 MR. HEDLUND: Is Tier I by permit, too?

16

17 MR. BUTLER: Not necessarily. That
18 just means the non-resident season's closed.
19 Oftentimes Tier I is a registration permit though,
20 because again usually you're dealing with some
21 limitation of a resource that's not able to meet the
22 demands.

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we're dealing
25 with Federal lands here. It doesn't pertain to having
26 Tier I or Tier II, just open or closed for different
27 user groups, right?

28

29 MR. EDENSHAW: For the federal lands,
30 they're just open to those individuals who have C&T
31 unless there's a hunts that's -- for instance, in 17A
32 the State issues State registration permits and also
33 state residents may also hunt on those lands in 17A.
34 So it's just a matter of what the Council would
35 stipulate.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, I would like
38 to see like in the preserve, Katmai, Federal lands ban
39 -- would -- is the Branch River or the Alagnak Wild
40 River Corridor, is that part of the Federal or is that
41 under State jurisdiction?

42

43 MR. MOORE: It's Federal, and it's
44 managed out of King Salmon.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And that border goes
47 all the way down through the braids right down some
48 place around Astratis (ph)?

49

50 MR. HAMON: (Indiscernible, away from

1 microphone)

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So that's almost
4 down to Katmai Lodge, that big lodge on the river?

5

6 MR. HAMON: Yes, it's below
7 (indiscernible, away from microphone).

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So it's below there.
10 Okay. And like I stated earlier, when we were up
11 there, there was me and some relatives and some guys.
12 We were all Alaska residents. There was two of us from
13 this area and Mel Brown and his son-in-law and it's one
14 of his guys that fish with him from Anchorage. We were
15 up there. And they shot a -- we got one small bull,
16 but we'd heard from one of the lodge owners up there by
17 Sugar Loaf that Katmai had shot two bulls up there past
18 the forks I believe where they said it was. And that
19 was about I think on the 5th, the day before we went up
20 there.

21

22 So it would eliminate them non-
23 residents. In fact I think that's a start, but what
24 people would like to see, less competition for what's
25 available. If we need to shorten the winter season,
26 that's an option, you know, because I just don't want
27 to see shortening the winter season, putting the whole
28 burden on the subsistence user when, you know, non-
29 residents stays the same.

30

31 Kenny.

32

33 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. Well, Lake Clark's
34 got a -- you know, our season runs a lot longer than
35 you guys' down here I think. I think we start August
36 20th, and the winter I think stays the same as, you
37 know, State, but, yeah, we go from August 20th I think.
38 Yeah, 9B. September 1 in 9B, 1 bull. It's August 20th
39 to September 15th and December 1 to January 15th. So
40 actually we've got two weeks I think on the December
41 side also.

42

43 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
44 away from microphone)

45

46 MR. HEDLUND: It does. I think it
47 does. I'm sorry. Yeah, I think it does. And if we
48 brought that back to -- okay. 9C. Okay. Yeah,
49 September 1 to December 1. I mean, actually -- if we
50 brought that back to the State, I think we'd be all

1 right.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's -- you know,
4 I -- it's -- August 20th in my opinion, it's always
5 been too warm. If you get a moose, it's just too hot
6 and buggy, and I've been of the opinion -- I asked Lem
7 about you, you know, and he doesn't agree with it, but
8 I always -- it seems to me that the moose are coming
9 out later, moving around, because of the weather. Been
10 getting a little later. It hasn't ever frosted yet in
11 Igiugig, and it's October already. And usually when
12 we're moose hunting, it frosts. So we.....

13

14 Moving it back is fine with me. And
15 then eliminating the non-resident I think should be
16 part of it. What about the winter season?

17

18 MR. HEDLUND: Well, I'd say move that.
19 You see, you've got it two weeks longer than ours
20 (indiscernible, microphone not on).

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, December 1st,
23 move it back until the 15th?

24

25 MR. HEDLUND: The 15th. December.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The same as the
28 State?

29

30 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah, same as the State
31 (indiscernible, microphone not on). Because right now
32 we got (indiscernible, microphone not on) almost a
33 month of.....

34

35 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, his mic.

36

37 MR. HEDLUND: Oh, I'm sorry. Right now
38 we've got almost a month of moose season, you know. In
39 9B it's December 1 to January 15th. That's what, a
40 month and a half? And 9C is the same. So if it went
41 back to the State, I think the State opens on the 15th,
42 doesn't it? December?

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah.

45

46 MR. HEDLUND: I think it is.

47

48 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

1 MR. EDENSHAW: What units are you
2 talking about?
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm talking about
5 the preserve. 9C.
6
7 MR. HEDLUND: 9B and C.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, the preserve
10 isn't in 9B, is it? It is?
11
12 MR. HEDLUND: Yes, sir. 9B has
13 (indiscernible, microphone not on)
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well -- oh, okay.
16 Yeah, a different one. Okay. Sorry.
17
18 MR. HEDLUND: And the reason I'm
19 talking about -- sorry. I keep forgetting this crazy
20 thing. The reason I'm talking is it -- you know, I've
21 got the same problem with the people in my end of the
22 country as you do at your end, that they're not seeing
23 any moose either. And I think if we shut the -- you
24 know, have the preserve, you know, cut back by two
25 weeks on each end, we are helping the moose population.
26 By how much, I don't know, because we didn't get any
27 moose.
28
29 MR. WOODS: (Indiscernible, away from
30 microphone)
31
32 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Speak into the
33 microphone.
34
35 MR. WOODS: I'm sorry. Frank Woods,
36 BBNA. I think that the issue's here to increase the
37 harvest success rate, increase the population. You
38 know, what the State did in 19 and 17A is they
39 eliminated personal use and harvest areas, eliminated a
40 non-resident hunt in B and C. They can only hunt I
41 think it's in the upper end of A, and they made a two-
42 mile corridor on the Mulchatna. So it displaced the
43 hunter in non-traditional -- in traditional use and
44 customary trade areas. And so it didn't displace the
45 sports hunters in general, which probably we'll get a
46 big opposition to closing the hunt totally, but it also
47 -- it gave the locals a better chance at keeping that
48 traditionally and service area open to subsistence use.
49
50 What that did is it displaced them into

1 different area, the sports and non-resident hunters in
2 different areas. We never thought they'd be in the
3 upper Wood. And it put them -- what I'm -- I guess I'm
4 suggesting is just keeping it here. By what you're
5 going to be doing here it might push them into
6 different areas that might be detrimental to other
7 villages, too.

8

9 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah, I see what you're
10 saying. I see what you're saying.

11

12 MR. WOODS: That it may be.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, we can only
15 deal with Federal lands right here.

16

17 MR. WOODS: Yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We could make that
20 proposal for State when the time comes up. And we did
21 try the last year ago meeting, we proposed a corridor,
22 but we found out that it's against ANILCA so we pulled
23 it. We didn't -- we pulled it off the proposal form.

24

25 Lem.

26

27 MR. BUTLER: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I
28 basically going to say what you were saying. Much
29 different issues on the Nushagak with, you know, user
30 conflicts. It wasn't so much a population, so it was
31 an allocation issue that the Board of Game dealt with
32 that with the corridors. You know, I mean, my advice
33 to you is if you think you need to do something in 9C,
34 put in a proposal and, you know, I'll try to get you
35 some data for the moose population, and we can hash it
36 out at the March meeting. I have no problem with that
37 at all.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.
40 Yeah, that's -- you mean to the Board of Game?

41

42 MR. BUTLER: I'll take proposals to the
43 Board of Game when they're up for call as well, yeah.
44 I'm willing to hash those issues out, but I'm referring
45 to the Federal Board right now. Proposals that you're
46 trying to generate for the next meeting.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's what we
49 -- I'd like to see us do is send in some proposal, you
50 know. I don't mind proposing proposal, because we can

1 always -- if information comes up like that time, we
2 can reject our own proposal, like we did on the
3 corridor. But if we don't have a proposal here before
4 us at the next meeting, there's nothing we can do about
5 the situation. But it does bring in a lot of the other
6 users. I guess we'll hear from them, like we'll hear
7 from Joe Klutsch will probably be here at the next
8 meeting if we propose this.

9

10 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

13

14 MR. EDENSHAW: If the Council's looking
15 at some of the preserve lands, they should also take
16 into consideration, if you look on Page 51, there's BLM
17 lands there also nearby Igiugig and Levelock, and then
18 Koliganek, New Stu and Ekwok, there's BLM lands there,
19 so I'm certain if the Council submits a proposal
20 regarding those preserve lands, the Board would also
21 ask, you know, did the Council look at those other
22 Federal lands there in terms of moose hunting seasons
23 there also. You propose to close the Branch down,
24 there's a corridor down there where the river is. If
25 you propose to close that to non-subsistence users, you
26 should probably take a look at those BLM lands over
27 there also.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's a good idea,
30 a good suggestion, you know, although they are kind of
31 spotty and hard to tell where the boundary line is.
32 They would be required to know I guess.

33

34 So what do you guys think about that.

35 Dan.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. From what
38 I've heard this year, I think moose season went fairly
39 well on the -- along the Nushagak. And off the top of
40 my head, I'd be reluctant to throw some of those Unit
41 17 Federal lands into this hopper to add another level
42 of confusion over there. I'm inclined to stay focused
43 on the Unit 9 issues for this proposal. Thank you.

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's a good
46 idea, because I think it's my -- what I heard, this
47 Unit 17 doesn't seem to have a moose problem from what
48 I've heard, and until this last year, you said that
49 some people were having difficulty, Frank and then you.
50 It seemed to be heading over that way, too, but we

1 should probably be -- if you're going to make a
2 proposal, it would be Unit 9B and C, not.....

3
4 I don't know if it should be also E,
5 like we did two years ago. The SRC, Aniakchak
6 submitted a proposal to us to close all non-resident
7 hunting in 9E, but we rejected it. And this, you
8 know.....

9
10 Frank.

11
12 MR. WOODS: Speaking on behalf of BBNA,
13 the special committee and plan that I spoke to this
14 morning included Nushagak moose on the upper end.
15 Moose decline. And that would include I think the
16 Federal lands of BLM. It would be in line with at
17 least BBNA's request for an enhancement project or some
18 sort of enhancement action. We changed the working to
19 that Nushagak moose enhancement project to include all
20 of Bristol Bay. So we'd like to be part of that -- of
21 this proposal.

22
23 Thanks.

24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Frank.
26 Yeah.

27
28 One thing I learned from going to the
29 various board meetings, especially the State, is that
30 it's better to make more than one proposal instead of
31 lumping everything into one. If they don't like one
32 thing in that proposal, they throw it all out. So I
33 think we should stick with 9 and then -- B and C. And
34 then if you guys think we should do it also in E or
35 even D, we could make another proposal. But I know
36 that Kenny wasn't here, but the rest of you guys will
37 remember that two years ago we had a proposal to close
38 non-resident in 9E. But that -- we rejected it, but,
39 you know, it's something that we need to think about --
40 we could think about, but I want to focus right now on
41 B and C.

42
43 Any more comment.

44
45 MR. BUTLER: Through the Chair.

46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem.

48
49 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, I was just going to
50 recommend the same thing, to try to keep the subunits

1 as separate as possible. You know, when you start
2 lumping the different areas, it really is a large
3 geographic area with different issues I think even from
4 a local resource user point of view, so I'd strongly
5 recommend considering different areas in separate
6 proposals, even though it's more work.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you Lem.
9 Yeah.

10

11 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

14

15 MR. EDENSHAW: And just ask Laura, or
16 in your proposal, you know, you talk about 9B and C,
17 and those are -- the BLM lands are in there, and
18 there's -- and you can see where the boundaries and you
19 could just stipulate those outside of the boundaries,
20 you know, it would be just -- it may be -- I don't
21 know, from what you said, it may be a hassle to look at
22 those other units. The other BLM land is in Unit 17.
23 Because some of the BLM lands aren't going to be within
24 9C, and a small sliver is going to be up there by
25 Koliganek are going to be outside of it.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny, so did you
28 make a motion to -- for your seasons and close non-
29 resident?

30

31 MR. HEDLUND: No, I was making a
32 statement. But, yeah, I'll make a motion, that I'd
33 like to see us shorten the season back, both fall and
34 winter, two weeks. I think excluding the BLM lands.
35 That way we get away from 17. Well, just in -- pretty
36 much in 9B I guess is what it would be. I'm concerned
37 with 9B.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: To mirror the State
40 season?

41

42 MR. HEDLUND: Huh?

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Basically mirror the
45 State season?

46

47 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah. Go right along with
48 the State.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: In the fall and the

1 winter?
2
3 MR. HEDLUND: Fall and winter.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For the resident.
6
7 MR. HEDLUND: For residents.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And what about non-
10 resident?
11
12 MR. HEDLUND: I don't think non-
13 residents can hunt in the preserve, can they? Well, I
14 guess with the concession.
15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: There's a concession
17 there.
18
19 MR. HEDLUND: Okay. I'd like to see
20 the non-residents non-existent. That's what I --
21 that's my motion.
22
23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We have a
24 motion on the floor. Do we have a second.
25
26 MR. KOSBRUK: Second.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boris seconds. So
29 is there any more discussion, comment on this proposal.
30 Dan.
31
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Just to make sure I
33 understand. So you're speaking strictly to the Federal
34 preserve lands in Unit 9B?
35
36 MR. HEDLUND: And C.
37
38 MR. DUNAWAY: And C.
39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Also the Alagnak
41 wild river corridor which is under the same
42 jurisdiction.
43
44 MR. HEDLUND: Okay. Yeah.
45
46 MR. DUNAWAY: But not BLM lands?
47
48 MR. HEDLUND: Not BLM lands. That goes
49 into 17. See what I'm saying?
50

1 MR. DUNAWAY: But those BLM lands.....
2
3 MR. HEDLUND: I'm talking about 9.
4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: Right.
6
7 MR. HEDLUND: 9B and C. Not 17 BLM
8 lands. That's in a different unit.
9
10 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. But the BLM lands
11 that are in 9.....
12
13 MR. HEDLUND: 9B and C.
14
15 MR. DUNAWAY: B and C would be
16 included?
17
18 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.
19
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. I just -- I would
21 agree to that. So just all Federal lands within Unit
22 9C and B.
23
24 MR. HEDLUND: That probably makes it
25 easy. Yeah.
26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, yeah. Okay. Oh,
28 we see somebody getting concerned in the back, Mr.
29 Chair. Thank you.
30
31 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
32 away from microphone) is suggesting all 9C including
33 Becharof Refuge in 9C.
34
35 MR. DUNAWAY: Because we were talking
36 preserve lands for a while.
37
38 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's
39 (indiscernible, away from microphone).
40
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Let's not put that
42 part in, right. If you want to make another proposal.
43
44 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Okay. What was
45 that?
46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Becharof National
48 Wildlife Refuge is in some of 9C.
49
50 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Oh, they are?

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes. So maybe we
2 should not make that part of this proposal.
3
4 MR. HEDLUND: (Indiscernible, away from
5 microphone) Wildlife Refuge.
6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes.
8
9 MR. HEDLUND: Excluding that.
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Excluding that.
12
13 MR. HEDLUND: Okay.
14
15 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I wish there was
18 more local people here, because that's Big Creek, and I
19 know there's local people that do go up Big Creek, and
20 they have to compete against guides up there that fly
21 in up there, and go by boat and camp out, and they
22 would probably argue otherwise, it should be.
23
24 MS. MORRIS LYON: Maybe we should make
25 a separate (indiscernible, microphone not on).
26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Okay. Let's
28 not talk about that right now. We need to finish up
29 the business at hand.
30
31 Laura.
32
33 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah. Laura
34 Greffenius. I just need clarification on the motion,
35 and also just to -- the topic came up about, you know,
36 this applying to non-residents. Just to make it clear
37 that the proposals you're doing now are just for
38 Federally-qualified subsistence users, and so the non-
39 residents isn't an issue right now, because we're not
40 dealing with any Board of Game proposals. So right now
41 we're just dealing with the Federally-qualified
42 subsistence users hunting on Federal public lands in
43 what I understood was 9B, you want to mirror the State
44 season, and so making it September 1 to September 15th,
45 and making it December 15th to January 15th for 9B, is
46 that correct?
47
48 (No audible answer)
49
50 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay. For 9C I wasn't

1 quite clear. Do you want to do that separately, or is
2 that also part of this motion?

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 9C is part of it.

5

6 MS. GREFFENIUS: 9C is part of it.

7 Okay. Then I would need to know.....

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Excluding Becharof.

10

11 MS. GREFFENIUS: Excluding the
12 Becharof. But as far as the dates, because there are
13 different dates. Right now the dates in 9C for that
14 portion draining into the Naknek River from the north,
15 is December 1 to December 31st, so were you looking to
16 change that one?

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think.....

19

20 MS. GREFFENIUS: Or to keep it the
21 same, because we were going to mirror.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think that's what
24 the State regulation also.

25

26 MS. GREFFENIUS: So we were looking to
27 keep the dates in 9C the same.

28

29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Basically the same
30 as the State.

31

32 MS. GREFFENIUS: Right. And the
33 State's season for the fall is September 1 to September
34 15th. So I'm not sure what you're looking for for a
35 change in 9C. Because right now they are the same.

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Except for the fall
38 season.

39

40 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay. I'm looking at
41 September 1 to September 15th. We're talking about
42 that portion draining into Naknek River from the north.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: On, I'm looking at
45 the wrong part. Yes, it would be the same. Right now
46 it is the.....

47

48 MS. GREFFENIUS: We're not talking
49 about that portion draining into the Naknek River from
50 the south, because we're not including the Becharof, so

1 we're looking at the portion draining into Naknek River
2 from the north, and right now they're both the same.
3 So was there a change we wanted to make to that, or are
4 we just really dealing with 9B?

5
6 MR. HEDLUND: (Indiscernible,
7 microphone not on).

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, leave it. I
10 think it's.....

11
12 MS. GREFFENIUS: So that one we leave.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ:already the
15 same.

16
17 MS. GREFFENIUS: So we're really just
18 dealing with 9B. Yeah. So this proposal is just for
19 9B then, just to make sure that we're clear on it.

20
21 MR. HEDLUND: So that's pretty much all
22 (indiscernible, microphone not on) is 9B.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: If it's the same
25 already for.....

26
27 MR. HEDLUND: 9C.

28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, 9C. So it
30 wouldn't change it any.

31
32 Troy.

33
34 MR. HAMON: Yeah. Just for the
35 record, this is Troy Hamon with the National Park
36 Service.

37
38 Under Unit 9 moose in the Federal
39 booklet, there's that portion draining into the Naknek
40 River from the north. The Federal lands that you see
41 on your map from Page 53 -- 51, sorry, that drain into
42 the Naknek River from the north are limited to one tiny
43 corner of BLM land. The portion draining into the
44 Naknek River from the south would include the Becharof.
45 And the preserve would be 9C remainder. So if you're
46 actually trying to figure out where the preserve is on
47 here, it's under 9C remainder. I'm not sure that I
48 know the boundary of the south end of 9C well enough to
49 be sure that everything south of the Naknek River in 9C
50 drains into the Naknek River. But to my knowledge, it

1 -- to my knowledge, 9C remainder basically gets you out
2 of the Naknek River to the north only, which would
3 include the preserve and the Alagnak.

4

5 MR. DUNAWAY: And we did want just
6 preserve lands I think. (Indiscernible, microphone not
7 on)

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That was our intent.

10

11

12 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah, it was.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a question.
15 I don't know who can answer this. Ralph, maybe. Does
16 this -- is the concessionaire in the preserve, is he
17 under the State law regulations or Federal regulations,
18 his hunt, being able to hunt moose or caribou? Would
19 we have to make another proposal to that, or.....

20

21 MR. HAMON: Mr. Council. Members --
22 Mr. Chairman and members of the Council. This is Troy
23 Hamon with the National Park Service.

24

25 The concessionaire in the national park
26 lands is authorized to operate as a commercial entity
27 by the Park Service, but he's required for all of his
28 clients to be conducting their hunting activities under
29 the State regulation. So any change to the actual
30 hunting would be -- that he conducts would be something
31 that would be done through the State regulation. The
32 exception to that is actions that were taken on the
33 basis of a biological need to close Federal lands to
34 non-Federally-qualified users would effectively close
35 that State season, which would also eliminate their
36 ability to conduct hunting with clients.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we could take --
39 we could make a proposal to close Federal land to non-
40 qualified users in this area. That proposal, that
41 could be a different proposal.

42

43 MR. HAMON: And just the ability of the
44 -- you can certainly make those sorts of proposals.
45 Our ability to support a proposal like that is limited
46 to the existence of biological data that supports a
47 biological problem, which we haven't seen so far. So
48 at least based on current data, we wouldn't be able to
49 support the proposal. That doesn't tell us what the
50 data is going to look like this winter, but.....

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Can you give
2 me an example of what kind of biological data you'd
3 need?

4
5 MR. HAMON: I think we would be working
6 with the State on the same moose trend surveys that
7 we've helped, and they've done most of those surveys
8 for years, and the populations that we've been tracking
9 have been relatively stable. And as long as that's the
10 case, we probably don't have a case for a biological
11 problem that could be addressed by that.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, let's finish
14 up our proposal. Laura, was there any more question on
15 that, the writing of the proposal that we have before
16 us?

17
18 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah. Let's just
19 recapture what the motion is so that I -- we can make
20 sure that we've got it clear what you wanted.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay.

23
24 MS. GREFFENIUS: Because I've got what
25 I understand it to be, but I just want to make sure
26 that that's the same as what you're wanting.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We would shorten the
29 fall season up from -- to September 1st to September
30 15th. And this is 9B. And shorten the season in the
31 winter to December 15th and January 15th. And this
32 would be the same as the State currently is. 9C would
33 -- it wouldn't change.

34
35 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: No, it wouldn't
36 change.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And that's it then.
39 This -- I think the 9C portion draining into the Naknek
40 River from the north, this Federal season is the same
41 as the State season is right now, so it wouldn't change
42 that. So all the motion was is just the 9B season.

43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Between my geography and
49 not having the State book, but does that address
50 anything -- or can we address anything in -- this 9C

1 remainder, the winter moose season there is December
2 15th to January 15th in the Federal book. And then in
3 9C from the north, or draining north, from the north
4 into Naknek is December 1 to 31. So are we also
5 addressing Unit 9C remainder, which I understood to
6 probably include the Katmai Preserve? I'm getting kind
7 of lost frankly, but there's two different parts of 9C,
8 occur under two different, slightly different length
9 seasons. I don't want to neglect a piece that we're
10 trying to get. So I was wondering if Lem.....

11

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem.

12

13
14 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
15 Council. My name is Lem Butler for the record.

16

17 Remainder is going to be the Alagnak
18 River drainage, which is going to include the Katmai
19 National Preserve, since that's also part of that
20 drainage. The other two sections refer to the area
21 north of the Naknek River versus south of the Naknek
22 River, and the drainages associated.

23

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you.

24

25
26 MR. HEDLUND: We wanted to include that
27 Alagnak special harvest area -- or that wild and scenic
28 river.

29

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Wild river, yeah.

30

MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.

31

32
33 MR. DUNAWAY: (Indiscernible,
34 microphone not on)

35

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, it wouldn't
38 change the 9C, just the 9B date. That's the only thing
39 our proposal does.

40

41 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah, my understanding
42 is that the 9B, you're looking to mirror the State
43 season, so essentially you're opting to voluntarily cut
44 your subsistence season by a portion of two weeks in
45 the beginning, or 10 days approximately, and a period
46 at the end. So you're matching the State seasons for
47 9B.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, but, you know,
50 then I would -- I'd consider doing this as half of what

1 I want to do, what I would like to see being done,
2 besides eliminating the non-residents, but how do.....

3

4 MR. HEDLUND: I guess that should be
5 another motion.

6

7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, but it sounds
8 like we can't do it. They won't recommend it, because
9 they don't see a problem.

10

11 MR. HEDLUND: (Indiscernible,
12 microphone not on)

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I think we need to
15 make another motion for that so it will come back up at
16 the next meeting.

17

18 But let's finish this. Is there any
19 more comment on this one, to shorten the season in 9B,
20 fall and winter.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, I'd
25 call for the question now. Okay. All in favor of the
26 proposal signify by saying aye.

27

28 IN UNISON: Aye.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

31

32 (No opposing votes)

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carries.

35 Okay.

36

37 I feel that we need to do something
38 about the non-residents. That's -- you know, by
39 shortening our subsistence season, it's not going to
40 over well with the locals if they don't see the non-
41 residents having to bear part of the burden, too, you
42 know. And I think we need to make a motion to -- that
43 there'll be no non-Federally-qualified hunting on
44 Federal lands in this same area.

45

46 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

49

50 MR. EDENSHAW: That would be to close

1 Federal lands to non-subsistence users for the harvest
2 of moose in Unit 9B.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And C.

5

6 MR. EDENSHAW: And C.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: This same area. It
9 would be excluding Becharof National Wildlife Refuge
10 unless they wanted to make another one or add it into
11 it.

12

13 MR. HEDLUND: How about if we put
14 national -- Lake Clark National Park on (indiscernible,
15 microphone not on) those are managed (indiscernible)
16 Katmai National (indiscernible). Plus BLM lands in B
17 and C.

18

19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I think that
20 would be.....

21

22 MR. HEDLUND: That would take care of
23 it. (Indiscernible, microphone not on) non-resident.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: To non-Federally-
26 qualified users. That's the way it has to read. I
27 support that. Do we have a second.

28

29 MR. DUNAWAY: I'll second it.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We have a
32 second. Any more question on that, comment.

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in
37 favor signify by saying aye.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

42

43 (No opposing votes)

44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Motion
46 carried, 5 to 0.

47

48 Laura.

49

50 MS. GREFFENIUS: Just to clarify this

1 one. So it's 9B and C, so you're looking at non-
2 Federally-qualified subsistence users cannot hunt on
3 Federal public lands, including Lake Clark National
4 Preserve, Katmai National Preserve and BLM lands for 9B
5 and C for moose during the already established seasons.
6 We're looking at any season date changes, but just the
7 closure of the preserve areas and BLM. That was what
8 you just -- I was just restating what it is that you
9 just passed to make sure I understood it correctly.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, in 9B and C.
12 BLM.....

13

14 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay. Excluding
15 Becharof.

16

17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Excluding, yes.

18

19 MS. GREFFENIUS: Okay.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That takes
22 care of that.

23

24 I've got a question. Lem do you know
25 what the harvest was up in Big Creek, up in the
26 Federal, up in the Becharof this year? Was there any?

27

28 MR. BUTLER: I'll turn that over to the
29 Federal refuge which has the permits for that are.
30 Daryle.

31

32 MR. LONS: For the record, Daryle Lons,
33 refuge manager, Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge.

34

35 We issued 9 subsistence permits for Big
36 Creek this fall, and the reports go back to the OSM
37 office in Anchorage. And I'm not sure officially if
38 there were any reported harvest, but we did not hear of
39 any harvest, you know, just through local information.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Was there any
42 commercial harvest up there?

43

44 MR. LONS: I'm not aware of any right
45 now in the Big Creek. There was one by Joe Klutsch at
46 (indiscernible, away from microphone).

47

48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. All right.
49 Thank you. I just was wondering if we needed to make a
50 proposal for there, and I don't hear much -- anybody

1 jumping forward to do that.

2

3 I think I'd like to call Allen Aspelund
4 to testify. He had -- yesterday he had a moose
5 proposal that he wanted us to consider.

6

7 MR. ASPELUND: Mr. Chairman. Council
8 members. For the record my name is Allen Aspelund, Sr.
9 And I'm with the Bristol Bay Elders Action Group here
10 in Naknek.

11

12 And what I wanted to do after the
13 discussion yesterday, I have sort of a framework
14 guideline proposal I'd like to read to you and see if
15 you guys can adopt the concept or at least give you
16 discussion.

17

18 And it states, as a Federally-
19 recognized tax code 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
20 representing elders who are Federally-qualified to hunt
21 in Federal lands, Units 9C and 9E, may designate
22 another Federally-qualified subsistence user of Units
23 9C and 9E to harvest up to allowable take of moose on
24 its behalf.

25

26 And I have just a suggestion for
27 discussion that if you recall in reference like
28 yesterday I was using sort of a quota sort of scenario.
29 And mine now is -- naturally my theory is if you don't
30 ask for nothing, you'll get nothing. So the idea is --
31 I toned down from yesterday I believe. And I am
32 suggesting like one moose per 25 recipients or persons,
33 two moose per 50 persons as recipients. And that's
34 just a suggestion of how you can maybe want a framework
35 to take.

36

37 But that is -- and along with that,
38 just another suggestion, early I mentioned, like
39 referenced yesterday, earlier harvest. And the idea, I
40 was looking at September 1st was the basic start of the
41 moose season, but it was mentioned by I believe the
42 gentleman to my left here yesterday, that the Federal
43 lands should start earlier, so I guess I would --
44 otherwise I was recommending you give us a five-day
45 start from the general hunting regu -- you know,
46 opening periods. But with that I'll just -- I'm just
47 suggesting this. Just leaning on you guys' good wisdom
48 to through discussion at least come up with something,
49 hoping you can help us as the elders of this community
50 or the communities with 9C and 9E.

1 So with that, that's my presentation.

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Allen. Were
4 you considering or would you like to see -- you're
5 asking that you be able to hunt earlier, or you're
6 asking for a proxy hunt to be able to take moose
7 earlier?

8

9 MR. ASPELUND: Basically what this is,
10 ourself, naturally, the elder group, it would be as I
11 outlined, may designate another qualified subsistence
12 user, you know, that hunts here, to hunt by proxy for
13 us with a special permit, if this so be. So that --
14 and the reason for that, I'm using the basic guideline
15 as a recognized organization, because if you adopt
16 this, I believe the Board would look in generality, and
17 we might have some areas where all of a sudden a
18 family, a large family, or maybe a few get together and
19 said, oh, we're going out and hunt for the elders,
20 because, you know, they got pinched. But here if you
21 have a record where like ourselves, we are recognized,
22 Federally recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
23 organization. It justifies them. So there's no
24 loopholes. I'm trying to bring it down where from the
25 sincere heart, we're looking out for the elders.
26 Hoping this would be a guideline that they would -- if
27 they do adopt. And so it would be there in these other
28 villages also.

29

30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you.

31

32 And I guess I've got a question for
33 Staff now. Do we have a proxy hunt available now?

34

35 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, don't say
36 proxy.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What do we have to
39 say?

40

41 MR. EDENSHAW: Designated hunter. The
42 State says proxy, we say designated hunter.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Oh, I'm sorry.

45

46 MR. EDENSHAW: If you look on Page 18
47 of our hunting regulations, it gives a description
48 there for a designated hunter in Units 1 through 8, 9D,
49 10 through 16 and 18 through 26. If you are a
50 Federally-qualified subsistence user, recipient they

1 put in parenthesis, you may designate another
2 Federally-qualified subsistence user to take deer,
3 moose, caribou on your behalf. Designated hunters may
4 hunt for any number of recipients, but have no more
5 than two harvest limits in possession at any one time
6 except where specified under unit specific provisions,
7 et cetera, et cetera.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So, Allen, this is
10 in place now.

11

12 MR. EDENSHAW: No.

13

14 MR. ASPELUND: No, I'm asking for a
15 special permit in reference to -- yeah, I believe now
16 you do have maybe there's community or village harvest
17 for potlatches or funerals or whatever. And this is a
18 similarity. It's a specific.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So you're
21 asking -- you would say any time of the year?

22

23 MR. ASPELUND: No, within your seasons,
24 naturally. The hunting would be done within your
25 seasons, other than I was recommending maybe you'd give
26 us our designated hunter the chance to get out there
27 five days earlier than the general hunt so we have
28 maybe a good chance of at least, you know, having a
29 take.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So basically
32 the only thing it would be changing is you're asking
33 that your designated hunter would be able to go out
34 there five days earlier. Otherwise, if you didn't ask
35 for that five days earlier, you wouldn't need this
36 proposal.

37

38 MR. ASPELUND: No, I need this proposal
39 because you're allowing us going a specific -- it's a
40 special hunt. For instance, like I said, for the
41 elders. That's specifically what we're doing with it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's the
44 whole -- the proposal would have to say five days
45 earlier, otherwise if it was the same season, you
46 wouldn't need a special permit, you could just go out
47 and get one, get a -- send your designated hunter out
48 there during the regular season, but if you want to --
49 if you're saying you wanted to be able to go out there
50 five days earlier, so your proposal or our proposal

1 would say that five days earlier allow for a special
2 season for the elders?

3

4 MR. ASPELUND: No, I guess maybe we're
5 not in synch. What I'm trying to do is being
6 recognized as a special permit, for instance, that's
7 allowed now to I believe the potlatches and maybe Cliff
8 can help us on this.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny.

11

12 MR. HEDLUND: It sounds like the only
13 (indiscernible, microphone not on).

14

15 MR. ASPELUND: 9C and 9E, right. And I
16 was basically looking at the -- it's the Becharof
17 Refuge in a sense that is basically the hunting area
18 I'm looking at.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So what
21 you're asking for the C and B?

22

23 MR. ASPELUND: It would be C and E.

24

25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: C and E be the same
26 thing as where they're allowed to have a harvest for
27 ceremonial purposes up in.....

28

29 MR. ASPELUND: I guess this is where
30 they're allowing it. I don't know. Maybe it's within
31 the -- I don't know whose framework. If it's your
32 people, the Federal, or the State allowing it, but I've
33 been told there is a ceremonial privilege, or whatever.
34 I mean, yes, I'm trying just for record get on so we're
35 allowed then as a recognized group, we'll have the same
36 privilege so that if somebody goes out as a designated
37 hunter for us, he might tell you that, but he might not
38 be. He might be a poacher, so the idea is, if we get a
39 special permit from say the Becharof Refuge and
40 designating that individual as our specific hunter,
41 that way they have a record of it so we've got no
42 poachers.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Is -- what that
45 allowed now? Lem?

46

47 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Just listening
48 in from the side, right now my understanding is
49 Federally-qualified subsistence users can designate a
50 hunter to hunt for them. If you add 9C and E to the

1 designated -- the group eligible for designated
2 hunters, I think that would address a lot of these
3 concerns. Under that program, a person can designate a
4 hunter, and then that same hunter can go and work for
5 another elder as a designated hunter. I don't think
6 there's a limit that way. They can only have two
7 animals in possession. But I think that's one of the
8 key things that Allen is asking you to do here, is just
9 add C and E to the designated hunter program so that's
10 an option for elders.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. And then
13 you're asking for this -- them to be able to do it five
14 days earlier, too, right?

15
16 MR. ASPELUND: Again, I'm -- for
17 instance, I'm going to use just to reference, I am an
18 elder. I'm not asking for an individual hunt for
19 myself or -- I'm looking more for the group. Our
20 organization is actually -- what we're doing as a
21 nonprofit, helping our elders. For instance, the idea
22 of allowing us one or luckily, hoping two moose, we
23 divide it up sharingly, we'd pass it on to our elders.
24 That's what I want. It's sort of like this potlatch.
25 You bring it to the -- you get this one moose
26 privilege, you bring it to the community, and 200 of
27 you eat it up. It's the same basic scenario there is
28 we get this moose, that's why I used that one per 25,
29 you know, because some of our bordering village, for
30 instance South Naknek, now I would assume that there
31 are about 25, here we are probably more, and you've got
32 King Salmon, and we do have them out at Igiugig
33 bordering the Becharof, and further on down to wherever
34 it takes us. So this is the idea. I guess I'm trying
35 to get where there is a special, where -- right now as
36 an elder, I can go ahead and get my own permit,
37 because, you know, I'd go hunt. But the idea is we're
38 trying to designate a designated hunt to hunt for our
39 group, where we would be sharing this.

40
41 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

44
45 MR. EDENSHAW: Do address Allen's
46 proposal or his language that he read to the Council
47 and just to verify what Lem said, he is asking for a
48 designated hunter. There is no designated hunter in
49 Units 9A, B, C, or -- where was I -- but for practical
50 purposes, for consistency, if he wants a designated

1 hunter, just say for all of Unit 9, and then that could
2 be modified. Because if you're going to do a
3 designated hunter for 9B or 9C, you know, the Board and
4 the Staff analysis, they would ask, well, what about
5 the other units. You know, you may as well do Unit 17,
6 too, because that's within the Bristol Bay, if you're
7 going to address the designated hunter.

8
9 And on Page 21, if you go into harvest
10 of wildlife for funerary and mortuary ceremonies, this
11 says you may take wildlife outside of the established
12 season or harvest limits for food in traditional
13 villages ceremonies that are part of a funerary or
14 mortuary cycle. So we do have provisions for that.

15
16 But what Allen read in his language
17 doesn't cover that. And I think what Allen would -- is
18 if the Council submits a designated hunter proposal,
19 every one of those individuals who are a part of the
20 elders coalition here in town could have anyone, as
21 long as they're a Federally-qualified user, go out and
22 hunt or any one of those.

23
24 But I'm sure there would be questions
25 regarding households, you know, because you have these
26 120 -- let's just say there's 125 elders that belong to
27 this elders coalition, when they go back home, they may
28 have, you know, sons or daughters or in-laws, you know,
29 sons in laws or whomever who reside in the household.
30 So those questions would come out of the proposal with
31 the designated hunter.

32
33 But, you know, the question would be
34 where are those moose going to be taken, is there --
35 does everyone live in that house over there that you
36 pointed to the other day. Then if so, then Randy and
37 Dan or Boris or me, if I was living here, we would be
38 able to go out there and hunt. It's just that we
39 couldn't have no more than two harvest limits with us.

40
41 MR. ASPELUND: I guess maybe I --
42 maybe, you know, as you get as old as me, things don't
43 sink in, but I guess I have a specific target in mind,
44 and I'm looking out for our elder group. We have X
45 amount of people are at that certain age that belong to
46 our group, see. And that's how we recognize. And
47 these are basically people right now in our group is
48 out of the -- the elders out of our three communities.
49 And all I was wanting was a special harvest permit to
50 allow us to have the taking of one or hopefully two

1 moose for that group. You have to trust our honesty
2 that we would go ahead and share that to just our
3 group, not these household, older people in our town or
4 whatever. They have to belong to our group. I mean,
5 we understand them, recognize them, so it isn't
6 somebody that comes to this town and -- but he lives in
7 another town. He's not going to get no part of that.
8 It's sort of domiciling that I'm referring to of our
9 three communities. That is our group in our three
10 communities. I wasn't talking about Bristol Bay or
11 anything. I'm kind of -- in a scenario like a memorial
12 one or whatever you just read to now, it's like, you
13 know, we're here, and all we want is that little --
14 that helping end of it, because what happened in the
15 past, I would be -- and I'm thankful for the past, we
16 had the Department of Fish and Game pass on some meat.
17 Sometimes it's not in their fault, but it's right
18 around the airplane, or a swamp, or drug for three or
19 four days, and then we get that meat, and it's not
20 usable. We would like to go out and specifically
21 designate a hunter that's going to hunt for our group,
22 and then we will take that meat and we will go ahead
23 and process it in and pass it on to our elder group.

24

25 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

28

29 MR. EDENSHAW: So just pegging back on
30 that, then it would be -- from what Allen read, it
31 would just be a proposal for a designated hunter for
32 Unit 9, you could stipulate 9B and C or 9C, and then as
33 far as -- he said also to -- for example, in 9B, the
34 current season under our regs, which goes through June
35 30th, 2008, is from August 20th through September 15th,
36 at least for the fall season, so he's also asking that
37 the season be opened August 15th, so that would be a
38 change in the season dates, and then a designated
39 hunter. Because I believe the designated hunter would
40 more than take care of the needs for the elders within
41 that organization where, you know, they can go out
42 there and do that.

43

44 MR. HAMON: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Troy, go ahead.

47

48 MR. HAMON: Yeah, just one thing. The
49 -- whether it's something that you want to pay
50 attention to as you work through this, the provisions

1 on Page 18 are general provisions, and those general
2 provisions include provisions for designated hunters in
3 certain units. But on Page 52 there are provisions in
4 9C and 9E and 9D which are slightly different from each
5 other for designated hunters for caribou. So right now
6 it's a special provision limited to caribou, but it's
7 not the first time that this has come up in this
8 region. And it might be worth considering whether this
9 can be simplified if your going to weigh into that.

10

That's it. Thank you.

11

12

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

13

14

MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Mr.

15

16

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Yesterday I thought I heard you say in
your testimony that the members of your group have
access, too, but have chosen not to use, I believe you
said proxy hunting with the State. Is that correct?

MR. ASPELUND: Not in reference to the
group. I was doing it in reference to ourself as a
senior. Because I went through that cycle myself of
saying -- where I tried to -- this thing you can just,
you know, appoint somebody to go do it for you, but you
have to go -- within the State guidelines with Fish and
Game, you have to go in before them and sign your
signature. You know, it's almost like notarizing. And
so our elder people, it isn't worth for that, just for
-- you know, it's sort of a nuisance thing, especially
if you don't understand it. More paperwork. That's
the least that we need is more paperwork.

So this -- I guess I don't know.

First, what are you trying to target at when you ask
that question. Maybe that should be my question to
you. What draw you for that question to?

MR. DUNAWAY: Well, it sounded to me
like an opportunity that's readily available now to
you, but it's by choice or for some reason not using
it, and to me, when I heard a name like of a group like
action group, I hear things like that with voting where
there's people go out and provide rides to the polls to
-- they facilitate exercising available options rather
than try to open a new option. And that's -- so like
why not -- I can -- in my own mind I can see providing
-- if there's not an option for a designated hunter

1 under Federal subsistence.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Allen, can you back
4 up a little bit from the mic?

5

6 MR. ASPELUND: Oh, sorry.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: I can certainly readily
9 see the -- it might be nice, or it probably would be
10 nice to provide more opportunity in the form of
11 designated hunters in more portions of Unit 9 to
12 individuals and have an elders action group could
13 facilitate the paperwork, State or Federal, and you
14 would not be limited to one or two moose for a group,
15 but you'd be -- if you got a good designated hunter,
16 every individual could get a moose, and then that group
17 could choose to distribute it however they want. But
18 to provide a single hunt opportunity for a single
19 group, well, who's going to be the next group that
20 wants a special hunt? Yet ignore some opportunities
21 that exist there now. It's my inclination would be,
22 yes, definitely let's make a proposal to allow
23 designated moose hunting, and possibly even open it to
24 a discussion of unifying or -- all of these designated
25 hunter options within Unit 9, but not necessarily name
26 an individual group. Then your group could chose to
27 provide the car, find a lawyer, find an individual who
28 can run folks around and get all of this bothersome
29 paperwork. Have somebody help with that part, and use
30 the opportunities that exist.

31

32 It's just my thought. Mr. Chair.

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Dan.

36

37 Yeah, Allen, I support that, but I find
38 a question having a specific group when, you know, you
39 can have a designated hunter already go out and get you
40 a moose. And if you want to be able to do that a
41 little bit earlier, you know, that's -- that could be a
42 proposal. But like Dan says, it seems to me that what
43 you're asking for is 1 for 25. If you just had the
44 designated hunter yourself and all the 24 people, you
45 can have a lot more moose. I don't see the purpose
46 except for if wanted it a little bit earlier, five days
47 earlier, so that you'd have more chance.

48

49 Do you guys -- Nanci, do you understand
50 or see what I'm.....

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I see what
2 Allen is trying to do, and I see the benefits to the
3 elders and I'd like to jump on that bandwagon very
4 readily, because I think it would be a great tool for
5 the elders to be able to use.

6
7 However, I think that my other
8 colleagues here on the Board bring up a point that we
9 all need to consider very carefully about the door that
10 it's going to open for pretty much any nonprofit
11 501(c)(3) group to be able to do the same, where it's
12 going to be tough for us to be able to target the group
13 of yours that we really want to without opening it wide
14 open for other user groups to abuse also.

15
16 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

19
20 MR. EDENSHAW: The point that Dan
21 brings up with, you know, there's already opportunity
22 on the State side, it's no different than when they
23 come to us and say that we need to align with State
24 regulations. You know, we could sit there and say
25 we're doing the same thing with the designated hunter
26 provision. There may be proxy hunt already available
27 in 9C on State lands here in this unit. It's no
28 different than, you know, what Mr. Aspelund is saying,
29 that we're going to go ahead and -- you know, he asked
30 him, you know, the opportunities there, why doesn't he
31 go out there and do it. It's choice. And the same
32 could be said for him coming to the Council and saying,
33 we want to align the State regulations, because there's
34 less paperwork and hassle on the Federal side to go out
35 and get a permit and tell someone who has a hunting
36 license and go out and harvest us some moose if you
37 can.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

40
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. And all that
42 being said though, I think that if nothing else, Mr.
43 Aspelund, you brought a very important point to our
44 attention, that we do not have the ability in this area
45 to do that, and I think that that's remiss on our part,
46 and that we should take a serious look at implementing
47 that for the area.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Frank.

50

1 MR. WOODS: Yeah. I'd like to thank
2 you for bringing that to our attention.

3
4 Speaking on behalf of the elders, my
5 grandmother has the same concern as you, that she is in
6 her 80s and she does not want to go down to the Fish
7 and Game office, fill out another form, show her
8 permanent hunting license in order to proxy -- for me
9 to proxy hunt for her, because it's too much of a
10 hassle. And there.....

11
12 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Designated hunter.

13
14 MR. WOODS: Designated hunter. And
15 you're right, we don't have an infrastructure in place
16 to take care of -- we do have infrastructure to take
17 care of during the hunt times, and also traditional
18 potlatch and funeral services, and community get-
19 togethers. That might be an amendment at some point in
20 time to address elderly services and not open the door
21 for a 501(c) corporation, nonprofit, but elder
22 services, and/or senior citizens groups or centers.
23 Something to that effect for the elders. But, yeah, we
24 don't have that door. And I'd like to support you on
25 finding that door so it is limited to help where it
26 needs to be, not abused by -- because it opens a whole
27 different regulation policy book. But if you can think
28 about maybe changing the regs on the traditional
29 potlatch and funeral services, include elderly services
30 of some sort, that might be an option.

31
32 Thanks.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. You know, we
35 could propose it, but, you know, the -- I don't know
36 what the Federal Board would do, but I'll bet you they
37 would talk about this for half a day. It's a lot of
38 legal things, you know, implications, and that would
39 really take a long time.

40
41 Dan.

42
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I'm
44 kind of looking to any person in the audience could
45 speak. It sounds like the State proxy system might be
46 somewhat onerous. Is the Federal designated hunter
47 system any less onerous, or is it exactly the same?
48 Because I'm inclined to propose at least providing the
49 designated hunter opportunity throughout Unit 9, but I
50 kind of want to, at least as a step towards what Mr.

1 Aspelund wants, I'm kind of inclined for a special
2 group consideration to put that piece back to his group
3 to bring before the Board on their own, but it looks
4 like there's a couple people are moving to speak
5 towards my original question regarding how onerous is
6 the Federal designated hunter.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: George, you had a
9 comment.

10

11 MR. PAPPAS: Yeah. Mr. Chair. From a
12 state perspective, I have two pieces of information you
13 can consider. For a group special -- not hunts, but
14 for the fisheries, we have educational permits. And
15 there are no restrictions of which group can sign up.
16 My most recent position was in Cook Inlet. There was a
17 hockey team, emergency services, and an individual who
18 just did it on his own for his relatives, two tribal
19 councils. There are multiple -- anybody who wants to
20 apply for State regulations can get an educational
21 permit. They just have to meet pretty stringent
22 requirements about criteria, curriculum for testing,
23 writing a report afterwards. So that is something
24 that's growing as more people figure out in that area.

25

26 Now, this is a different situation.
27 There's a lot more people, you know, up in the Cook
28 Inlet than down here, but that's just a situation you
29 have to consider.

30

31 The second bit, I've personally filled
32 out hundreds of proxy permits for the Department of
33 Fish and Game. And I just talked to Lem over here.
34 For the elders, I mean, if the elders want him to come
35 down to their place to help fill out the paperwork,
36 he'll do it, he'll commit to that. If you're looking
37 for three or four or five proxies for 100, 200 people,
38 whatever is necessary, the paperwork is not as onerous.
39 I understand the elders do not want to -- it's almost
40 an invasion of privacy to some of the folks I've talked
41 to in their 90s. They don't want to show their
42 identification. They don't want to look at something,
43 a piece of paper they can't understand and sign it.
44 But the Department is committed to helping out anybody
45 who really wants to do that. And, sir, if -- you know,
46 Lem will personally come down and take care of the
47 paperwork to make it easy through the process on the
48 State end of it.

49

50 Now, I cannot speak for the designated

1 hunter part of it, but I personally have been through
2 hundreds of proxy permits in Cook Inlet. It's not
3 difficult. It's not as difficult as it seems as long
4 as you have someone on the State end of it to really
5 help out and go out of the way to make sure it takes
6 place correctly.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, George.
9 What's that?

10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: There is a question.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. Yeah.
14 Somebody can speak to the Federal side of that. Laura.

15
16 MS. GREFFENIUS: Yeah. Mr. Chair and
17 members of the Council. I'm just comparing in the
18 books here the sections under the proxy hunting
19 requirements and the designated hunter. So under the
20 proxy hunting, it's -- the reporting is the beneficiary
21 is the one who's obligated to complete the reporting.
22 And under the designated hunter, looking on Page 18 in
23 the Federal book, it's the designated hunter is the one
24 who is the -- who needs to complete the harvest report
25 and not the recipient. So there's a difference there.

26
27
28 And also just with the designated
29 hunter, with the Federal system, you just need to
30 remember that some of the seasons are longer for the
31 subsistence users, so the designated hunters would be
32 able -- as compared to the State seasons under the
33 proxy system, the designated hunters would be able to
34 hunt under the Federal seasons. And, for example, in
35 9C that area south of the Naknek River drainage, south
36 of the Naknek River, there's a certain period of time
37 in December, for example, where Federal public lands
38 are closed to non-Federally-qualified subsistence
39 users, or they're closed except to the rural Alaskans
40 who are residents of -- the people who live in 9A, B,
41 C, and E. And so that would be an example where
42 there's a season that's other than the State season
43 where the subsistence users would be able to hunt on
44 behalf of somebody else. So that was just an example.

45
46 Were there any other questions.

47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you. Mr. Chair. I
49 think that really clarified the separate processes to
50 me. And I want to commend the Department for

1 committing to facilitating issuing of their hunts under
2 their system. Thank you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So the way I
5 understand it is we would need to submit a proposal to
6 having designated hunter in C and E.

7

8 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: For all of 9.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: For all of 9. Okay.
11 Then, Nanci, you have the floor.

12

13 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah. I'd move to propose
14 that we would open all of Unit 9 and Unit 17 to the
15 ability under the rules as written in the general
16 provisions of the Federal harvest guidelines to
17 designated hunter capacity. Is that a good way to put
18 that?

19

20 MR. BOSKOFKY: Second.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seconded by Boris.
23 Any more question on this. Comment.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none, all in
28 favor signify by saying aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

33

34 (No opposing votes)

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried.

37

38 MR. ASPELUND: Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You're welcome,
41 Allen.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Hopefully that moves us a
44 step closer to your goal.

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. We didn't get
47 the earlier season, but we're shortening the seasons as
48 it is.

49

50 One comment I would like to make

1 concerning non-resident, those commercial harvests that
2 are taking place on Federal lands. I would like to see
3 -- you know, most of them, they go down or a week,
4 probably a week of hunting, and if they get a moose on
5 the first day or second day, that moose is laying there
6 all cut up in pieces for five or six days. By the time
7 it gets hauled back to King Salmon or Dillingham or
8 wherever, it's no good. You might as well through it
9 away. So maybe we -- you know, I would like to see a
10 proposal or something saying that they should get
11 checked on or something, that their meat should get
12 hauled out before, you know, while it's still good.
13 Otherwise it's just like wanton waste. If they're
14 leaving it there for five, six days in the rain and
15 bugs, it's just -- the meat is just going to waste, and
16 it's kind of like wanton waste, because I know most
17 people, when you go out hunting up the river or creeks
18 or wherever you're at, when we shoot a moose, you go
19 home. You don't wait around five days. And I know
20 it's -- they should -- we need some kind of system
21 where they need to be checked on so that at least haul
22 the meat out. Leave the hunter there if he wants to
23 stay there, you know.

24

25 Nanci.

26

27 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes, Randy, I'm in
28 agreement with you on that. I think that, you know, a
29 lot of the times when meat is spoiled it's due to, I
30 don't know, for lack of better terminology, laziness or
31 cheapness on the part of the hunters to be willing to
32 call in somebody to take it out. And I see no reason
33 why it would that much of an onerous thing. Nowadays
34 with the sat phones and the availability to them as
35 well to either have a hunter call in within 48 hours of
36 the time of his kill to bring meat in or to be checked
37 on an every other day type basis. I don't think that
38 that's asking too much either.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: And also I should
41 add that I would like to see the meat on the bone
42 regulation like it is in the State for 9B. And Federal
43 lands in 9B and C -- or all of 9 and 17, in our
44 recommendation area, you know, because like the
45 department's in favor of it, protection's in favor it,
46 because they can tell what's what, and when it's all
47 cut up in pieces in bags, they don't have any idea
48 what's what, and it's just -- a couple of years ago I
49 went to King Salmon to pick some up, because I didn't
50 get a moose, and I looked at it, and when it's like

1 that, cut in pieces and it was green where it come
2 together. And we need to pass some kind of regulation
3 so that, you know, if they're going to give it away, it
4 needs to be in good shape.

5

6 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

9

10 MR. EDENSHAW: Perhaps Daryle can
11 answer. At least for Unit 9, when Dom gave his report
12 about the harvest, and those were from air taxi
13 operators I assume. Is there a way, Daryle for the
14 refuge to ask them to put that on their permit, what
15 Randy's asking? If a moose is harvested that they
16 bring that meat in -- or, you know, some way -- some
17 how with the refuge or the operator to get that in?

18

19 MR. LONS: Yeah. For the record,
20 Daryle Lons, refuge manager, Alaska Peninsula and
21 Becharof Refuges.

22

23 That would be a consideration for the
24 air taxis to put a stipulation in there. Actually I
25 don't think it's as common of a practice as you might
26 believe that the meat isn't taken out fairly quickly.
27 It does happen, but routinely I know Branch River Air
28 and SeaAir and Mike McCrary and those guys, they use a
29 system that, you know, they're out there flying,
30 picking up other campers, and they put a tarp out if
31 they don't have a sat phone, and they do pick up meat
32 pretty routinely without leaving it out in the field.
33 But, you're right, it does happen, and there isn't any
34 regulation or rule to prevent that.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Would you
37 support that, a regulation?

38

39 MR. LONS: Well, I don't think it would
40 have to be a regulation. It would just be something
41 that we'd have to consider as a management action to
42 implement that in the special use permit. So we could
43 look at that. I'd like to talk to the air taxis to see
44 if that's, you know, a practical thing to do, because
45 every time they -- of they make a special trip and fly
46 out there, that's, you know, going to cost the hunter a
47 lot of money to make an extra trip. But it certainly
48 could be considered.

49

50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, you know, if

1 they're going to be giving the meat away, it should be
2 -- they should have to the -- nobody wants bad meat,
3 you know. Otherwise they can take that green stuff
4 home with them. Make it -- you know.

5

6 Nanci.

7

8 MS. MORRIS LYON: I think I already
9 know the answer to this question, but I mean, what are
10 the recommendations right now, too? I know a lot of
11 companies out of Anchorage rent out sat phones, and I
12 know from owning one myself that the calls are not that
13 expensive. Is that not becoming more and more of a
14 common practice?

15

16 MR. LONS: Oh, yes. Yeah, I'd say the
17 majority of the hunters out there now that are on the
18 refuge do have radio and sat phones and they are making
19 those calls.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm glad you
24 brought up the meat on the bone, because I do recall
25 there was a request for that. I want to verify that as
26 it is right now, we don't have meat on the bone
27 requirements in the Federal hunts, is that correct?

28

29 MR. LONS: That's correct. Again, I
30 think that would be a good idea. I'm not sure, we'd
31 have to talk to Cliff. Do we have that authority under
32 Federal regulations to require folks.....

33

34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: It's
35 (indiscernible, away from microphone)

36

37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What page is that?

38

39 MR. LONS: Page 53. All edible meat
40 from caribou and moose harvested in Unit 9B prior to
41 October 1 must remain on the bones of the front
42 quarters and hind quarters until the meat is removed
43 from the field or is processed for human consumption.
44 So I would support that, you know, in Units 9C and 9E
45 on refuge lands.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. When
48 this first popped up in Unit 17, I didn't really like
49 the idea, because once in a while I shot a caribou
50 quite a ways from the river and packed it. But I've

1 got to say it's been overall received really well in
2 the Nushagak, and it really hasn't been as much of a
3 problem for me as I expected. And I think meat
4 salvaged to give away ends up in better quality, and
5 the enforcement guys love it a lot more. And so --
6 especially I think when they modified it slightly on
7 what portions of the animals must be kept on the bone.
8 I think at one point there was the whole backbone had
9 to be salvaged, and I don't think that's the case any
10 more, but I'd sure support a motion to -- for all big
11 game, Federal hunts, require meat on the bone.

12

13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Let me listen
14 to Lem first, or let's listen to Lem first here.

15

16 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Lem
17 Butler with Fish and Game.

18

19 Just a reminder, the Federal Regs only
20 apply to Federally-qualified subsistence users, so this
21 wouldn't apply to non-Federally-qualified. Daryle
22 could stipulate that on a permit for refuge commercial
23 services. But that would effectively apply to 60
24 percent of the moose taken by guides and air charters.

25

26 When I brought this up earlier in the
27 meeting, what I was really recommended is something for
28 this Council to throw at the Board of Game so that it
29 would apply to all -- and again I'd encourage you to
30 pass this one on the Federal reg side as well, but I
31 just want to make sure that that's really clear, that
32 the way to do this on the -- for the non-locals is to
33 do it through the Board of Game process. And I would
34 definitely support that proposal.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we could only
37 make a proposal for the Federally-qualified users. It
38 would have to go through the Board of Game to affect to
39 the non-qualified users. Right?

40

41 MR. BUTLER: Right.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair.

44

45 MR. LONS: Yeah, that's why I was
46 asking earlier if we had that authority (indiscernible,
47 away from microphone).

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

50

1 MR. BUTLER: Well, I mean, the State
2 regs -- again, if -- we said this several times during
3 the meeting. I'm a manager on Federal lands as well,
4 and the State regs apply to Federal lands. And there's
5 a dual jurisdiction issue right there. And again these
6 guys are working under the State regulations on Federal
7 lands, so.....

8
9 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair, getting that
10 clarified, I'm still inclined to support it, but only I
11 would want to look at folks like Mr. Hedlund and other
12 locals here, how onerous would that be for the
13 Federally-qualified hunters in this area. if it was --
14 over in the Dillingham area it was the local folks
15 wanted it, because that's the way they do it anyway,
16 but I'd hesitate if this was going to be a real snarl
17 for hunters up around other parts of the RAC area.

18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's the way we do
20 it anyway.

21
22 MR. HEDLUND: That's the way we do it.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've never done it
25 but like that.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Mr. Chair. If I
28 may, then I'd like to move to adopt -- or develop a
29 proposal requiring meat on the bone, retain meat on the
30 bone for harvested big game in Federal hunts that this
31 RAC area covers.

32
33 MS. MORRIS LYON: (Indiscernible,
34 microphone not on) 9 and 17.

35
36 MR. DUNAWAY: 9 and 17 I think. Yeah.

37
38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That was for
40 caribou, or do you want to just say all big game?

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: That would include bear
43 and wolf come to think of it, so let's keep it at
44 caribou and moose. I was wondering if sheep was thrown
45 in there, but I think.....

46
47 MR. BOSKOFKY: Just you guys are
48 making moose?

49
50 MR. DUNAWAY: No, I'm moving -- I'll

1 clarify it. I'm moving in Unit 9 and 17, Federally-
2 qualified hunts, harvested animals must be -- the meat
3 must be removed from the field with the meat on the
4 bone.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The four quarters as
7 it is in 9B?

8
9 MR. DUNAWAY: To reflect, yeah,
10 existing regulations in 9B.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do we have a second.

13
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Second.

15
16 MR. HEDLUND: I'll second it.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Nanci
19 seconded before you did. You're too far away.

20
21 Any more comment on this.

22
23 MS. MORRIS LYON: I would like to know
24 if he wants that to go to the Board of Game as well as
25 the Federal Subsistence Board.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair, I suppose.
28 Yeah, I'd be willing to -- even if it's a little bit
29 out of cycle to forward.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They might consider
32 it.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY:for eventual
35 conclusion, a request that the Board of Game do that as
36 well. And I see Lem coming forward again. Mr. Chair.

37
38
39 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. Members of the
40 Council. Lem Butler.

41
42 Probably the thing to do would be to
43 just have it submitted during the next Board cycle for
44 this area, so have it submitted in 2008, but I imagine
45 you can make that decision to have that submitted as a
46 proposal during the appropriate cycle now.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks, Lem.

49
50 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. In

1 that case maybe we just add it as an agenda item for
2 the next meeting for the RAC, at which time we could be
3 developing game proposals to forward to the State.
4 We've got to stay on this cycle, our cycle for our RAC
5 now.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Any more --
8 Cliff.

9
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. With regard
11 to the past motion from -- if you look on Page 20,
12 perhaps I'm a bit confused here now. Now, Dan's motion
13 was for meat on bone for caribou, moose.

14
15 MS. MORRIS LYON: And that's it,
16 specifically caribou and moose.

17
18 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. Good. Because on
19 Page 20 it stipulates that it's not included in the
20 definition there. Okay.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: As it is in B on
23 Page 53. Just put 17 and B there. It would be the
24 same regulation as in B right now.

25
26 Okay. Any more.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing no more
31 comments, all in favor signify by saying aye.

32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

36
37 (No opposing votes)

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion's carried 5
40 to 0.

41
42 Okay. So one more thing. Daryle, we
43 would like you to work on that with -- in your permit
44 that they need to.

45
46 MR. LONS: Within 48 hours?

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, that would be
49 good.

50

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Do you not think
2 that's reasonable?
3
4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, that meat
5 is still good, but if you start longer than 48 hours,
6 then your meat starts getting bad. It's just.....
7
8 MR. LONS: (Indiscernible, away from
9 microphone)
10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. Unavoidable
12 circumstances, I'm sure there's -- you know. But.....
13
14 MR. LONS: (Indiscernible, away from
15 microphone) that discussion.
16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks. And
18 I think that concludes that.
19
20 Cliff, go ahead.
21
22 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chairman. And,
23 Daryle, I'll go ahead when the Council -- when I
24 develop their annual report will include that in there,
25 if that's okay, just as a reminder so that when we meet
26 in the winter, they can -- you can report on that, or
27 Ron.
28
29 MR. LONS: Okay.
30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 15. Time, calendar.
32 One more? Nanci.
33
34 MS. MORRIS LYON: One more. We were
35 going to talk about the resolution to support the
36 partnership program. Or can we just say, Dan, could
37 you write a letter and email it to us?
38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, with BBNA?
40
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: Correct.
42
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah.
44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You are directed to
46 do that.
47
48 MR. DUNAWAY: Resolution to
49 support.....
50

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: The continuance of
2 the program, and the funding thereof by all the
3 entities involved.

4
5 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. I can do that.
6 Now, who was the one that -- was that -- oh, good.
7 That will be easy to do in Dillingham. I'm getting a
8 little blurry about some of what we did yesterday, I'm
9 sorry. It's turning a little longer than I thought.
10 But, yes, I'll be happy to work on that. Thank you.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Down to 15,
13 Cliff.

14
15 MR. EDENSHAW: That's on Page 106.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The last page?

18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Kenny, when are you
22 going to be able to -- you're going to be done hunting
23 when? We probably can't hunt -- I mean, we probably
24 can't meet -- we have hunting season until the 20th --
25 no, it's the 15th of September.

26
27 MR. HEDLUND: I'd say all of the month
28 of September I've probably (indiscernible, microphone
29 not on).

30
31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah. And trying to
32 get -- people are still taking care of meat yet, and
33 coming from -- and you start hunting bear on the 20th?

34
35 MR. HEDLUND: No, next year is no bear.
36 That's why I'm saying in September I'll be hunting
37 bears (indiscernible, microphone not on).

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You will be? So
40 when do you get done?

41
42 MR. HEDLUND: I'll be done
43 (indiscernible, microphone not on).

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So if we were to
46 have a meeting on the.....

47
48 MR. HEDLUND: In October sometime.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The 7th and 8th?

1 MR. HEDLUND: Yeah.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Would that be all
4 right, Cliff? That way you guys could travel on
5 Monday?
6
7 MR. EDENSHAW: October 7th and 8th
8 (indiscernible, away from microphone) earlier this
9 year, the Northwest meets on the 9th. Right now I'm
10 doing Northwest also.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we could have our
13 meeting on the.....
14
15 MR. EDENSHAW: (Indiscernible), away
16 from microphone) Kotzebue 6th and 7th rather than 7th
17 and 8th.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: 6th. Okay. If you
20 guys want to do that the same way we did this year,
21 start at 1:00 o'clock on the 6th? We just have to go
22 all day on -- you know, late on the 6th then. That's
23 kind of how it works out.
24
25 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, I know --
26 well, Pete's gone and Alvin, but some others were
27 asking about why the 1:00 o'clock. Maybe we could
28 start at 8:30 again if the others feels it's.....
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Well, that would
31 give the Staff -- they'd show up on Sunday then.
32
33 MR. EDENSHAW: Sunday afternoon. They
34 could fly -- I could fly Sunday afternoon.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You need to inform
37 us and give us our papers, that they need to be here
38 the whole time. Unless it's an emergency. You can go
39 to the bank or go to the clinic or whatever, I mean, if
40 you've got appointment, but they need to schedule
41 appointments the next day or something. But Dan had to
42 work, so, you know, that's different, but just go home
43 because you need to catch the flight to -- they need to
44 schedule their flights a little bit different to have
45 these meetings.
46
47 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. Well, Mr.
48 Chairman, I do up the -- we'll go ahead, and I'll put
49 down -- we're going to meet in Dillingham I think -- is
50 this the.....

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: No.
2
3 MR. EDENSHAW: No, this the fall.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It will be here in
6 the fall.
7
8 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. So it will be
9 fall. Okay. So then I'll put down the starting time,
10 we'll just start in the morning. We'll start at 8:30
11 or 9:00.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we'll have to
14 show up on the 5th.
15
16 MR. EDENSHAW: On Sunday afternoon,
17 yeah. Will that work for you, or else do you want to
18 do the afternoon?
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You know, that's a
21 year from now. How do I know what -- I might.....
22
23 MR. EDENSHAW: I know. I just know
24 from some of the reservations when I had to go through,
25 it would be easier just to go ahead and do them through
26 a Sunday versus trying to split them half days and
27 stuff.
28
29 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: If you get an
30 airplane, I'll just come down with him.
31
32 Okay. Is that it?
33
34 MR. EDENSHAW: That's it.
35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Then we're
37 adjourned.
38
39 (Off record)
40
41 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

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THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to the best of our knowledge and ability;

THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 10th day of October 2007.

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 03/12/08