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BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
February 16, 1995
Bristol Bay Borough Assembly Room
Naknek, Alaska

VOLUME II

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Daniel O'Hara, Chairman
- Robert Heyano, Vice Chairman
- Robert Christensen, Member
- Peter M. Abraham, Member
- Harold Robin Samuelsen, Jr., Member
- Timothy J. LaPorte, Member
- Helga Eakon, Coordinator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're back in session this morning,
4 Good morning. I guess we don't have any announcements to make
5 or anything so we'll continue on with #23. And panel members,
6 Dave is still with us, Fish & Wildlife, anymore questions of
7 him? If not, we were given somewhat of a document last night
8 by Dick Sellers and some of us wanted to look it over before
9 going on this morning. And did you want to have Sellers come
10 up and talk to us this morning or what's the next step here?

11

12 MS. EAKON: Are there extra copies, I have never seen
13 and we should have one for the record, too.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. For the purposes of the
16 record, we have Dick Sellers with Alaska Department of Fish &
17 Game this morning. And, Dick, you gave this document out to
18 the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee awhile back?

19

20 MR. SELLERS: Right. At that their last meeting and
21 also the Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee on about the 3rd
22 of February I think that meeting was.

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And would the committee members like
25 Dick to go through this with us and highlight some things;
26 would that be okay?

27

28 MR. FISHER: I think it would be -- can I just

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead, Dave.

31

32 MR. FISHER: I think it would be worthwhile. It's a
33 good document and gives us a good basis of understanding of
34 what's going on. Dick puts quite a bit of thought into this, I
35 think it would be worthwhile.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Okay, Dick, please.

38

39 MR. SELLERS: Well, unfortunately it is pretty lengthy
40 and I guess that's the peril you risk when we actually do have
41 some data to talk about. It's easier sometimes to talk about
42 population where we don't have any numbers at all. But, of
43 course, I think the management dilemma we faced the last few
44 years is kind of a mixed stock management here within 9(C)
45 where we have both, Mulchatna and Peninsula animals mixed
46 together during the winter. And I guess the other problem we
47 face is that it would be like to trying to manage a mixed stock
48 fishery where only half the boats report what they're catching.
49 Our harvest data is not real accurate. We've tried to

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calibrate it based on what we have from village surveys that the Subsistence Division has done in the past and then some questionnaires I did of hunters that were passing through King Salmon, I just discretely talked to them and in the process asked them if I could see their license and then recorded their harvest -- their caribou harvest ticket number and then without making a big deal of it so that they wouldn't be influenced to either return their tickets because they knew I checked them or assumed that since I checked them they didn't have to, I tried to keep it real subtle. And then when we got all our harvest tickets back, I went back to see how many of the people that I had talked to actually bothered to send in their harvest tickets. We did a real similar project up in Fairbanks and both of them came out that "sport hunters," basically non-local people reported about 60 percent of what they actually took compared to what we had validated from their interview there. So the bottom line is that probably last winter, the total harvest was probably somewhere around 2,600 caribou, about half of what -- actually over half of it took place during the winter time during the Naknek drainage. For those folks that don't live around here, it was pretty hectic to be on the trails and roads around here last winter, there were lots of hunters out, mainly from the urban areas.

24

25 That may have had some impact on the caribou herd, but of course, the key factor is we don't know what percentage of those animals were Mulchatna and what percentage was Peninsula animals. We don't have any way to sample carcasses like you might with fish to separate out which herd they belong to. But probably a pretty substantial number of the ones that were killed right here in the Naknek drainage were Mulchatna animals, there were so many around for almost all winter. I guess the other key point that we need to consider is that when you're managing caribou there are really only two factors that are going to determine whether that population is increasing or it's decreasing and that's basically what the adult female survival rate is and secondarily what the production is. How many calves are born and how many calves survive to reproductive age. And as we discussed with bears, the bull cow ratio really isn't very critical in terms of whether a population is going to increase or decrease. As long as you have sufficient bulls out there to do the breeding, bull cow ratio is not a key factor in whether or not a population is going to go up or down. The bull cow ratio has been in the 40's and that was our management objective. I think last year, because of all the winter harvest, and again, even the winter harvest is weighted towards bulls, although not nearly as heavily as the fall harvest, the bull cow ratio dropped from 44 down to 34 bulls per 100 cow, and that's still more than

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adequate. I think as long as we're above 20 bulls per 100 cows, we'll have a sufficient supply of bulls for breeding purposes.

4

5 I'm not sure how much more of this document we need to cover right now. It might be more productive to see if there are questions. I do go through the regulatory evolution last fall and I think a lot of you are aware that the first we knew of the decline -- or the first we could document it was when we counted the photos from the late June census. So by sometime in mid- to late July we had realized that the population had declined by 20 to 25 percent. And at that time we were faced with needing to make some management decisions on an emergency basis. And obviously our first concern was to try to afford maximum protection -- or protection to the cow segment and also to get the word out to hunters that we were in a serious, although not a panic situation and that we were going to be taking steps to reduce the harvest on this herd. The first thing we did was issue some news releases and got pretty good coverage in the Anchorage paper that the herd was down and that we were suggesting to hunters that they try to focus on Mulchatna herd. And that worked really well in August when the herd was accessible. But by September, though, the herd had gone way to the northwest of their normal range and it was pretty hard for hunters to get to them. During August we were considering options and early September, options for regulatory steps. And as I explained in this paper, we didn't have a lot of options. The State only has two types of seasons, they have a non-resident season and a resident season. And an emergency order situation we can't make allocated decisions and close only a non-resident season or even, you know, try to reduce non-local resident harvest. So we thought the most efficient way that we could handle the situation with an emergency order was to close a portion of the Naknek drainage starting October 1st. And we closed the -- just the southern southeastern part of the drainage, basically from Smelt Creek on up to the Katmai Park border. Again, starting October 1st, and we are -- our thinking was that in past years we've had quite a bit of hunting pressure in October with jet boats, in particular, going up Big Creek and Smelt Creek, both. And also later after freeze-up that there would be a lot of access to that area. And we told people that if that wasn't sufficient that there might be subsequent emergency closures on the north side of the river. And that action was, I guess, was received, I guess -- the best terms, it was a mixed reaction on that. The local advisory committee met in October and we had a really productive discussion about it and came up with the concept that if we reduced the winter bag limit that that would really discourage people coming out here on a winter hunt because

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they're primarily coming for meat, most of the antlers are gone by November, so they're coming out from Anchorage or Soldotna or wherever for a meat hunt. But we thought that if we had a one caribou per month bag limit that would discourage the amount of effort non-locals would put in, but it would allow locals to accumulate up to four caribou throughout the winter at a rate of one per month. So the local advisory committee suggested that in a petition to the Board of Game and they amended their agenda for November and accepted that change in bag limit in exchange for reopening the area that we had closed by emergency order.

12

13 So we're almost through the winter season, we got a month and a half to go and so far it looks like it's been very effective in reducing the harvest. Last year, there were reported 900 and some caribou killed in the Naknek drainage. The actual harvest was probably well over 1,000. And the total harvest -- reported harvest was 1,345. So far this year we've got a total reported harvest of 370. So you can see we went from 1,345 down to 370. Now we'll get some more harvest and we'll get some more reporting, but we're probably going to have a harvest of 500 to 600 it looks like. So we've more than -- cut the harvest by more than half from last year. And we're proposing basically the same system to the board for their spring meetings with a couple more minor changes. We're suggesting that the non-resident bag limit go to one bull, instead of one caribou, and also that the non-resident season end the end of October rather than extending all the way through March.

30

31 I guess we're -- you know, we're of the opinion that the harvest level, again, it's going to be probably 85 percent bulls. So far we've only had 36 cows reported -- killed. But I think those measures are going to be pretty effective. And, of course, the bottom line is going to hinge on what kind of spring survival we have of the cows and what kind of a calf crop we get this year. But we're not viewing this as a panic emergency, you know, a crises situation, it's serious and we're dealing with it. But we don't view it as something that we need to overreact to at this point.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is that it, Dick?

43

44 MR. SELLERS: Yeah.

45

46 MR. SAMUELSEN: I have a question for Dick.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead.

49

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Dick, did the emergency regulation, how
2 long is that emergency regulation good for?

3

4 MR. SELLERS: It will expire at the end of March.

5

6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. And indication that the advisory
7 committee has from the Game Board that they're willing to take
8 the issue up in March and pass the amendment on one bull?

9

10 MR. SELLERS: Yeah. That's the department's staff --
11 of the staff proposal. And that's been, as I understand,
12 endorsed by the Naknek/Kvichak Committee. They have their own
13 proposal which is almost identical and also Lower Bristol Bay
14 Advisory Committee endorsed that proposal. If you turn back to
15 the first graph there, I might make one other point.

16

17 This graph here that shows the reported harvest for the
18 Peninsula, the bottom dark shaded area is what's been reported
19 only from 9(E). And there's a number of years where 8 is
20 missing. We didn't get it punched because we didn't have
21 enough budget for a keypuncher. But the general trend in 9(E)
22 is a very slight decline over the years and the big change is
23 since 1986 when we have caribou crossing the river for the
24 first time in big numbers and beyond the road system. The area
25 above the dark line is what's harvested only in the Naknek
26 drainage. And ask you can see that's increased and really took
27 a spike last winter. So that's a change in the harvest pattern
28 that the hunting in 9(E) has basically declined at a very
29 gradual rate while the harvest in the Naknek drainage has
30 skyrocketed in just the last couple of years.

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions for Sellers?

33 Yeah, Bob.

34

35 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noticed in the
36 state game proposals that there's one from Naknek/Kvichak and
37 then one from the department. And other than the non-residents
38 one bull, I -- it -- doesn't the Naknek/Kvichak or allow for
39 the taking of a caribou for each month, August, September,
40 October and November where the department says you can take one
41 caribou during that period of time?

42

43 MR. SELLERS: You know, I think it's worded that way,
44 that the intention has been -- at least, as I understood it from
45 the October meeting that they wanted to keep the bag limit at
46 one through November and then start the increment, you know,
47 that you could take one up to December 1st, you could take
48 another one in December, you could take another one in January.
49 And maybe, Joe -- is Joe Klutsch here?

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1
2 MR. KLUTSCH: Yeah.
3
4 MR. SELLERS: He was at the most recent meeting. I
5 couldn't attend that and I don't know if there was a discussion
6 of that or not.
7
8 MR. KLUTSCH: One per month?
9
10 MR. SELLERS: Yeah. Was that effective throughout the
11 fall or just started to increase in December?
12
13 MR. KLUTSCH: It was effective throughout the fall as I
14 understood it.
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robert, anymore? Any
17 questions from the committee? Dick, you said in your report
18 that -- on Page 1a that the winter range is less -- are less
19 present than on north of the Naknek River, there's less range
20 available north of the Naknek River; is that what you're saying
21 there in A; Page 1?
22
23 MR. SELLERS: The traditional winter range is from the
24 Nashagak River up to the Naknek River. And if you go out
25 there, even flying around in the late winter or early spring
26 you can see that there isn't that yellowish -- pale yellow
27 tinge to the tundra like you can see up north.
28
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The Naknek has a better range?
30
31 MR. SELLERS: Right.
32
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And that's why maybe your animals are
34 going up there then?
35
36 MR. SELLERS: Yeah.
37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. And then it's kind of
39 interesting to see that the pattern is not due to human
40 disturbance which is kind of unusual. King Salmon Air Force
41 Base has been closed, that helps reduction on the animals and
42 then the Mulchatna herd has increased. And then the Naknek --
43 South Naknek hunting pressure, you said that there was a
44 harvest of 2,500 animals last year?
45
46 MR. SELLERS: That's our total prediction. If we take
47 the reported harvest and then we factor in that probably 40
48 percent of the hunters that didn't report, we expand the
49 reported harvest and then we add in what we estimate came from
50

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villages based on previous village household surveys that the Subsistence Division did.

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) So you figure there was maybe 1,000 to 1,500 just taken in the Naknek, South Naknek area last year when you had both herds down here in pretty good numbers?

8

9 MR. SELLERS: Right.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So maybe you had out of the 2,500, 1,500 taken here of the 2,500 alone?

13

14 MR. SELLERS: I believe so.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, okay. And then this year, '94, you had maybe 300 taken in the area, so if you doubled that if they didn't report the kill, you got 600 taken here this year, so at least you're half again reduced of what -- where's the herd at now, did it go back down across the river already?

21

22 MR. SELLERS: Well, the last time I flew was two weeks ago and there were about 5,000 animals in the Upper Falls Creek and in the King Salmon Creek and that had a mixture of both Peninsula radios and Mulchatna radios. But I think it only had two Peninsula radios, all the rest of the Peninsula animals had to be half way up Big Creek on over to the park and then on down to King Salmon River.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So the biggest majority of your animals already crossed the Naknek River heading south?

32

33 MR. SELLERS: We've had -- it's hard to tell because they've been going both directions most of the winter. But the majority of Peninsula animals are south of the winter now.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So you may not have quite as much pressure then?

39

40 MR. SELLERS: Right.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Last year they stayed a long time and the conditions were such that you could harvest -- do a lot of harvest there, so that's another factor. You don't think that the bull cow ratio is a problem right now then?

46

47 MR. SELLERS: No. It's not a problem biologically or long -- or you know, calves management were both to obviously try to provide for the subsistence needs and also to try to

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provide some quality sport hunting. And that was the reason we were striving to keep 40 bulls per 100 cows because that seems to be a good level to provide a fair number of mature bulls for sport hunters. Now if the bull cow ratio continues to decline, that's probably not going to impact the herd's status, but it may discourage sport hunters. And that's obvious a price we're going to have to be willing to pay if it comes to that.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You said on Page 5 that the fall hunt, that the sports hunter take mostly bulls actually and that in -- even if the Board of Game close the non-resident season in September, the biological benefits would have been inconsequential. According to preliminary 1994 harvest report, non-resident took 135 bulls which is approximately 50 percent below the normal non-resident harvest. Another consideration, non-biological, of course is the 11th hour emergency closure would have on non-residents who paid for airline tickets and deposits and air-taxis and scheduled vacations and so on. And then you said, and the service providers versus the benefits of the minor reduction in the harvest of surplus bulls. The department's only emergency option in September was to totally close some of the areas to all hunters. And that would reduce the harvest especially on cows and that apparently must have been the South Naknek. And when you closed the South Naknek you went from Smelt Creek north?

27

28 MR. SELLERS: Smelt Creek east.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I mean, east, yeah.

31

32 MR. SELLERS: Basically the Smelt Creek and Big Creek drainages.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And then you had a line coming across from there down just below Dimond -- that South Naknek who could hunt, left that open?

38

39 MR. SELLERS: Anything that wasn't in the Smelt Creek drainage was open and it wasn't

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All the way down?

43

44 MR. SELLERS: Yeah. All the way down.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I thought there was a line behind it.

47

48 MR. SELLERS: Including, you know, as far into Johnson Hill or wherever south they could go.

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) It wasn't
3 very ideal because it hadn't frozen up as far as hunting
4 condition goes?

5
6 MR. SELLERS: Right. But at the time we made the
7 closure we weren't sure that other measures would come in. So
8 we were thinking that possibly that closure would have lasted
9 all winter and we assumed that sometime during the course of
10 the winter that South Naknek people could've gotten out and
11 found caribou within the area that was left open.

12
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. You left it open for South
14 Naknek you said in your report. Maybe the last thing before we
15 go on with this proposal and I think that once we get this
16 information we're not going to have to keep going over all this
17 information from you people when we have to look at the other
18 proposals we're going to do, so we're taking some time to get
19 whatever information we need to handle so that we can deal with
20 the caribou issue on other proposals that we have before us.
21 But probably last year wasn't there a special provision to have
22 Port Heiden open a little later to get caribou after the
23 regular season?

24
25 MR. SAMUELSEN: Year before.

26
27 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Year before. It's a continued thing
28 now.

29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, it is. So they have a

31
32 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They have a -- they seem -- went back
33 into the old way of migrating to April in last year, probably
34 again this year. But it's always open to the end of April.

35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So what kind of a -- do you have any
37 kind of an idea what kind of animals are taken there at Port
38 Heiden in April?

39
40 MR. SELLERS: Not a real good idea. Again, we don't
41 get harvest tickets from the village. We do get some reporting
42 from people like Bobby and Orville Lind. Like the year before
43 last, it was pretty critical. I think that was about when they
44 showed up. Last year they were there a little bit earlier.

45
46 MR. CHRISTENSEN: But that's a lot of bulls.

47
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. No further questions. Thanks,
49 Dick, we appreciate you

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2 MR. HEYANO: I got one more. I guess going back to the
State proposals then, Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee and the
Department's proposal is the one caribou August, September,
October and November. I guess I just wanted to see -- get your
comments on it, if only one of those could be a cow caribou,
How do you feel about allowing that harvest of one bull per
month from August to November?

9
10 MR. SELLERS: Well, again, our concern would be under a
State season that any resident could do that and we'd probably
see some, you know, some more pressure from sport hunters, if
you could call them sport hunters, from Anchorage that might
want to come out in September and take two big trophy bulls.
So we're in, obviously, a bit of a bind in terms of the
flexibility the State has. I guess I'd be a little concerned
about whether that would be pretty attractive for somebody from
outside coming in the end of August and taking one August 30th
and taking another one sometime early September. Or the same
scenario could happen September/October.

21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions? Thank you, Dick,
appreciate that. Helga, who else do we have from the various
departments that need to address this caribou issue? Ron, is
there a need to talk about caribou from the refuge side of
things on 9(C)?

27
28 MR. HOOD: Well, I'll take the opportunity.

29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is that okay with committee
members?

32
33 MR. HOOD: Ronald Hood, Refuge manager for the Alaska
Peninsula Becharof National Wildlife Refuges in case --
everybody here knows who I am.

36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now we know.

38
39 MR. HOOD: I'd like to reinforce some of the points
that Dick was making and also make a couple on my own. The
first point is the mixed stock management issue that we have.
Robin asked yesterday about when the Mulchatna herd appear in
this area and the -- I think a flippant answer to that might be
whenever they choose to appear in the area. But the -- this
year they did not appear until about -- I think it was the
first part of December when Dick reported approximately 5,000
if I'm correct -- if I'm not misquoting him, had appeared in
this area. And then in January at one point, there was
reported 100,000 Mulchatna animals between the Branch River and
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the Brooks Lake area and I want to emphasize the Brooks Lake area, that means that a rather significant number of those animals had crossed the Naknek River and was now getting into the historic Peninsula herd wintering grounds.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How many, 1,000 animals?

7

8 MR. HOOD: 100,000.

9

10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One hundred?

11

12 MR. HOOD: Now not 100,000 crossed the river, but there was 100,000 reported between the Branch River and the Brooks River area. Most of those were going around the west end of Naknek Lake.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One hundred?

18

19 MR. HOOD: 100,000 -- 100,000 animals.

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, I must have been flying in the fog, I sure didn't see them.

23

24 MR. HOOD; Well, they chose to rabidly move back to the north, thank goodness. But many of those animals have made themselves available and anybody who has tried to hunt on the road system this year has not had any problem taking their animals.

29

30 The other point that I want to make is we have two major Federal properties in Unit 9(C). One of those being the Big Creek drainage on Becharof Refuge.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Middle section?

35

36 MR. HOOD: Right. And it's displayed up here on the map. And I can get up and point it out specifically if you need me to?

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think that would be a good idea, don, because we have this and we'd like to kind of verify that, committee members is that okay?

43

44 MR. HOOD: Just point out that this being King Salmon here, this being the Big Creek access corridor down into here, and this is Unit 9(C) on the refuge. And this area right here is selected lands. Selected by the Alaska Peninsula Corporation. And we've talked about this many times but these are where State regulations prevail, the Federal regulations do

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hot. And you have to go all the way down Big Creek to what we call the Three Hills area before you can access the refuge and access the Federal lands for hunting caribou. And anybody who has tried to come -- access that route in the fall knows that you have to have a jet boat because beyond Three Hills -- or even before that you cannot run a regular kicker in that area. The other access way is to come in by aircraft on this side. But this is the five percent of Unit 9(C) that we're talking about. The other part is in the reserve up on the north end of Katmai. And that area is -- the other point is this is Northern Peninsula herd country here.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, yeah.

14

15 MR. HOOD: And the other point is the preserve is Mulchatna herd country. Well, whenever the Federal Board chose to put the closure to sport hunting or to non-subsistence users, they closed -- of course, the one that they were thinking about, the Becharof Refuge, but they also closed the Mulchatna herd area up on the preserve and that is an area that is that all biologists think we ought to be taking every caribou that we can get. So those are the two points that I think I want to make here. So I'll open up to any other questions that you might have.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Ron? What

27

28 MR. FISHER: There's some BLM land in there, too. I don't know how much, but that would be Federal public lands and that was also closed when the board made that decision.

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's also Mulchatna herd area?

33

34 MR. FISHER: Yeah.

35

36 MR. SAMUELSEN: It shows up on the map.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) Ron, when does that -- that herd varies coming across that little five percent land up there. Like some years they don't come through there, like this year they didn't come through there at all. And probably about the time you could access them with a jet boat there really wasn't any animals in the area, was there?

44

45 MR. HOOD: Not very many this year.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They came across King Salmon River down behind Egegik up around Johnson Hill walked over this way back over and I don't know where they're at. That's what they

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did -- the biggest percentage of the herd this year. So actually there was probably very little pressure in 9(C) five percent of your lands over there.

4

5 MR. HOOD: Yeah. And

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Some years they come across there in big numbers though.

9

10 MR. HOOD: that's correct. But that is also the lack of access into that area is born out by the numbers where they -- the last few years they've been in the 30's range. We're talking about 30 caribou reported taken out of the 1,500 to 2,000 animals being taken. You know, it's not a very significant number of animals that are being taken in that area.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other questions of Ron? Yes, Robert.

20

21 MR. HEYANO: Is there any time in Unit 9(C) where the Mulchatna herd is definitely segregated from the North Peninsula?

24

25 MR. HOOD: I can't speak to that to be honest with you. I don't have that knowledge.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you. Any other questions? Thanks, Ron, appreciate it. Yes.

30

31 MS. SAVAGE: Susan Savage, Katmai National Park. For the record I just wanted to show you where the Katmai National Preserve lands were.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. Good. We appreciate that.

36

37 MS. SAVAGE: 9(C) is the Naknek drainage and the Alagnak drainage. And Katmai National Preserve is this area right up here right around Kakhonak Lake and Nonvianuk Lake just south of Iliamna and the Alagnak Wild River Corridor which is under management by the National Park Service is a rather narrow strip along the Alagnak or the Branch River, right in here.

44

45 MR. LaPORTE: And that is open for sports hunting in the preserve?

47

48 MS. SAVAGE: It is open for sport hunting unless this action goes forward. Well, actually currently we're under a

50

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Special action for closure right now.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Why are you under an action for
4 closure right now?

5

6 MS. SAVAGE: Because the Federal Subsistence Board took
7 action -- special action, 94-5.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And actually committee members they
10 should not have done that because we want hunting in that area.
11 That's the Mulchatna herd. And I -- you know, I'm just amazed
12 that they went ahead and did that because it needs to be open.
13 That's where the animals need to be taken in the Mulchatna
14 area.

15

16 MS. SAVAGE: And I guess that's my point is to point
17 out that we really have two separate areas. One is the pres-
18 erve land which Ron has talked about and the preserve
19 and BLM land in the more northern section of 9(C). And Jeff
20 Denton may want to point that area out, the BLM land.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who?

23

24 MS. SAVAGE: Jeff Denton from the BLM is here.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Is that all you have,
27 Susan?

28

29 MS. SAVAGE: That's all.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions of her? Thank
32 you, Susan.

33

34 MR. DENTON: My name is Jeff Denton. I'm with the
35 Anchorage District of Bureau Land Management. And BLM lands in
36 here -- in all this region here are in a state of flux because
37 of the selections, the State's relinquishing some lands back to
38 the BLM and back into Federal public lands at present. So it's
39 a very dynamic land ownership situation right now. However,
40 along the Alagnak Corridor which is a half a mile, I believe,
41 on each side of the river pretty much, there's BLM lands right
42 adjacent to those that go back on to the uplands to some
43 degree. There's probably 300,000 thousand acres or so in 9(C)
44 BLM Federal public lands as well, which were also closed
45 with the order in November.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Could you just point that out there
48 on that map, if you would?

49

50

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1 MR. DENTON: Yeah.
2
3 MR. HOOD: The other map.
4
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The other map to your right. We have
6 it in yellow on our section there.
7
8 MR. DENTON: Yeah. The Wild River Corridor is in here
9 and parts of these townships, especially to the north of the
10 Adagnak River that are public land and

11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
13
14 MR. DENTON: BLM. And then there are some
15 scattered pieces even as you go further.
16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Closer to the Kvichak, yeah.
18
19 MR. DENTON: Right. And then you get into Kvichak
20 country there'll be -- there's probably right now half a
21 million acres in the Kvichak and we're probably expecting at
22 least half a million in relinquishments.
23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's 9(B).
25
26 MR. DENTON: Probably this year. A significant portion
27 of public land. But that stuff way over on the other side of
28 the Kvichak is in a different hunting area.
29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It is. In fact, 9(B) is part of it
31 there and the Kvichak is sort of 9(B).
32
33 MR. DENTON: Right. On the -- just south of Kvichak.
34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.
36
37 MR. LaPORTE: You mentioned relinquishments to BLM or
38 from BLM?
39
40 MR. DENTON: To BLM. The State has just recently, in
41 the last two years, finalized their selections. Now they're in
42 the process of prioritizing those lands that they want conveyed
43 first. In the last two months we've received their priority
44 list in seven categories. And those that are in the seventh
45 category are scheduled to be relinquished this year. And we've
46 already seen, at least, in the Anchorage district that I'm
47 aware of over a million and a half acres come back. So I
48 expect many more before the end of this year. And this
49 particular are we expect a large portion of those to come back.
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.
3
4 MR. DENTON: Many of them are in category seven.
5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any more questions of Jeff? Thank
you, we appreciate it.
8
9 MR. DENTON: Thank you.
10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Any other departments
that need to deal with this issue on 9(C)? okay. We'd like to
actually have Helga, I don't know what happened to her.
14
15 MS. EAKON: I'm here.
16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, there she is, I'm sorry. If the
board -- if it would be okay with you, we'll have her read into
the record the written comments that have come in. And if we
don't have any other reports from the various department heads,
then we'll go ahead and close this part now with the exception
of the committee, of course, can call up any of the individuals
and ask again for information when we act on this proposal.
But we do have some written comments, Helga, if you would give
us information, read that into the record, please.
26
27 MS. EAKON: Yes. There were a total of eight written
public comments addressing this proposal. And to save time I'm
not going to read the whole summaries into -- I'm just going to
pick out the kernels, those of you who are here don't be
offended if I just highlight why you oppose the proposal. The
first one came from the Naknek/Kvichak Fish & Game Local
Advisory Committee and the committee opposed Proposal 23. They
are recommending that it would be prudent at this point to
recommend no action on this proposal while continuing to
monitor harvest, calving and survival of the herd throughout
the next year. They think that emergency orders could be
issued if necessary, while wholesale closure of the area to
non-subsistence to be avoided. They believe that the moose
population available for harvest in 9(C) is stable with the
cow/bull ratio at satisfactory levels.
42
43 The Alaska Department of Fish & Game went on record as
opposing this proposal. They don't feel that the Northern
Alaska Peninsula Caribou herd have declined seriously enough to
justify a complete closure to non-local hunters. The
department feels that based on the census and harvest
information it's unclear why local residents report a problem
in obtaining sufficient harvest for their subsistence needs.
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They believe that the potential effects of the distribution of the Mulchatna and the Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou herd should be analyzed and factored into any decision about Unit 9 Hunting regulations.

5

6 Joe Klutsch of King Salmon also went on record as opposing this proposal. And he believes that it doesn't appear to meet the continued opportunity or healthy population test or does it appear to be supported by substantial evidence.

10

11 Gary Howard of Glennallen also opposes this proposal. He says he's been hunting on the Peninsula since 1982 and he has never seen a subsistence hunter. He thinks that the local subsistence users should hunt on their traditional hunting grounds, which he believes are covered by State regulations.

16

17 Someone else from Glennallen, Andy Runyan opposes the proposal. He said he's been hunting the Peninsula since 1952 and he just doesn't see any kind of justification for closure of this proposal.

21

22 We received three comments also on this proposal. One of them, a Representative Scott Olgan. He doesn't want this action to offend his 10th Amendment Rights. A Dr. William West of Soldotna also opposed this. He doesn't think that the herd's viability is at stake. And a Don Quorberg (ph) of Delta Junction opposed this. He thinks that there's no reason to exclude non-locals from their hunt. And that concludes a summary of written comments.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any -- yes,

32

33 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, part of the process, we have comments written in our book. Do we have to -- to speed things up, do we need to read into the record every public comment?

37

38 MS. EAKON: I had that question as well. Dick, can you help us out here? Are we obligated to read into the record comments already received by the staff that are going to be part of the administrative record?

42

43 MR. PASPAHALA: Verbatim?

44

45 MS. EAKON: Yeah. Do you know? This was a question to Dick Paspahala.

47

48 MR. PASPAHALA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I think in the past

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Your name, please.
3
4 MR. PASPAHALA: Pardon? Dick Paspahala, Federal
Subsistence Management Program. In the past, on occasion, we
have, rather than take verbatim into the transcript, much of
the correspondence that's been received by the board merely
referencing it in the transcript and incorporated as an
attachment and I think that would be acceptable.
10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That would answer your question, we
don't have to go word for word into the

13
14 MR. PASPAHALA: We need to make sure that it becomes a
part of the record that's submitted into the board in April as
a part of this group's actions.
17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Good. Thank you. I appreciate that.
19
20 MS. EAKON: In which case, Mr. Chair, I would like to
give a copy of Naknek/Kvichak's comments on the proposals to
the Court Reporter because she doesn't have them.
23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Robin?
25
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, instead of going
through and listing them, I'd move that we just give the
Reporter all public comments concerning all proposals. That
way we'll save the hassal of going through every one.
30
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second?
32
33 MR. LaPORTE: Second.
34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.
36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.
38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
40
41 (No opposing responses)
42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Was that it, Helga, in the form of
written?
45
46 MS. EAKON: That's it.
47
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We have about 10 minutes
before we would like to take a break this morning. So if it's
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Okay with the Council members I'd like to -- we could have a good summary of this and Ted from BBNA, yes, would you object to -- would it be okay if you came and talked to us as public testimony and kind of summarize things and we'll go on public hearings right after the break; would that be okay?

6

7 MR. KRIEG: Sure.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Come on up then. We appreciate that. Are you doing 23, 24, 26(A), (B), (C), 27 and 28; no, no, you're just doing -- which one are you addressing now?

13

14 MR. KRIEG: Well, I was just going to do 23 right now.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay, great.

17

18 MR. KRIEG: But I guess these comments would probably apply to all of them. My name is Ted Krieg. I work for the Bristol Bay Native Association, National Resources Department and we represent tribal councils in Bristol Bay. One of the biggest concerns that we've had is just the overall health of the herd and how that would effect the possibility of caribou migrating to a specific side of the Alaska Peninsula. You know, we've heard a lot of comments about caribou, you know, caribou movements, they might be there one day, gone the next. We heard, you know, intermingling up in the Katmai Preserve area. You know, one of the concerns that we had and I realize there's other biological concerns, but, you know, if you end up with only -- only Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou herd animals in the preserve, you know, and those are the animals being killed, how does that effect the chances of caribou getting back down to Perryville and Ivanof Bay and down the Peninsula.

35

36 You know, we have some other proposals addressing those issues and they'll be coming up later. That's basically all I had to say unless there's any questions.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions of Ted? Ted, I have a question. You said that our guys addressed the issue of the Northern Peninsula herd goes into the preserve, what preserve are you talking about?

44

45 MR. KRIEG: Well, Katmai Preserve. The area that we've
46 yeah, just

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Going all the way up to the Alagnak
49 area of Branch and that drainage

50

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1
2 MR. KRIEG: Right.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: and getting in that area and
5 having pressure put on them?
6
7 MR. KRIEG: Um-hum. (affirmative)
8
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I see.
10
11 MR. KRIEG: Yeah.
12
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. I think last year they went
14 quite a ways up in there. This year I don't think that's
15 happened,

16
17 MR. KRIEG: Yeah.
18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: but last year it did.
20
21 MR. KRIEG: It seemed like that's what we had heard.
22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you. Okay. We do have
24 one more member of the public to testify after this, so we'll
25 go ahead and take a break, about a five or 10 minute break if
26 that's okay and come back and continue.
27
28 (Off record)
29 (On record)
30
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're under Proposal #23 and we are
32 going to public hearing. And if you've come in and you haven't
33 signed one of these pink sheets we'd like you to do so. And at
34 this time I'd like to have Joe Klutsch come up and he's going
35 to make some comments on the public hearing. Yeah.
36
37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, for those of you that
38 don't know, I didn't know Smiley just had an operation on his
39 shoulder and I walked up and tapped him on the shoulder and
40 said, how are you doing Smiley. Just forewarning you you
41 better be careful because Smiley has got a real hurt in his
42 shoulder.
43
44 MR. KLUTSCH: Mr. Chairman, my name is Joe Klutsch. I
45 asked Helga to handout copies of my written comments on
46 proposals 23, 24, 25, 26, 26(b), 26(C) and 30. And since you
47 have a fairly active agenda today I'll try and keep my comments
48 as brief as I can. You can read something about my background
49 for yourself. For those of you that don't know me, I've lived here
50

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in the King Salmon area around 22 years now. All of those years have been spent working out in the field, hunting, fishing. I spent a couple of years commercial fishing in the Bay. And I have a deep respect and a high regard for the people of the region. I consider myself a member of the region and I'm raising my son here, it's my home. I'm 100 percent committed to all the folks of the region being able to maintain their lifestyles and have the opportunity to satisfy their subsistence needs. And I'd like you to take my comments, look at those comments within that context. For about the last 12 years or more, I guess, I've served as a member of the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee. And on the last Southwest Regional Council, I was a member of that for the last meeting of the State council, Robert was on that council as well. We had the last meeting in -- I guess it was at the Barrett in Anchorage, it was some years ago. So I've spent a lot of time following the regulation making process, spent hours and hours listening to allocation debates for commercial fishing and hunting issues as well. I've spent a tremendous amount of time with the State and Federal land managers and biologists trying to get a handle on what's going on out there and how the resource is managed and how it's allocated.

23

24 I'll move on to my comments, specifically on Proposal #23. The proposal would close all the public lands -- Federal lands to caribou hunting except by eligible rural residents throughout all of Unit 9. Based on the information that the staff has given you on the history of this caribou herd, it's not necessary to go into a lot of detail on it. But from the 1950's, the herd was estimated at roughly 2,000 animals and increased up to -- steadily increased up to approximately 12,000 to 20,000 animals about three years ago. As the herd increased, the level of harvest increased and the opportunity for residents throughout the region to hunt caribou, to harvest caribou has increased. So if you look at this herd in the context of a 30 year period or 40 year period, these are -- can be considered good hunting times for caribou despite this decline in the Northern Peninsula herd. There are a number of reasons that have been suggested for the possible -- or for the decline. Some of the land managers feel that range depletion may be a factor. Changes in caribou movement and migration patterns are just -- that's part of what caribou do historically, whether it's this herd or whether it's the Western Arctic or Porcupine herds or the herds in Canada. Like any undulant population they ebb and flow, they egress, they move. We can remember when the Mulchatna herd was hardly identifiable, when it was less than 10,000 animals and now look where it's at. I remember when the Alaska Peninsula herd reached 10,000 animals and I believe Dan was the chairman of

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our Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee then and everybody was elated. We actually liberalized the seasons and the bag limits to provide more opportunity. Now the caribou herd has come down some and for whatever the reasons there's, at least, two to three months ago, there seems to be this mentality that maybe the sky was falling and I'm not sure that that's really the case.

8

9 I think the points that the staff made regarding the health of the herd hinging really on cow mortality and calf production are real critical to recognize. The non-subsistence effort, as you know, primarily focuses on older age class bulls, guided effort on older age class bulls for -- I believe the last 10 year average is less than 300 per year throughout Unit 9(C) and (E). Out of a herd of 12,000 animals, plus to 18,000 animals, biologically that doesn't seem to be a major factor contributing to the health of the herd.

18

19 In relation to the proposals, any proposal that would close non-subsistence seasons after reading the provisions of Title VIII of ANICLA read carefully and with some advice, they have to meet certain tests before a closure can be adopted. The first test is that you have to be able to show that reasonable opportunity to harvest these animals would be, in fact, prevented by allowing non-subsistence hunting to go on. The second test is that you have to be able to show that the health of the population might be jeopardized by allowing non-subsistence hunting. And the third one is that it has to be met by substantial -- or supported by substantial evidence and meaningful scientific or documented evidence and that also would include local knowledge. One other provision or test that has to be met is that it -- no regulation should be made that would be contrary to subsistence opportunity or the meeting of subsistence needs.

35

36 In all of those cases, I don't feel that Proposal 23 meets those tests, at least, at this time. In fact, it could be argued that by closing the Federal lands to non-subsistence effort you could shift pressure to the State lands which is basically the Bering Sea Coastal Plain which is the primary migration route and which the subsistence harvest data indicates, I guess, about 90 percent of the subsistence take occurs on these lands and not on Federal lands. You could actually increase effort in the areas closer to the village, although I really don't think that would all -- be that substantial, but it is a point to keep in mind.

47

48 A lot of the comments I'm making now I'll also be making in relation to some of the other proposals. But -- so I

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Won't be redundant and go over these things again. What I did request that the Council consider related to Proposal 23 was tabling the proposal and allowing the department to monitor the caribou on the return to the calving grounds this spring, see what data they come up with. It was also mentioned, our Naknek/Kvichak Advisory recommended permanent adoption of the one caribou per month and I personally favor the closure of non-subsistence or non-resident hunting as of November 1st as well. And our advisory committee recommended or opposed this proposal. Some of the same ideas that are embodied in this proposal will be included in the other proposals that I comment on. And I'll try to go into those as briefly as I can when those proposals come up.

14

15 But what I'd urge the Council to consider is to table this proposal through this cycle, see where it goes. I can assure you that as a member of the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee I will always vote for proposals or any game regulations that serve the health of the population and ensure the local people's needs and I've done that. And Dan was on the committee with me when I had to vote to reduce non-resident moose hunting in Unit 9(C) when we used to have 55 days down to 23 days. That was brought on by that era of illegal outfitting that was occurring in the mid-80's. I worked real hard to get a new guide area system established to limit the number of guides, restrict them to areas, make them accountable and reduce conflicts with other users. But I do have an established track record of voting for proposals that are good for the biology and the health of the populations and to ensure local needs.

31

32 So I'll conclude my comments on Proposal 23 with that.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Joe this morning?
Okay, Robin.

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, maybe not a question. But Joe the Alaska Board of Fish was brought to court by the Stepovak Sportnetters Association on a ruling that the Board of Fish did in 1991 on closing the South Peninsula Fisheries for the conservation of migrating coho to July 20th, previously it was closed July 5th. And one of their strong points was the action by the board was not supported by substantial evidence, scientific evidence. And I'm bringing this up because you alluded to -- in your comments. And they lost the case and what the court said was that -- in that case was that the State of Alaska and the board could adopt proposals on the best information presented to them. And what that interprets to me is that the court said that, whatever you have is good enough,

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Whatever scientific biological information is good enough for making your decision. You will never be from Point A to Point B, when will -- you know, who's to say when we're going to have the best scientific evidence. And I see it was a major part of your public comment here and I just wanted to make you aware of that case. It was a substantial win for the State of Alaska and how managers and regulatory agencies are now viewed by the courts.

9

10 MR. KLUTSCH: Thank you, Robin. Mr. Chairman, I was not aware of that case. And actually that substantial evidence phrase came out of Title 8 of ANICLA as it related to subsistence on Federal lands. But I wasn't aware of that.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Joe, do you have any effort, at all, in the 9(C) area; as a guide, do you hunt that area?

17

18 MR. KLUTSCH: Yes, I do. During the August period I'll usually take a couple hunters a week up to six, seven caribou hunters through the month of August into the first part of the September. And that would be in the area from, roughly the 2nd Salmon River north, the western boundary of Katmai area. A little bit out on the State land which adjoins the refuge boundary in C. Then in past years I've done some hunting in the -- in the latter October period, the last 10 days of October when the bulk of the Peninsula herd is in the vicinity of western boundary.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yeah.

30

31 MR. SAMUELSEN: Joe, these clients, what do they average per hunt, one caribou, two caribou?

33

34 MR. KLUTSCH: Only one. It's only one for non-residents. And that was a proposal that we had passed -- adopted that regulation back in the early day -- early '80s to prevent non-residents from wanting to come in and just keep shooting until they got what they wanted or shoot more than one. We thought one opportunity was sufficient and leave it at that.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Joe, did you find any animals up there in September/October this year in that 9(C) area?

44

45 MR. KLUTSCH: Yeah. There were quite a few animals, however, in the October period it was closed. And we had -- I guess that season was closed in the first part of October, so I did most of my hunting, which was really fairly minimal, I think I had a total of six or eight caribou hunters for the

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entire month of October. And most of those were done in the Meshik River, Aniakchak Preserve area since this area was closed up here.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We kind of highlight you as the bad guy when it comes to -- I mean the outfitters aren't here today and yet, they're kind of open ended in what they do. And we appreciate the fact that you'd come and go on record as a guide and tell us what you're doing, we appreciate that. And we don't really know what the unregulated groups are doing, so we appreciate you mentioning that today. Any other questions? Yes.

13

14 MR. LaPORTE: I just wondered what your thoughts were on -- there was comment earlier about that the caribou -- the North Peninsula caribou that would possibly migrate up into that Federal lands possibly as far north as the Katmai Preserve, what you thought of hunting pressures as related to the southern migration back down, trying to get caribou to migrate as far as Perryville or whatever to meet their subsistence needs? I mean is there -- kind of think of the pressure put on the animals and the number animals taken, the actual hunting going on in that area?

24

25 MR. KLUTSCH: Mr. Chairman, I have a -- it's hard for me to visualize the hunting on caribou in the Katmai Preserve during October and November would in any way effect the movement of the caribou 250 or 300 miles south in April and May. Something just doesn't fit there that hunting pressure in the fall Katmai Preserve or even in this -- along the road system here would effect the movement of caribou as they move back down towards the calving grounds and Cinder River and Port Heiden and Ilnik area; I don't see a correlation there. And all comment when we get to the other proposals about the idea of east/west migrations Bering side Pacific side migrations. The caribou have been changing definitely in the last 20 years and they don't use the same routes that they used to. There's not as much concentration, those big fall migrations from that Port Heiden Corridor up through Pilot Point, Ugashik and Egegik where you can still see all those mazes of trails along there, you don't see that migration anymore. You see more broken groups, an earlier summer migration. They're heading north earlier, as early as July in recent years. What I see in the areas I'm familiar with are lots of the smaller pocket herds or resident herds that will hang around on mountain tops, some will be scattered out in the valleys and they -- they just kind of doodle around in those areas. There may be a little bit of east/west migration. If I have seen any -- any movement pattern change that I could really identify it would actually

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be the other way around. I've seen those herds of 50 to 150, 200 moving from the Pacific side, Aniakchak Bay up Aniakchak River and down into that Cinder River Corridor right through the monument, but not the other way around. But that's just my personal observation on it.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions?

8

9 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah. In August and part of September, have you seen any bulls around Port Heiden area?

11

12 MR. KLUTSCH: Actually, Bobby, I -- and I don't hunt down there in the August time. In the September period I do see some solitary bulls up by the Meshik River -- or Meshik Lake area scattered along the hillsides. They're kind of like bachelor bulls. Once you get into mid-September in that swamp corridors -- we're flying over the swamp corridor up towards the valley you'll see those groups that are crossing from Lower Meshik heading in that corridor by the villages. Groups of 12, 20, 30, that's up the Birthday Creek Corridor and across through there. From the air I've seen bulls in there.

22

23 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah.

24

25 MR. KLUTSCH: But I do not hunt that corridor.

26

27 MR. CHRISTENSEN: You know, last year we had a total of six bulls -- six and possibly 10, I know of six only being killed for local use. And they must have gone up around your area because we see you come in with six at a time on your airplane, you know. They must have made a different change up there.

33

34 MR. KLUTSCH: Yeah. I don't know that my plane ever -- can't hold six caribou.

36

37 MR. CHRISTENSEN: (Indiscernible) planes.

38

39 MR. KLUTSCH: In fact, my -- I believe the Park Service the records and the Fish & Wildlife use records will show the last 10 years, I've averaged four bull caribou in the preserve and four to five, six bull caribou in the associated refuge and State land area. I think Butch King takes a few more on the North side.

45

46 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah. He takes a lot.

47

48 MR. KLUTSCH: But there -- I think you're kind of bringing out an interesting point that

50

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1
2 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They move up high over the

3
4 MR. KLUTSCH: They've been hanging out on mountain
5 tops, you're right. And I have no idea why.

6
7 MR. CHRISTENSEN: We flew miles and miles last year.

8
9 MR. KLUTSCH: Um-hum. (affirmative)

10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions? Thank you, Joe.
12 We're on 23 and I received a comment card from Ralph Angason,
13 who's the chairman of the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee.
14 Ralph, you said you were available for comment, did you want to
15 address the panel this morning.

16
17 MR. ANGASON: Well, Danny

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You need to come up and sit in from
20 of the microphone, the lady can't hear you.

21
22 MR. ANGASON: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. My name is
23 Ralph Angason, I'm the chairman of the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory
24 Committee. And I was just going to ask you, you know, since
25 our advisory committee had commented on all the proposals that
26 affect us, you know, if I could wait?

27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

29
30 MR. ANGASON: Wait until later and do it all at once?

31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure. You can do that if you'd like.
33 Yes, go ahead.

34
35 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. The Naknek/Kvichak Advisory
36 Comments has been submitted as part of the record also.

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. We did that this morning. We
39 took your comments and Helga made comment to them and then we
40 gave the Recorder your testimony. But as we go through the
41 regulations, since you signed up, and that would be the
42 Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee and then the Lower Nushagak
43 Area would be the next advisory committee; it certainly would
44 be helpful to the council members if we could maybe call up on
45 you once in awhile.

46
47 MR. ANGASON: Okay. Danny, if I may, Mr. Chairman, you
48 know, like the -- let's see, what proposal is that that deals
49 with the Aniakchak area? You know, we really didn't want to
50

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get into that area, you know, because it, you know, it's out of our advisory area. But, you know, we have a few of our people that hunt down there and stuff, like Joe Klutsch and Jay King and them boys. That's -- but that's one thing I wanted to bring out.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Good enough, thank you.

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: I got a question.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

12

13 MR. SAMUELSEN: Ralph, your comment there, a few of our people, you named off Joe and another guiding outfit, is that all you heard from on your advisory committee or were there subsistence users making comments also?

17

18 MR. ANGASON: No. They -- there was several people in the audience, you know, that, you know, work for Joe and were down there and commented. The subsistence people, you know, those of us that, you know, have the ability to travel, you know, fly and whatever once in awhile we do go down there, but it's -- you know, the last couple of years where the caribou has been, you know, just right out of our doorstep here, you know, we haven't traveled very far.

26

27 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other public comment this morning on Proposal #23? Thank you, Ralph. Hearing no more requests for public comment, we'd like to ask what the wishes of the Council will be this morning on #23 as an action -- an action item? Robert.

34

35 MR. HEYANO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. At this time I'd like to offer an amendment to Proposal 23.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

39

40 MR. HEYANO: Let me see if I can get this right. It would read Unit 9(A) and 9(C), four caribou, however, no more than one may be a cow, no more than one caribou may be taken per calendar month from August 10th through December 31st, we're speaking to resident and subsistence hunt. And then them being non-resident hunter, it would be one bull caribou August 10th to October 31st.

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: August through October?

49

50

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1 MR. HEYANO: August 10th through October 31st.
2
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One caribou?
4
5 MR. HEYANO: One bull caribou.
6
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One bull.
8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second, Mr. Chairman.
10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We got a second here. And
12 Helga would like a little help from Robert to put this up here.
13 So you got one

14
15 MR. HEYANO: Four caribou.
16
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: It would be four caribou, one cow.
18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One for non-resident.
20
21 MR. SAMUELSEN: August to December, one bull August
22 20th

23
24 MR. HEYANO: May be taken per calendar month from
25 August 10th to March 31st (sic).
26
27 MR. FISHER: Mr. Chairman?
28
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.
30
31 MR. FISHER: I see the word non-resident up there, I
32 don't know, I think we're just worried about subsistence users
33 and we don't need to be concerned about non-residents. The
34 State regulations will take care of that. This is just a point
35 of order.

36
37 MR. SAMUELSEN: On the Federal act?
38
39 MR. FISHER: Yes.
40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we don't need non-resident on
42 Federal land?
43
44 MR. FISHER: No.
45
46 MR. HEYANO: Is the non-resident one bull caribou
47 August 10th through October 31st a current State regulation?
48
49 MR. FISHER: Let me check.
50

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1
2 MS. COILEY: No, it's one caribou.
3
4 MR. HOOD: It's the State proposal
5
6 MR. FISHER: It's one caribou.
7
8 MR. HOOD: They're talking about the State proposed
9 regulation.
10
11 MR. FISHER: I'm sorry.
12
13 MR. HEYANO: One bull caribou August 10th through
14 October 31st.
15
16 MS. EAKON: That's it?
17
18 MR. HEYANO: Right.
19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members, do you see
21 and understand the motion made here?
22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Dave, is your concerns about non-
24 residents been addressed?
25
26 MR. FISHER: Um-hum. (affirmative)
27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're all legal? Yeah, Robert.
29
30 MR. HEYANO: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I guess speaking
31 through the
32
33 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think Dick's bringing up a question
34 on this.
35
36 MR. FISHER: One point of clarification coming up.
37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Give us your name.
39
40 MR. PASPAHALA: Would you allow me to address you
41 briefly?
42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Your name.
44
45 MR. PASPAHALA: Dick Paspahala again. If I understand
46 the substance of the motion that's been placed on the floor, it
47 would, in effect, establish a regulation -- or a recommendation
48 for a regulation that would relate to the non-subsistence user
49 community on Federal lands. Typically that's not -- that would
50

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be a situation that would be handled through a regulation submitted to the State Board of Game. And what we've typically done is try to limit the scope of our efforts to the subsistence user community in the regulations that reflect those. We have -- I think there's one section in ANICLA 13/14 and also existing memoranda of agreement between all the Federal agencies in Alaska -- the State of Alaska that reflect our intent to recognize their authorities in this regard. So typically in Federal regulation we've attempted to avoid that situation.

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Avoid a situation as non-resident?

13

14 MR. PASPAHALA: Where we establish seasons for non-sub
15 subsistence users

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

18

19 MR. PASPAHALA: typically what's been done there
20 and that's sort of the situation that gave rise to this current
21 instance is to exercise closure authority, but nothing beyond
22 that, not establish a season or bag limit. That typically
23 would be within the preview of the State. And, in effect, I
24 think that's all that what that bottom part does.

25

26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, okay, Dick, the roles and
27 responsibilities of the Federal Subsistence Advisory Council
28 here is just relating to subsistence take of fish and wildlife
29 on public lands within the region subsistence users of fish and
30 wildlife on public lands within the region. (sic) So I guess
31 the only people that this Council should be taking public
32 testimony from is subsistence users since we do not have the
33 regulatory authority to effect non-subsistence use takes.

34

35 MR. PASPAHALA: I'm trying to avoid using some of the
36 strong words like, authority and things of that sort, nor would
37 I think that it's -- that I would ever suggest that you not
38 allow members of the general public to have input into your
39 proceedings because that's a very important part of what you do
40 here.

41

42 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, in public comment, Dick, we got a
43 letter here from a representative down in Juneau. And he talks
44 about -- where is that; 9(C) is mostly a Federal refuge and is
45 traditional hunting area for non-locals. This is from
46 representative Olgan -- Scott Olgan.

47

48 MR. PASPAHALA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

49

50

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Federal land, Title 8 of ANICLA has a
2 preference?

3

4 MR. PASPAHALA: That's correct.

5

6 MR. SAMUELSEN: And I'm kind of getting some
7 clarification here. Comments like that, do we have to listen
8 to them comments since we're dealing with only -- with
9 subsistence users on that portion?

10

11 MR. PASPAHALA: I think as long as we're -- as you're
12 formulated as a Federal advisory committee, it's a good idea to
13 do that. Really it is within your preview to listen to those
14 comments, yes. I think there may not be a serious problem here
15 because as I understand it, the last part of your motion
16 represents an action that's been supported by the Alaska
17 Department of Fish & Game to be brought before the State Board
18 yet, this year; is that correct?

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: In fact, that's where we got it from.

21

22 MR. PASPAHALA: Yeah. I don't view this as a major
23 problem. But I just -- the focus for the Federal -- the action
24 that you place before the Federal board in April would be best
25 that part of it that relates to your intention for the Title 8
26 user group.

27

28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)

29

30 MR. PASPAHALA: It becomes a very sensitive issue in
31 terms of the Federal/State relationship if you become embroiled
32 in a process of establishing seasons and bag limits for the
33 non-subsistence user communities on Federal lands.

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. On Proposal 23, a black and
36 white situation would be public lands are closed to hunting of
37 caribou except by eligible rural residents. That's black and
38 white.

39

40 MR. PASPAHALA: That's what we did last -- last year as
41 part of a very urgent response to some things that were
42 happening at that time.

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think a compromise is the Council
45 wants to look at all user groups that are effecting the herd
46 and provide an opportunity for all user groups that hunt the
47 herd, with the inclusion of non-residents. Now

48

49 MR. PASPAHALA: Right.

50

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: what you're saying is we could
only look in a world in black and white

4
5 MR. PASPAHALA: Well,

6
7 MR. SAMUELSEN: then we have no option but to
close it to all non-subsistence uses.

9
10 MR. PASPAHALA: No. I think you're doing a wonderful
thing here and you can -- the top part of that represents --
could represent a formal request to the Federal Subsistence
Board with an ancillary request that support be forwarded to
the State Board of Game for that regulation to go into effect
in 9(A) and (C) for the non-subsistence user community, both
residents of Alaska and non-resident people.

17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.

19
20 MR. PASPAHALA: Thank you for indulging my comments.

21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. That's okay, we need to stay on
back as far as what our responsibilities are as an advisory
Council also. And we are only advisory in nature, that's true.

25
26 MR. PASPAHALA: Right.

27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The Federal Board will do whatever
they want to do.

30
31 MR. PASPAHALA: I mean we spent two days earlier this
week going through the fact that it's a very major part of our
program to deal with the issues that are brought forward by
this Council and we intend to support that. But it's going to
be better for all of us if we can keep them on track with the
Title 8 program.

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert, do you have a question?

39
40 MR. HEYANO: No, not a question, just a comment. Mr.
Chairman, I think our Number 1 function is for the protection
of the resource. And then the other -- the next in line is for
the subsistence user. And, you know, I think that's what this
proposal does. But, I mean, me personally, I have to have some
level of confidence -- I have to know what those others -- what
kind of control is going to be put on those other users on this
resource inside and outside our jurisdiction before I could
support what we could do to the subsistence user on Federal
lands. I think that's an attempt at what this is trying to do.

50

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1 You know, if I heard it correctly, is that this proposal is a
 2 blend between the Naknek/Kvichak and the departments. Based on
 3 my previous experience, I think that has a real good chance of
 4 the State Board adopting.

5

6 MR. PASPAHALA: I do, too. I think you're easily on
 7 the right track here. And throughout the next several months,
 8 the Federal board will be tracking the actions of the State
 9 Board as well. And the conservation of healthy populations, of
 10 course, is our Number 1 priority as well and we'll be keeping
 11 an eye on that. If things don't work out that way, then we'll
 12 be back in touch with the Council and we'd pursue it even after
 13 that date.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert.

16

17 MR. HEYANO: And just one other comment is that, you
 18 know, I think this Council early on made a commitment to as
 19 much as possible and practical to align State and Federal
 20 seasons and bag limits for the confusion, not only for the
 21 subsistence user, but for the general public as well.

22

23 MR. PASPAHALA: Right.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Don't leave just yet because

26

27 MR. PASPAHALA: I'd love to.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Actually, I think what we're doing
 30 here on 23, we can streamline on down to the other proposals.
 31 But if we don't get the good foundation we need right now,
 32 back, then we are going to be having you coming back

33

34 MR. PASPAHALA: Sure.

35

36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: and we don't want to keep
 37 belaboring the point. We've had a good report on the -- what
 38 the herd is doing. And we have a better idea on who the user
 39 groups are and what they're taking. And your concern here is
 40 that maybe we're not addressing maybe necessarily the
 41 subsistence need as much as we're -- including too many user
 42 groups or what?

43

44 MR. PASPAHALA: Oh, absolutely not. I think your
 45 intent here is exactly on track.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

48

49 MR. PASPAHALA: Let's make no mistake about that,

50

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Number 1. What we're looking at is some of the problems that go to the very heart of some of the difficulties involved in the dual management system that we have in the State right now. Typically, within the Federal program with -- we had for while one minor exception, which has now been resolved, but our attempt has been to avoid a situation in which the Federal government moves forward to establish seasons and bag limits on these public lands that relate to the non-subsistence user community. Pretty much trying to continue to recognize that that's within the preview of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. It doesn't mean that it can't be done, but it's something that's -- it's an assumption of authority that's a very sensitive issue and is one that should not be undertaken unnecessarily, that's all. I think what you proposed here is probably, you know, a very good solution. But the last part of that motion pretty much relates to an action that we would be expected to be taken by the Alaska Board of Game, rather than by the Federal board.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's the non-resident one bull caribou?

22

23 MR. PASPAHALA: Right. And if that were not to happen, let's say, then it can certainly be revisited at that time. But I think you'd -- based on what I've heard from the reports of people from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game and given the seriousness with which they view this management situation, I think all of us have every reason to believe that your motion that regard reflects what the likely outcome of their deliberations as well.

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We think that non-resident one bull caribou, August 10th to October 31st is something that Dick Sellers' department probably can buy off on.

35

36 MR. PASPAHALA: Right.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And I don't think it's

39

40 MR. PASPAHALA: So if it were advisory in nature and not a specific part of your request for action by the Federal Board

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

45

46 MR. PASPAHALA: everything would be perfect, I think.

48

49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So it is advisory in nature?

50

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1
2
3 Great.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's all we are.

6

7 MR. PASPAHALA: Well,

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: But you say by

10

11 MR. PASPAHALA: advisory in nature

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: putting that

14

15 MR. PASPAHALA: directed to the Alaska Board of
16 Game rather than as a recommended action for the Federal
17 Subsistence Board.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you get that Helga? You got it,
20 Day?

21

22 MS. EAKON: Yeah. I

23

24 MR. PASPAHALA: Even if she doesn't, I promise you I
25 will not forget.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. The reason I ask that, in
28 all serious now, is we need to make sure that, legally, we're
29 staying on track and we're not, you know, we have a direction
30 march in and we're not going to want to get outside the
31 bounds of those either as we can. And I just want to make sure
32 that we're within the guidelines, as directed by you, that
33 we're okay here now and if we need to change something then
34 let's go ahead and change it and make sure it's legal because
35 we don't want to do otherwise.

36

37 MR. PASPAHALA: Yeah. I certainly am not here to give
38 you legal advice. I am not an attorney, although I've been
39 accused of several occasions of practicing law. But it's more
40 less trying to support a standard that we developed early on
41 in this program. And I think actually works in the best
42 interest of the various user groups and also the Federal and
43 State management agencies involved. Thank you very much.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Thank you. Robert --
46 excuse me, before you leave.

47

48 MR. LaPORTE: The shaded portion of the proposed
49 regulat- -- is that still something that would still stand in
50

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there, the public lands are closed to the hunting of caribou
 except by eligible rural residents during the season;
 identified above or

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No.

6

7 MR. LaPORTE: I don't fully follow exactly what's -- I
 missed -- if we're talking about seasons for non-residents,
 they're obviously not going to be eligible rural residents. So
 what's happening with that shaded portion; is that

11

12 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman? Yeah, my intent was is that
 the shaded portion would be deleted.

14

15 MR. LaPORTE: Okay.

16

17 MR. HEYANO: And substitute language would be this.

18

19 MR. LaPORTE: Okay.

20

21 MR. HEYANO: What I'm hearing from Dick is that he'd be
 more comfortable if this was our action and this was the
 recommended action to the State Board of Game.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Let's see she what she wrote down
 here?

27

28 MR. HEYANO: The non-resident part.

29

30 MR. LaPORTE: And then delete the shaded portion?

31

32 MR. HEYANO: Yeah. Well, on either case, the shaded
 portion on Proposal 23 would be deleted. But, you know, it
 seems that since this proposal addressed non-resident use, I
 first thought it was appropriate that if this committee -- that
 we offer another alternative to total closure. But apparently
 that's a grey area. But in answer to your question, with or
 without the non-resident, the intent of my proposal would be
 the shaded area would be deleted.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Or actually just taking the comments
 of the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee and not necessarily
 the State proposal made by Sellers or whoever makes them and
 pretty much ignoring what the shaded area of 23 is. Because we
 don't necessarily feel that this herd is in this bad of shape,
 yet we're -- where we have to live with the shaded area but
 would recommend this here is what we're dealing with here.
 Okay.

49

50

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1 We have a couple of people who would like to comment.
2 Go ahead. Yes. Give us your name again, would you please?

3
4 MS. COILEY: Pippa Coiley.

5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

7
8 MS. COILEY: With the Alaska Department of Fish & Game
9 Subsistence Division. Well, Mr. Chairman, you might have
10 noticed the subsistence people are all jumping out of their
11 chairs. But getting back to the effects of this proposal, I'm
12 not quite sure -- it wasn't clear to me and I'm not quite sure
13 if it's clear to the Council. Susan and I have been talking
14 that when the State Board of Game passes the proposal in the
15 State proposal book to institute this regulation as written on
16 State land -- State regulated land in 9(A) and 9(C), it will
17 only effect the brown book, the State brown book. And the
18 regulations in the Federal -- the Federal subsistence
19 regulations for qualified subsistence users will stay the same,
20 which right now are pretty liberal. For caribou we have four
21 caribou, however, no more than two caribou may be taken August
22 20th to September 30th, et cetera. So this proposal, as it's
23 written right now, it's limiting the subsistence user on
24 Federal land more than the regulation as written now. So this
25 proposal isn't going to effect the non-local users, this
26 proposal effects the subsistence users which right now -- or --
27 which right now are using more liberal regulations than that.
28 So you're restricting subsistence users more than they would
29 have been.

30
31 MS. SAVAGE: On Federal public land.

32
33 MS. COILEY: On Federal public land. Whereas, the
34 State proposal will cover all the other users and it will most
35 likely pass.

36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robin.

38
39 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. I'm glad you pointed that out.
40 And Dick's comments, Mr. Chairman, I won't be voting in support
41 of the amended language.

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Down here?

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: No.

46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You want to leave it just like it is
48 non-resident, one bull one caribou?

49
50

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: The upper -- the four caribou is more
 2 restrictive than what their current -- than subsistence is
 3 currently allowed to take. And what Dick is saying is that we
 4 cannot basically regulate the non-subsistence take. So how can
 5 we sit here and put further restrictions on the subsistence
 6 take and not, in effect, do anything to the non-subsistence
 7 take. Who has a priority, it looks like non-residents have the
 8 priority, right Robert.

9
 10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, Robert is meditating over
 11 there. Susan, did you have a comment?

12
 13 MS. SAVAGE: I have a couple of comments.

14
 15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Give us your name so that Tina can
 16 put it down.

17
 18 MS. SAVAGE: Susan Savage. One comment is that -- to
 19 what Robin just said is that, as Dick Paspahala suggested you
 20 might, you know, take a formal action to make a recommendation.
 21 Write a letter to the Board of Game to support what the
 22 Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Council has done that would limit sport
 23 users on State land and on public Federal land.

24
 25 The second comment is that I asked the Council not to
 26 forget that whatever they do here effects both, the Northern
 27 Peninsula herd and the Mulchatna herd. And if you do decide to
 28 restrict users that you try to keep that restriction mostly in
 29 away that it will restrict harvest of the Northern Peninsula
 30 herd and not the Mulchatna herd. So you may want to only take
 31 this action for the Naknek drainage and not, perhaps, for the
 32 Aagnak drainage which effects more BLM land and the preserve
 33 and the northern portion of 9(C).

34
 35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert.

36
 37 MR. HEYANO: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I don't see how we're
 38 restricting the subsistence users. We're still allowing them
 39 four caribou. What we're doing is -- when they can take that
 40 for the current regulations says they can take two between the
 41 10th and the 30th of September and then they can take one
 42 between October 1st and November 30th. And I assume the other
 43 one comes sometime after November. So what I think what we're
 44 doing here is, they still can take four caribou but we're --
 45 this regulation reflects more of what the local advisory
 46 committee would like to see how they're able to take those four
 47 caribou.

48
 49 MS. COILEY: Mr. Chairman
 50

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1

2 MS. EAKON: Mr. Chairman?

3

4 MR. HEYANO: Based on the proposal in the -- in the --
5 the one that the Naknek/Kvichak submitted to the State Board,
6 they said, yes, we would like to still take four caribou, but
7 we want to take them one per month. So I guess, you know, all
8 we're doing is redoing when they can take them to reflect what
9 we perceive to be as input from the Naknek/Kvichak.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert, I mean Robin.

12

13 MR. SAMUELSEN: Under the State Board, all Alaska
14 residents are considered subsistence users. Under the Federal
15 law, only those villages that are qualified within the unit are
16 subsistence users; am I correct, on Federal land? That's the
17 difference here.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Customary and traditional are what
20 we're dealing with.

21

22 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (Affirmative) Right.

23

24 MS. COILEY: And written into the record of the
25 Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee is the reason why they
26 adopted this was to allow as much local harvest as possible.
27 What they were limited were people coming in from the outside
28 who were maybe coming in who didn't have much time and were
29 wanting to take a lot of caribou all at once and then fly out.
30 It was to limit the outside hunters and allow as much
31 opportunity as possible for the local hunters without going
32 into a Tier II.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Even more so than that, it would
35 restrict the Anchorage hunter when it comes right down to it,
36 wouldn't it, well, versus what's happening locally here, you
37 know?

38

39 MS. COILEY: Right. If they could go up to the
40 Mulchatna and have a shot at four or five, why come down here
41 and just take one.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's a very practical way of handling
44 taking care of the biology of the animals and giving our
45 local people an opportunity to take care of the hunt and after
46 that it gets clouded.

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. And I'll clarify it.

49

50

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1 MS. COILEY: I have another point.

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: Staff, if I lived in Fairbanks and I
4 came down to hunt, I'd be only allowed one bull, correct?

5

6 MS. COILEY: If the new -- if the proposed State
7 regulation passes, that's correct.

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: I see heads going yes and I see heads
10 in the back of you going like this.

11

12 MS. COILEY: No. That's not

13

14 MR. BRESLFORD: Alaskan and non-Alaskan residents in
15 State regulations, it's not local and non-local.

16

17 MR. HOOD: One caribou

18

19 MS. COILEY: Okay. I'm sorry. Maybe I didn't
20 understand the question. You said if you live in Fairbanks and
21 you come down here to hunt a caribou.

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: On Federal lands, I would only be
24 allowed one caribou?

25

26 MS. COILEY: False. If the State proposal passes? No.
27 You -- I hate to point to this because it's -- this is a
28 Federal proposal, but if you look in the red proposal book
29 you'll see this written. And these regulations as a resident
30 would apply to you so the upper portion would apply to you if
31 you came from Fairbanks.

32

33 MS. SAVAGE: Well, if the new -- if the proposal

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. Not on -- that -- on State land,
36 yes, but not on Federal lands.

37

38 MS. COILEY: It would also apply on Federal land if the
39 State -- if the State proposal passed.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Passed, yeah.

42

43 MS. SAVAGE: You could take one caribou in February and
44 if you came back in March you could take another caribou.

45

46 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

47

48 MS. COILEY: If the State proposal passes, okay, there
49 will be three tiers. Do you want me to tell you what they are

50

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1 So you can

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well,

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Not necessarily. Robin, you have the
6 floor.

7

8 MS. COILEY: Okay.

9

10 MR. SAMUELSEN: Whenever either one of you talk, the
11 group behind you is going like this. So I want to know who the
12 senior Federal member is here that could give us the correct
13 answers because I'm getting pretty confused up here.

14

15 MR. LaPORTE: I am, too.

16

17 MR. SAMUELSEN: I don't know about the rest of you.

18

19 MS. SAVAGE: Well, it depends on which -- what land and
20 whether the State proposal has passed or whether it hasn't
21 passed, that's what it depends on.

22

23 MS. COILEY: The only difference on State and Fed- --
24 the State -- forget this -- if the State proposal passes,
25 the only diff- -- and the restrictions are lifted off of
26 Federal land; right now the Federal public land in 9(C) is
27 closed to the non-subsistence qualified user; if that's lifted
28 and the State proposal passes, the only difference will be on
29 Federal land in Unit 9(A) and (C) qualified Federal subsistence
30 users are going to be using these regs, rather than the State
31 Brown book. Because on Federal lands they recognize a local
32 subsistence user and they will be using regs that don't -- that
33 where they will be able to take the four caribou, but using --
34 be specific, I can just read it. They'll be able to take
35 four caribou, however, no more than two caribou would be able
36 be taken between August 10th and September 30th and no more
37 than one caribou may be taken October 1st to November 30th.
38 Okay. So it's a little bit more liberal than this. That would
39 be the only difference. On Federal land a local, federally
40 qualified subsistence user would be recognized using Federal
41 Subsistence Regulations.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: On 9(C) and (A)?

44

45 MS. COILEY: On Federal land. But everything else
46 would be the same.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Which we're dealing with 9(C) and (A)
49 (A) and (C). Okay. Susan, did you have anything else that

50

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1 You wanted to say?

2

3 MS. SAVAGE: No.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All right.

6

7 MR. LaPORTE: How would we distinguish between trying
8 to leave the Mulchatna herd open as opposed to -- or leaving
9 the Mulchatna herd on a different harvest or bag limits or
10 harvest seasons and that as compared with the other portions of
11 9(C)?

12

13 MS. COILEY: Well, you'd have to -- I think the way you
14 would do that is to offer an amendment to the State proposal
15 requesting a different set of regulations in that part of 9(C)
16 that's the Katmai Preserve and the Alagnak Wild River Corridor.

17

18 MR. SAMUELSEN: Can we do everything south of the --
19 Can we take a five minute break?

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. We'll take a five minute break
22 here, I want to talk to Dick when we take a break.

23

24 (Off record)

25 (On record)

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. If we could come back
28 to session. We took a little longer on our break, but we
29 really kind of wanted to try to make the proposed Federal
30 regulation that we're dealing with here on this five percent of
31 9(C) somewhat compatible with the biggest percentage of land
32 would be under the State regulation, which is the biggest part
33 of the 9(C) on State lands.

34

35 And this committee believes and feels that right now
36 we're not overly threatened by threatening the caribou herd.
37 The State of Alaska's proposal, according to Sellers, is a
38 little more restrictive than the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory
39 Committee's proposal is. And it's, I believe, the feeling of
40 this Council that we possibly could take that small percentage
41 of Federal land that Ron Hood deals with and then the State of
42 Alaska lands which Dick Sellers deals with and take this --
43 what we have on this piece of paper here and make both of them
44 fit together and have a workable solution. Council members,
45 what do you think?

46

47 What's the wishes of the Council? We have a motion on
48 the floor, don't we?

49

50

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1 MR. HEYANO: Yes. I guess if there's no more
2 discussion to the proposed amendment, if my second would
3 concur, the only change I'd like to introduce, Mr. Chairman, is
4 delete 9(A). You know, it was brought to my attention during
5 the break that 9(A) does not need to be included in this
6 proposal for the protection of North Peninsula caribou.

7
8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Concur.

9
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Concur, okay. That's a good idea.
11 We encourage hunting on Mulchatna herd. Yeah, Robert.

12
13 MR. SAMUELSEN: For further clarification, Mr.
14 Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's what it will be.

17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. For myself and maybe some of the
19 maybe it's just me, but a subsistence user is those
20 communities that are identified as having the c&t within the
21 region here or within the game unit? A person from Fairbanks
22 not qualified on Federal lands as a subsistence user?

23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's right.

25
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: He could be from Fairbanks, he could be
27 from California or whatever. On State lands, all Alaskans are
28 subsistence users.

29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So are we ready to vote?

31
32 MR. HEYANO: Yes.

33
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert. Do all the Council members
35 understand and have it in your mind clearly fixed what this
36 proposal represents today?

37
38 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman, one more time. The intent
39 of my amendment, Robin, is to allow Alaska residents the same
40 opportunity on Federal land as those residents that have c&t
41 findings for Unit 9(C).

42
43 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

44
45 MR. HEYANO: Okay.

46
47 MR. SAMUELSEN: I see resident and subsistence in
48 there.

49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now is it clear?
2
3 MR. LaPORTE: Delete and the non-native there?
4
5 MR. ABRAHAM: Question, question.
6
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. Call for the question.
8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Wait. I think Dick has some

10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Excuse me, wait a minute.
12
13 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, no.
14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No comment.
16
17 MR. LaPORTE: Question.
18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor, signify by saying
20 ~~aye.~~
21
22 IN UNISON: Aye.
23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
25
26 (No opposing responses)
27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Hallelujah, we made it through one
29 proposal. Give us four more days and we may get done with our
30 work.
31
32 The next proposal there.
33
34 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the next proposal is
35 ~~#24.~~
36
37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Excuse me.
38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.
40
41 MR. SAMUELSEN: Before we move on, does this address
42 aff concerns on the northern portion on the Mulchatna caribou
43 herd coming down or should we be more specific and add a caveat
44 allow more liberal hunting regulation -- or opportunity in a
45 northern district. Susan?
46
47 MS. SAVAGE: Did you ask me?
48
49 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.
50

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1
2 MS. SAVAGE: I would actually defer to Dick Sellers.
We slightly discussed that during the break and it didn't seem
to be a major point for him. But I will defer to him.

5
6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, may I call up Dick?

7
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You bet. You're still on #23, right?

9
10 MR. SAMUELSEN: Right. I might bring up another
proposal based on Dick's comments on #23.

12
13 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chair, for the record, Dick Sellers
from Alaska Department of Fish & Game. I think what just
inspired in the last half hour is a good example of how
confusing things could be. And if you could imagine Joe Doe
out in the public trying to contend with some of these issues,
you can understand our desire to keep things as simple as
possible and yet still accomplish our biological objectives.

20
21 Now we did debate whether there was justification in
subdividing 9(C) into the Naknek drainage versus the remainder
of 9(C) as we call it, which is basically the Alagnak or Branch
River drainage. But I think most of the hunting pressure in
the preserve, the Federal lands outside the Naknek drainage
occurs in the fall on what is -- I hate to use the term, but a
sub-herd of the Mulchatna herd. And it's not a big group up
here in the fall, as I've done some surveys in June and
counted 500 to 1,000 caribou in that preserve area. So it's
not a big population. It's primarily bulls and it gets
primarily fly-in hunting pressure. So I guess with those
parameters, we didn't feel like it was worth the trade-off and
confusing the issues and regulations to try to focus more
hunting pressure on that part of 9(C).

35
36 Additionally, with the regulations that are, in effect,
this winter we found some people that come out here and they
didn't know about the regulations or whatever and they're out
here for meat and they decide one caribou a month isn't enough
so they found ways to get into the Branch River by four-
wheeler. And if we had snow there would be a lot more effort.
And in the wintertime, of course, we got some Peninsula
animals in there. So with those considerations we decided to
keep 9(C) as one unit and be more conservative in general
rather than trying to subdivide it and concentrate effort in
the northern parts.

47
48 MR. SAMUELSEN: When you say, we, that's ADF&G and
Federal staff?

50

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1
2 MR. SELLERS: That's -- yeah. And that's what went
3 into our staff proposals.

4
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Not Federal staff, just Alaska
6 Department of Fish & Game?

7
8 MR. SELLERS: Right.

9
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else, Robin? Any other
11 questions for Dick? Thank you. Are we still on #23 or should
12 we move to #24.

13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I'm not going to bring up
15 anymore action on #23.

16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Let's go to #24 then.
18 Dave.

19
20 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Moving on to
21 #24. Number 24 was submitted by the Bristol Bay Federal
22 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. And #24 is similar to
23 #23. It would close Federal public lands in Unit 9(E) to the
24 hunting of caribou except by eligible rural residents. We
25 don't need to spend a lot of time discussing the biology of the
26 herd, we've already pretty much done that. I have a few points
27 here I'll go through. We don't have a lot of information on
28 the -- since 24 relates to 9(E), there's two -- 9(E) is divided
29 into two areas, the area on the Pacific Coast we don't have a
30 lot of biological data there. The refuge did do some surveys
31 in 1993, they saw very few caribou. In 1994 they came back and
32 they did some more surveys. The Ugashik and Chignik units were
33 surveyed and they did find some small pockets of caribou for a
34 total population of about 1,460 animals they found during the
35 survey.

36
37 The primary movement of the Northern herd still seems
38 to be between the calving grounds south of Port Heiden and to
39 the wintering grounds south of Lake Iliamna. Caribou are not
40 very prominent on the Pacific side primarily due to habitat.
41 The habitat just isn't there.

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Excuse me, address that south side of
44 Lake Iliamna again.

45
46 MR. FISHER: I say the primary movement of the Northern
47 herd is from the calving grounds south of Port Heiden to
48 the

49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lower end of Lake Iliamna?

2

3 MR. FISHER: Yeah. South of Lake Iliamna. Surveys
4 done over the last five years show this movement -- caribou
5 movement starting earlier, I think we've already discussed
6 that. Federal lands in 9(E) consist of the Becharof National
7 Wildlife Refuge, the Ugashik and Chignik units in the Alaska
8 Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge and the Aniakchak National
9 Monument and Preserve.

10

11 The staff conclusions for Proposal 24 are similar to
12 those that we discussed earlier for 23. There is an extended
13 season added for 9(E) for that part south of Seal -- of the
14 Seal Cape, that is for the subsistence user. That extends the
15 season. And like I touched on earlier, caribou have always
16 been more plentiful on that Bristol Bay side primarily because
17 of habitat.

18

19 I guess that's about all I have at this time to keep
20 things brief and moving on. We may need to bring Ron Hood or
21 Sellers back up for more questions.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Dave right now from
24 the Council members? All right. Let's -- Dick, if you
25 wouldn't mind -- Sellers, if you wouldn't mind coming up if you
26 have any areas you'd like to address on 9(E). And after you
27 finish we'll have Ron Hood from the Peninsula Refuge area talk
28 to us.

29

30 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman, again, for the record, Dick
31 Sellers, Fish & Game. There's only one minor thing I'd like to
32 bring to your attention. And that's a small glitch in the
33 State proposal. The way it came out from Juneau, the State
34 proposal only effected 9(C). And it was my intention to have
35 the non-resident season in 9(E) be the same as 9(C), i.e.,
36 August 10th to October 31st, one bull bag limit. And so that
37 doesn't show up in this red State proposal packet. But
38 hopefully we'll be able to keep those two non-resident seasons
39 compatible with each other.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Mr. Sellers? Thank
42 you, Dick. Ron Hood, refuge manager, did you have any comments
43 on this 9(E)? You got 100,000 animals roaming around anywhere
44 that you want to tell us about?

45

46 MR. HOOD: Ronald Hood, Alaska Peninsula Becharof
47 refuges. I am -- I'm really at a loss for words on what to say
48 after all we've gone through with 9(C). Maybe it would be
49 better if you have any questions that I might be able to

50

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address would be a better way of using our time.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Ron Hood? Thank
4 you, Ron -- oh, excuse me.

5

6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Right here. I think 9(E) is quite a
7 bit different, Mr. Chairman. And I think 9(E) is out of the
8 concerns for the Chignik/Ivanof Bay Perryville areas not
9 meeting their subsistence needs; is that correct, Ron, 9(E)?

10

11 MR. HOOD: That's correct. However, from a biological
12 standpoint, the fact that the caribou are not making
13 themselves (sic) available not crossing the mountain range
14 there has nothing to do so far as we can determine with the
15 ability of the caribou to get there. If the caribou, if it so
16 chose, could get there. There is no barriers, there is no
17 hunting pressure, there is no reason for the caribou to go over
18 there except that the habitat does not support the large number
19 of animals and the animals, themselves, choose not to go --
20 have chosen not to go over there in recent years.

21

22 And I don't think that there's anything that we can do
23 regulation wise that will increase the availability of caribou
24 in the Perryville/Chignik area.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Ivanof Bay, yeah.

27

28 MR. HOOD: Ivanof Bay area.

29

30 MR. SAMUELSEN: Those communities have expressed the
31 concern that there's guiding happening within the passes and
32 therefore the migration route of the caribou are changing.

33

34 MR. HOOD: As you remember at our last meeting over at
35 Newhalen, I presented evidence from our records that does not
36 support that. And can only say that it appears to be an
37 impression that is not borne out by our observations.

38

39 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, Robert.

42

43 MR. HEYANO: I guess apparently there used to be
44 substantial numbers on that side of the range. Is it that the
45 habitat has deteriorated so such that they're not migrating
46 back or is it just because caribou

47

48 MR. HOOD: Could you define substantial for me?

49

50

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1 MR. HEYANO: Well, substantially enough to stop the
2 migration.

3
4 MR. HOOD: Well, they're -- I have no doubt that there
5 have been caribou in there in the past and there will be
6 caribou there in the future. There's a lot of speculation as
7 to why they're not there now. Some speculation centers around
8 that some of these populations may be local in nature and have
9 been reduced in numbers. Other speculation is that -- that the
10 caribou just haven't migrated -- have chosen not to migrate
11 into that area in recent years. But it's speculation, I have
12 no biological information to give you any support one way or
13 another.

14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions? No.

16
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: One.

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No -- okay.

20
21 MR. SAMUELSEN: Refresh my memory, how many guides or
22 outfitters are operating on the Pacific side over there?

23
24 MR. HOOD: And the first thing is we're talking about
25 Federal lands because I do not have any control on the village
26 corporation lands on that side and so I do not know how many
27 guides that they might have operating on their lands.

28
29 MR. SAMUELSEN: I see.

30
31 MR. HOOD: But we have two guides on the Pacific side
32 south and west of Ivanof Bay. We have one guide in that area
33 who has no clients for caribou, no clients for moose, he only
34 guides for bear. Then in the area around Perryville and Ivanof
35 Bay, we have one guide that is a vessel based operation. He
36 only operates on the coast. And again, he has no authorization
37 for clients for caribou or moose. And that is all of the
38 guiding -- well, then to the north and east of Perryville there
39 is one guide in that area that -- which is part of the area
40 that I don't believe they access into the -- in their hunting,
41 but that guide has a small number of caribou authorized and I
42 don't have that number in my head right at the moment, but it's
43 less than 10, I believe.

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. How -- maybe you could answer
46 this off the top of your head. South of Pilot Point on Federal
47 lands in Unit 9(E), how many guides or outfitters do we have
48 operating?

49
50

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1 MR. HOOD: On Federal lands on the east side, there's
2- there's five on the east side of the mountains. And then on
3 the west side of the mountains there's five on the west side of
4 the mountains.

5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And these are people that register
7 with you as guides coming into the area?

8
9 MR. HOOD: These are guides -- people who have competed
10 for those areas through the Federal process and have been
11 awarded guide areas.

12
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Guide areas?

14
15 MR. HOOD: On which we limit the amount of clients that
16 they may take in for brown bear and moose and caribou.

17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. What are those numbers then,
19 for 10 guides, how many people can they take in there and how
20 many caribou can they take out?

21
22 MR. HOOD: I apologize I did not expect this question
23 and so I don't have those numbers in my head. I do have the
24 number that they took in the last two years available -- the
25 number of animals that they took by guide area.

26
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Where are they? We're talking about
28 an area from Pilot Point which is

29
30 MR. HOOD: First let me give you the overview. In 1993
31 in all of Unit 9(E) for caribou, we had -- these guides took 82
32 clients and took 65 male caribou off of Federal lands and that
33 from Becharof Refuge to Port Moller area on Federal lands.
34 In 1994 the same guides had 60 clients and took 41 caribou of
35 which one was a female off of Federal lands. And I believe the
36 accuracy on this information is probably 99 percent. And if
37 you could demonstrate to me that it's not accurate then I will
38 have the opportunity to get some more money from the Federal
39 government because they do pay for each client.

40
41 Now then you were asking specifically for the various
42 units out there and I don't have -- I find that I don't have my
43 data easily aligned, but I'll try to break it out by that unit.
44 The guide for the area around the Perryville and Ivanof Bay
45 that is vessel operated in 1993 took no moose, no caribou and
46 am not even going to worry about bears, you're not interested
47 in bears. The gentleman on the -- in the Stepovak Bay area
48 took no moose, reported no moose and no caribou clients in both
49 years. Okay the gentleman in -- that hunts to the -- in what
50

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We call AKP12 to the north of Perryville -- north and east of Perryville reported no caribou taken in the unit in 1993 and he took three clients and took three moose in that unit in 1993. In 1994 on caribou again, he reported no caribou clients, no caribou taken and then moose he reports two clients taking two moose in that area. Okay. On the Bristol Bay side in 1993 the guide that has the area -- or that we call AKP13 he took no caribou and he took -- on moose he took one moose, one client, one moose. In 1994 he reported that he took zero caribou and he also took one moose client and one moose. The gentleman just to the north of him in AKP11 took in '93 took one caribou let's see he had one client and one caribou taken. He had two moose clients and he took one moose. In 1994 he took zero caribou and he took two clients and two moose. Moving up to the next guide area which is kind of north of Black Lake, this gentleman, let's see, let me get myself in the right location, in 1993 he took one caribou client, took one caribou on Federal lands. He took two moose clients out and they didn't take a moose in 1993. In 1994 he reports that he took one caribou client out and took one caribou. In 19-- in moose he took three clients out and took two moose. Moving to the north of there to the Cinder River Valley, the guide that works that area reported that he took in 1994, he took six caribou clients and took four caribou out of that area. He took -- on moose he reported that he took four clients and three moose. This is basically the Meshik -- I said Cinder River, I meant Meshik River. In 1994 he reports that he took four clients -- no three clients and one caribou out of that area and on moose he took four clients and four moose out of that area. And that gives you a good summary of the -- and there's maybe one or two here in here that I haven't covered but they're not in the area that you all have been concerned about.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. From -- excuse me, go ahead, Robert.

36

37 MR. CHRISTENSEN: How about the Black Lake area?

38

39 MR. HOOD: The guide that took -- that hunts on Federal lands and I'm not talking about the guide that hunts on Native Corporation lands, because there is a guide that does that, he took, in 1994 one client for one caribou and he took three moose clients and he took two moose. Now we're talking about Federal lands only and these guys also hunt State lands. And this does not report what they took off of State lands.

46

47 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah. So we're getting a mixed bag of

49

50

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1 MR. HOOD: Right. But this is what was taken on
Federal lands by the guiding industry.

3

4 MR. CHRISTENSEN: We see a lot more coming out of Black
Lake and Wildman Lake and Cinder River than with the Federals,
I mean, you know, we never get

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Off of State lands?

9

10 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.

11

12 MR. HOOD: Right. But you can look at some of the
information presented in your booklet on the -- pardon me, on
Caribou on the evaluation that the subsistence staff did on the
number of animals reported taken in those areas and again,
those numbers are very low compared to the herd thing. And
those are all animals reported in those areas.

18

19 Now you can put your fudge factors to it and try to
figure out how many unreported are there, but you're still
going to come out with a very low number of animals that are
actually been taken by the -- by the guided sport industry in
the Chignik unit. And the unguided effort down there is almost
nothing.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No outfitters?

27

28 MR. HOOD: There's no -- well, outfitters are no more
since 1989 when the State passed the law. We don't have any
problems with outfitters. Air taxi operators that carry in
non-guided hunters is the big other -- the other big user. And
there are no operations in the Chignik that have any permits
from us and we can't find anybody that's operating down there
that we think ought to be under permit.

35

36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other -- yes.

37

38 MR. SAMUELSEN: In AKP13, '93 there was no caribou
taken, was there -- and AKP11 -- no, 12 and 13 there was no
caribou taken?

41

42 MR. HOOD: That's correct.

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Was that because of a lack of
availability, was there (indiscernible) conducted?

46

47 MR. HOOD: No. That's because they also have State
lands and the low lands and the low land's available to them to
hunt and they prefer to hunt there because that's where the

50

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caribou are -- more caribou are. Now I have talked to several of the guides in that area about the hunting in the passes issue and one of those pointed out to me that, yes, he occasionally hunts those passes, but he's looking for caribou coming from the Pacific side to the Bristol Bay side and they're usually bulls that he's concentrating on in those passes. They're not going that way, they're coming back.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions of, Ron?

10

11 MR. HEYANO: The figures you gave us were for Federal land. What's your observation on what's happening on State and private land?

14

15 MR. HOOD: Well, the best way to get at that -- do you have that data?

17

18 UNDISCERNIBLE MALE VOICE: Right here.

19

20 MR. HOOD: Is to look on Page 32 of your booklet that shows the evaluation that the -- of the tickets that were turned in to ADF&G. They made those tickets available to the Federal subsistence staff. They punched in every one of those and that gives you a summary by year of the animals taken, let's see, on and off of Federal lands in the unit as a whole. Now do you have -- do we have it broke out by -- okay, we don't have the breakout. There is another breakout that they didn't include in that of the -- by the Chignik unit that demonstrates that that proportion of the take is even significantly less.

31

32 MR. HEYANO: Okay. So, excuse me, if I read this right here, about 52 male caribou taken for '93 and 37 male and one female taken in '94 for the total in Unit 9(E)?

35

36 MR. HOOD: Now you're

37

38 MR. HEYANO: That's total lands or is that just

39

40 MR. HOOD: I'm sorry. I didn't understand the question.

42

43 MR. HEYANO: These figures, is that just for Federal land or is that for all lands?

45

46 MR. HOOD: You're looking at Table 1 on Page 32, right?

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The top of Page 33.

49

50

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1 MR. HEYANO: The top of 33. Oh, I see, okay, here we
2 go.

3
4 MR. SAMUELSEN: Down in the lower left hand.

5
6 MR. HEYANO: All right. Thanks.

7
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Did you have -- Robert, did
9 you have a question?

10
11 MR. HEYANO: No.

12
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robin, did you have a question again
14 Ron?

15
16 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. I just want to note, Mr. Chairman,
17 in our October meeting we didn't have Table 1. The department
18 staff was compiling that information.

19
20 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative) Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, Ron. Yes.

23
24 MS. SAVAGE: Susan Savage from Katmai and Aniakchak
25 National Park Service Units. As you can see from the map the
26 Fish & Wildlife Service manages the purple lands in 9(E) and
27 the Park Service manages the blue lands in 9(E). And I have
28 put up here in a large map, Aniakchak National Monument and
29 National Preserve. And this map also shows selected lands
30 which are not colored in because this action would not effect
31 selected land in Aniakchak National Preserve. And we will go
32 to Proposal 26(B) which speaks specifically to Aniakchak, so
33 I'm just showing you the land status again. Sport hunters
34 cannot use Aniakchak National Monument, that is reserved for
35 residents of Meshik, Port Heiden, Chignik Lake, Chignik Bay and
36 Chignik Lagoon. If you would like, I have some guide data
37 about the take from guides. I don't have real recent and
38 complete information because for one reason or another, guide
39 harvest was not required in 1993, although I have data from one
40 of our guides and all the data from '94 has not yet been
41 compiled.

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you like to give that to us?

44
45 MS. SAVAGE: Okay. Actually the data is on Page 59 in
46 Proposal -- under Proposal 26(B). And technically we have four
47 guides that are registered under limited concession permit to
48 use Aniakchak National Preserve and over the past few years,
49 two of those guides have become less and less active and in the
50

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last couple of years we've only had two guides that were active in the preserve.

3

4 In 1990, there were nine caribou taken by guided sport hunters. In 1991 there were 20 caribou taken. 1992 there were 61 caribou taken. And in 1993 one of our guides took one caribou. And in 1994 one of our two guides took five caribou. I would hasten to add that there aren't very many outfitters from King Salmon who take people down to Aniakchak for caribou hunting because in the fall the bulk of the herd is not in that area, they're in the more northern sections and it's a very expensive place to get to. It's also a very difficult place to get to. It's where the Bering Sea weather meets the Pacific weather and it's often cloudy. And you can fly all the way down there and not be able to land so the access is very difficult and very risky for sport hunters. So I don't see that as a very economical feasible way to get caribou in this area.

19

20 And if you have any questions I'd be happy to answer them.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions? Thank you, Susan. Are there other department heads that are supposed to address (SE)? No more Federal, State people out there that would need to talk with us? We'll go to public comment then. What do we have in written form, Helga?

28

29 MS. EAKON: I thought we agreed that we wouldn't

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, we don't have to go to

32

33 MS. EAKON: Yes.

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

38

39 MS. EAKON: So you just want to open the floor to anyone in the audience who wishes to speak to this.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If anyone wants to participate they can fill out this pink form. And the only one that we have here today that has submitted a request to come before the panel is Joe Klutsch; if you'd like to come at this time. I'm sorry?

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: After Joe.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You go and then, I'm sorry,
 Ted, I've got your paper here, I didn't forget you. Thank you,
 Robin.

4

5 MR. KLUTSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll keep my
 6 comments as brief as possible. Most of the biology of the
 Northern Peninsula herd has been pretty well covered in
 7 previous proposals. And the same rationale that I used to
 8 recommend the no action on the Proposal #23 would also apply to
 9 Proposal #24. You'll notice in the graph in the back of my
 10 comments that I gave you, you've got a breakdown of caribou
 11 harvest in Unit 9(E) roughly from 1986 through 1993. And you
 12 can see that actually the level of effort and actual harvest
 13 from 9(E) has actually decreased somewhat over that period of
 14 time. When we worked real hard to try to get a new guide area
 15 system established in the wake of the Supreme Court ruling that
 16 overturned the former guide area system, overturned it for the
 17 same reason that the State subsistence law was overturned; the
 18 court felt that it violated common use principals. We worked
 19 real hard in the legislature for a couple of years to get a
 20 State system together and simultaneously the Federal land
 21 managers implemented their own system that kind of interfaces
 22 or works in conjunction with the State system. The idea is
 23 to limit the number of guides, restrict them to specific areas
 24 and reduce conflicts with other users in the area and also to
 25 provide for good enforcement and careful monitoring. When the
 26 system first came into place and was being structured, I really
 27 had some negative feelings about the amount of paperwork,
 28 activity plans and activity summaries and employee rosters and
 29 how many clients by species and how many days did they spend in
 30 the field and how much on refuge and how much in preserve. The
 31 Park Service even wants to know how many hours a night they
 32 sleep. I mean this stuff is detailed. We're really boxed in
 33 on this. And, well, now that we get to this point in time, I'm
 34 actually glad that those records are available. I think if we
 35 look at the guided effort in 9(E) and this is from the Federal,
 36 what I believe Robert was looking at at the top of Page 33,
 37 you're talking from Becharof Lake all the way to Port Moller
 38 just looking at a two year level of harvest here. Sixty-five
 39 total caribou harvested on Federal lands in '93 and 41 in 1994.
 40 Ron Hood had posed the question he didn't have any idea or
 41 really didn't have a handle on why that harvest decreased in
 42 1994, I suggested to Council that it was because there wasn't a
 43 fall bear season in '94. And often times during the bear
 44 season, bear hunters will hunt caribou in conjunction with
 45 caribou and so that could account for that.

47

48 Relative to the number of caribou in the herd, that, at
 49 least, from my perspective seems to be a pretty minimal level

50

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of harvest. In terms of my specific activities and there's been some question raised about this and this can all be documented through State contracts and through my Park Service records and my Fish & Wildlife Service records, I have them back to 1988 when they were starting to require them, preserve 88 two moose, four caribou, '89 two moose, two caribou, '90 one moose, four caribou, '91 three moose, seven caribou, '92 two moose, three caribou, '93 two moose, one caribou and '94 one moose and five caribou. Preserve wise -- on the associated refuge area it runs approximately the same, three and six, three and nine, two and one, three and three, and four and one. So roughly looking over an eight year period, we're looking at 13 or a nine year period a total of 20 caribou harvested on Federal lands.

15

16 I did request a trespass agreement with Alaska Peninsula Corporation going back to 1989. Ralph Angason requested that I contact Johnny Christensen, which I did, and spoke with him by phone. He said, submit your proposal and we'll review it. I maintained a trespass agreement there for, I believe, it was two years and was not active nor did I trespass and hunt on APC land in that front corridor. And as I state in my letter, the reason that I did that was the State area system was just being implemented then. My concern was that some of the other guides who were coming down from -- all the way from the Arctic, in fact, would access that front corridor and seek to get those trespass rights, effectively what I was trying to do was cork them off. And I was willing to pay the trespass fee even though I didn't hunt there. Based on a request from the Meshik Village folks, I withdrew that trespass request two years ago. And I have not accessed the State land on the front corridor.

33

34 Now I'm talking a lot about my relative -- my specific activities. I would make this comment and it will come up later in the 26(B) proposal that in terms of my State operations plan and my level of activities, I pledged to the Meshik Village people, I'll put in writing or any way they want that I won't access any of the State land on that front corridor. That's the corridor -- that's where the animals basically come by within strike range where you can use your ATV's. I don't want to take my people into that area under those circumstances, anyway I don't want any conflicts with others. That's not like I'm sacrificing a lot since I don't go there anyway.

46

47 I think in an overview, biologically that level of harvest of adult bulls isn't going to effect the health of this herd one way or the other. And it really can't be shown that

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it plays in this idea of this east/west migration through the passes. You're really looking at about a six week period when those caribou are being hunted down there and that's it. And the spring migrations to Perryville and Ivanof occur after April, May and -- April and May.

6

7 So something, somewhere there doesn't fit. I don't know what's going to -- or if anything will ever make those caribou want to go over to the Pacific side, but it doesn't appear to me that at this time closing non-subsistence hunting is going to make them do that. And I know that State Board of Game adopted a regulation that extended the caribou season through the month of April and we supported that to grant further opportunity for the spring hunt. And it also opened the season July 1st on that Pacific corridor further expanding the opportunity.

17

18 I guess it's kind of like the portion of the regulations that says you can hunt snowy owls in the southern end of Unit 9(E), no closed season, no bag limit; the only problem is there aren't any snowy owls down there. But if the caribou aren't there what it means is that we have to rely on the sharing tradition. I know folk, and I've read the testimony from the Pacific side have come to the Port Heiden Corridor, the folks in Port Heiden provide caribou for folks down in that area. That's one way to take care of it. The other way is, of course, to have to go to the expense to travel to an area where the caribou are. That's about the only way that I can see that you're -- that the Ivanof/Perryville situation is going to -- that you'll be to address that.

31

32 I do know that the Federal land managers have us boxed in to the nth degree. And the State Commercial Service Board, all the players in this process are committed to see that over harvest doesn't occur and that opportunities for the local residents to hunt is continued. Both of the State and the Federal people have, in their comments, have recommended to monitor the situation and not adopt a closure at this point. And I'll conclude my comments with that.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Joe, Council members?

43

44 MR. KLUTSCH: Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, Joe. We -- in case anyone who has just come in, we do have this -- we're dealing with #24 -- Proposal #24 on 9(E) which goes from just north of the King Salmon drainage river all the way down to the Port

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Moller, cross over to the Pacific side just above Sand Point of which a good percentage is Federal lands.

3

4 I don't know if anyone has come in and they want to Sign-up for public comment or not, we're in that period right now. Anyone else who might want to do public comment before the Council? All right. Then we will close the public comment period. I'm sorry, I apologize for that, Ted.

9

10 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native Association, Natural Resources Department. As you know we've had -- there's proposals in to address the situation of no caribou on the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula. And, well, first off I think, you know, people have a right down there to know why there aren't caribou there. You know, I get the feeling that it's just kind of being brushed off as they're not there, they're probably not going to go back, we don't know why so we have to do something else. Well, this is something that, you know, if I remember right I think people have said for the last 20 or 15 years they've noticed less and less caribou and it started about that time. I may be wrong, but I think that's what I remember. You know, and the lack of any biological information or other information, we've been going on local additional knowledge and you've heard me say this before. That's why we, you know, proposed these regulations on is the knowledge of the people living in that area. One of the concerns that the proposal tried to address and, you know, we've heard some other conce- -- or, you know, some other testimony in this area, but just about the activity in the passes, you know, whether they're hunting bear or caribou or whatever they're hunting, just because of the restrictive nature of those passes, if caribou want to go through there and there's disturbance there at the time, they won't go. That's the feeling.

35

36 I guess that pretty much concludes some of the major points that I wanted to make. I've been a little bit reluctant, we were going to have this teleconferencing setup -- working -- I talked to people in Ivanof Bay and they were willing to get together and testify. One of the problems they had with the teleconferencing system last time is that they couldn't hear what was going on here so they were kind of in the dark so I've been a little bit reluctant. It looks like what we're setup with now is just going with the speaker phone as it is, it sounds like and I don't even know if we've gotten the phone to work at all. But, anyway, I guess if we could take a little -- if -- I know we want to keep moving, but if we could take a break I could try to call Ivanof and see -- if you'd like to hear some comments from them on this proposal. I

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could try to call them and see if they were available right now and then we could go with the best thing we've got.

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You want to take a little break and see if we could get them on the phone and then we'll take from our break until Noontime? Okay. We'll take a five minute break and see what you can do.

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Robert's got something.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Excuse me, Robert, I'm sorry.

12

13 MR. HEYANO: Yeah. Ted, I guess, you know none of those communities proposed any changes to the State regulations. And, you know, looking at some of the information, you know, approximately half of the harvest occurs off of Federal land, any indication why there isn't any changes to go along on the State?

19

20 MR. KRIEG: I have an idea, but

21

22 MR. HEYANO: Okay.

23

24 MR. SELLERS: If I may, Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

27

28 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers, Fish & Game. Actually we did get a recent resolution from the Ivanof Traditional Council asking the State Board of Game to close all hunting, including subsistence hunting in the southern part of 9(E). And that petition will be passed on to the board for their March meeting that they'll consider at that time.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's the geographical area that they want closed even to subsistence hunting?

37

38 MR. SELLERS: It's Sandy River, Stepanoff Bay, I'm not sure of the exact boundaries.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sandy River just above Moller, okay. Does that effect the Black Hills caribou herd or the North Peninsula herd?

44

45 MR. SELLERS: It would be just the North Peninsula herd.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Where does the Black Hills caribou herd begin, Black Hills?

50

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1
2 MR. SELLERS: We use Port Moller as a divide between
the two herds. We've never documented any exchange between the
Area south and north of Port Moller. That's not to say that it
never occurs. It's a tough country to monitor.

6
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You're just dealing with the North
Peninsula herd?

9
10 MR. SELLERS: Yeah.

11
12 MR. SAMUELSEN: Do you have a copy of their petition
with you or Ted?

14
15 MR. SELLERS: I'm afraid I don't, but I can probably
get one.

17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So what does the resolution say, it
says all guided

20
21 MR. SELLERS: All hunting period.

22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Including subsistence.

24
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Including subsistence for themselves?

26
27 MR. SELLERS: Um-hum. (affirmative)

28
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's interesting. Robert.

30
31 MR. HEYANO: Yes. What's the justification?

32
33 MR. SELLERS: Again, just the lack of caribou primarily
on the Pacific side. I might comment that, you know, when I
first got the job out here, when we first started putting on
radio collars, in the early '80s I made real concerted effort
to cover the entire Peninsula. And I did several surveys on
the Pacific side south of Chignik and I don't have the survey
results, but I did not see many caribou in the early '80s. And
consequently because of the expense and the logistics, I
stopped looking at that area just because there didn't seem to
be enough caribou to warrant the time and money to look at
them. I mean we're talking less than 50 caribou on the
Stepovak Flats in the early '80s.

45
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They just don't go there?

47
48 MR. SELLERS: Well, I'm not doubting that there are
fewer now than maybe there were in the fall 20 years. But in

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the last 10 to 12 years, there's never been any significant activity that I've been able to document there.

3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What is the State proposal on State lands from Port Moller on up through '90, just off the top of your head, I realize you may not have them in front of you?

7
8 MR. SAMUELSEN: State proposal is no change whatsoever for resident hunters. And it's not reflected in the State booklet, we're going to argue to make the

11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Non-residents?

13
14 MR. SELLERS: non-resident season the same as it
15 up there?

16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Okay. So then you're not going along with Proposal 24 then, you oppose that on the State level? Alaska Department of Fish & Game does not support #24?

20
21 MR. SELLERS: Right.

22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

24
25 MR. SELLERS: And one other comment, on February 3rd, I attended the Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee meeting in Egegik and the Egegik committee -- or the Lower Bristol Bay Committee did endorse that State proposal. Actually they formally amended it to change the non-resident season. And they also did talk about the Federal proposals. One of their main concerns seemed to be the fact that if Federal lands were closed to all subsistence users, where would those hunters end up going. And, you know, this map over here makes a good illustration, if they can't hunt on the purple and the blue, they're going to hunt on the white. And the villages were a little concerned whether that was going to increase the pressure in closer proximity to the village, is it.

38
39 There are actually three different hot issues here. And at some point and I don't know now or as we get to the individual proposals, we'll be talking about the Becharof/Seversons Peninsula, Aniakchak and then this Sepovak/Sandy River and it gets confusing. And I don't know if we need to go into that detail for #24, but they're kind of three different hot items, I guess.

46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you want to go ahead and very briefly mention those three hot items? Can you do it in 30 seconds or less.

50

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1
2 MR. SELLERS: Yeah.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Here's that man with the 30 second
5 comment.
6
7 MR. SELLERS: It's real interesting that Ted would say
8 that these people have a right to know why caribou do what they
9 do, I wish I had that right. I guess that's my basic comment.
10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And we'd be giving you our fees. Is
12 that all?
13
14 MR. SELLERS: Basically.
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions of Sellers?
17 Okay, thank you. And you're still on with testimony, Ted.
18
19 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. I do have the Ivanof Bay Council
20 resolution, would you like me to read the whole thing?
21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No.
23
24 MR. KRIEG: Okay.
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Just summarize it if you don't mind.
27
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Can we get copies of that, Helga, I
29 haven't read it?
30
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm sure the borough can make copies
32 here.
33
34 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. I've got two copies.
35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.
37
38 MR. KRIEG: But anyway, now therefore, be it resolved
39 that the Ivanof Bay Village Council requests the Alaska
40 Department of Fish & Game to enforce an emergency order to
41 close the Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay area of Game Management Unit
42 Section 9(E) on the south side of the Peninsula and Sandy
43 River, Bear Creek and Wildman Lake areas on the north Peninsula
44 all commercial and subsistence hunters for two to three
45 years with yearly evaluations.
46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did it say Seal Cape?
48
49 MR. KRIEG: Seal Cape, yeah.
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And so from there on up

3
4 MR. KRIEG: Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay.

5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. There's Seal Cape right there
and there's Port Heiden right there.

8
9 MS. SAVAGE: Excuse me, Dan, can I make a point of
order? I believe that the map that you're using is incorrect.
The location of Seal Cape is not correctly marked on that one
on that map either. Since it's in the refuge area, I'll let
you point it out to you.

14
15 MR. HOOD: This is Seal Cape right here. And that map
shows Seal Cape up here.

17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Let's show the Chigniks' then,
a little farther up?

20
21 MR. HOOD: Yeah. The Chigniks' are here.

22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

24
25 MR. HOOD: And Seal Cape is out at this

26
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: South of Chigniks' then, okay. So it
doesn't go up to Black Lake?

29
30 MR. HOOD: And the Seal Cape that they're

31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

33
34 MR. HOOD: Well, this map has it misidentified as here.

35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So then it goes right across from
Seal Cape to Wildman, right, Ted?

38
39 MR. HOOD: Just like that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Right. Okay. Thank you,
Susan, we appreciate that correction. Go ahead, Ted.

43
44 MR. KRIEG: That's all I have unless there's any
questions.

46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions that the Council has of
Ted? Yes, Robin.

49
50

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'd like to know what's in that
2 resolution, why

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay, read it to us.

5

6 MR. KRIEG: It won't take long.

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead.

9

10 MR. KRIEG: Okay. This is resolution 95-01, Ivanof Bay
11 Council. Whereas, the Ivanof Bay residents traditionally hunt
12 caribou in the Stepovak Flats area on the south side of the
13 Alaska Peninsula and, Whereas, the Alaska Department of Fish &
14 Game biologists have identified the Sandy River area and Cinder
15 River area as calving grounds for the North Peninsula caribou
16 herd and, Whereas, the Stepovak Bay areas have been a
17 historical caribou calving site for the North Peninsula caribou
18 herd and, Whereas, geographically the Bear Creek, Sandy River,
19 and Wildman Lake areas are natural migration corridors to
20 historic caribou calving grounds of the Stepovak Flats and
21 connecting passes to it and, Whereas, there is virtually no
22 caribou for subsistence usage for our community and surrounding
23 communities that traditionally hunt this area and, Whereas,
24 there's a great need to protect the North Peninsula caribou
25 calving grounds and, Whereas, the Alaska Department of Fish &
26 Game has documented a 20 percent decline in the North Peninsula
27 caribou herd and a record take of caribou in the northern
28 section of Game Management of Unit 9(E) by the commercial
29 hunters, guided and non-guided is the highest on record in 1994
30 and, Whereas, if nothing is done the resource will continue to
31 decline depriving subsistence users of traditional use of this
32 resource, now, Therefore, be it resolved, that the Ivanof Bay
33 Village Council requests the Alaska Department of Fish & Game
34 enforce an emergency order to close the Seal Cape to Ramsey
35 Bay area of the Game Management Unit Section 9(E) on the south
36 side of the Peninsula and the Sandy River, Bear Creek and
37 Wildman Lake areas on the north Peninsula to all commercial and
38 subsistence hunters for two to three years with yearly
39 evaluations. Passed and Approved by a duly constituted quorum
40 of the Ivanof Bay Village Council this 6th day of January 1995.
41 In Witness Thereto, Archie Kalmakoff, President and attested
42 Elizabeth Kalmakoff.

43

44 MR. LaPORTE: Maybe you could show us on the map, Ted,
45 the east -- or the west side where they're talking about?

46

47 MR. HOOD: They're talking about, basically the land --
48 they're talking about that. Yeah. You could almost take a --
49 the Chignik River drainage as the center line, anything

50

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South of that.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Chignik Lake; is it Black Lake?

4

5 MR. HOOD: Taking Black Lake and

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All the way to

8

9 MR. HOOD: This is Wildman right here.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's the cape there?

12

13 MR. HOOD: Well, this

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. The other side, right there.

16

17 MR. HOOD: Well, it's near Ilnik.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Ilnik, okay.

20

21 MR. HOOD: Yeah.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's interesting. I think that's a
 24 very valid point. Any other questions of Ted? Thank you, Ted.

25

26 MR. KRIEG: You're welcome.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there anyone else that would like
 29 to testify on this 9(E) proposal, closing of all taking of
 30 caribou in this area except for those who qualify? No further
 31 comment? Okay. We'll close the public comment period then.
 32 And what is the wishes of the Council?

33

34 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chair?

35

36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

37

38 MR. SAMUELSEN: At the Newhalen fall meeting we had
 39 Ivanof Bay hooked up via teleconference and I think this
 40 issue's been coming up since last year. It's pretty evident to
 41 me that the Perryville, Chignik, Ivanof Bay villages are not
 42 meeting their subsistence needs, nor is there caribou in that
 43 area for whatever reason. Staff reports present range
 44 deterioration already may be a factor. I wish Sam Stepanoff
 45 was here, he's got intimate knowledge of the area and what's
 46 happening down there. Predation might be a major problem.
 47 We've had prior testimony of wolves being in the village. Who
 48 knows. But I do know that the subsistence users are not
 49 meeting their subsistence needs on that side of the river and I

50

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think that their emergency regulation being proposed to the Board of Game might have some -- might be valid for that portion. I notice that it's only going to effect their villages on the south side, it's south of Port Heiden. You know, it's a real tough call but I do know that subsistence needs are not being met. They do talk about going to Port Heiden and hunting over there. I just wish Sam was here to explain it better with his long history of living down in the area there. He knows that area much better than I do.

10

11 MR. LaPORTE: One question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Tim.

14

15 MR. LaPORTE: You're talking about subsistence -- (indiscernible) they're obviously living. I mean there's moose down there, there's other subsistence resources, crab pots. They could put crab pots out and that kind of stuff. It's just that they're not meeting their caribou portions of their subsistence needs.

21

22 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. They're not meeting their caribou needs, but they do have the -- they have a customary and traditional ruling on these caribou over all other user groups. And I think it's good faith on their part -- or -- to even cut themselves off around their villages to try to build this herd up on the Pacific side. I mean we haven't seen a proposal that came from the subsistence users that says, hey, cut us off, cut the sport hunters off, cut everybody off, let's build this thing. At least, two years, three years, to see what happens over on the Pacific side. And I haven't heard anything in staff reports; we don't know if there's range deterioration, that's just a guess. I talked to Ron Hood, Ron Hood talked to us, there's been no money, it's been a -- it's been an idea that Ron has had working this area a long time, but he's never gotten any money to do range studies. So, you know, we could take that idea and throw it out the window. We don't know what the hell is happening down there. But I think we've had enough public testimony from the villages of Perryville, Chignik and Ivanof Bay, the Chigniks' and Ivanof Bay that their subsistence needs are not being met on the Pacific side.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think it's rather interesting. And 45 number of years ago when I was on the North Pacific Council Advisory Panel that some of the people from up around St. Lawrence requested that there not be a commercial harvest of Herring. And then the people came in and I mean they came in dog droves and they had interpreters sit down before the panel

50

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Which was quite an ordeal and shutoff the subsistence and commercial of their own needs while many, many metric tons were being thrown away by the factor trawlers in the Bering Sea. And, so this is only the second time I've ever seen where people would discriminate against themselves on this resource. Now -- and I think this would be good for the Council members to talk and address this proposal here before we act on it.

8

9 The line that's drawn over there from Chignik's across Back Lake over to Wildman, the Ilnik area out on the Bristol Bay side on down to the end of 9(E) on Federal lands I think it would be good -- I think it would be good to close that. The pressure's going to go to the State lands, which the State of Alaska's not, at this point, made any effort to reduce bag limits or (indiscernible) hunts or -- that area, unless the board acts on it in their deliberations this year in their proposals. But I certainly would be one that would have no qualms about doing that. And then maybe treating the -- from the Meshik on up to the rest of the area differently than what we're doing with this. In lieu of what the State of Alaska has made comment on, if we take too many -- if the guides move off of the Federal area and into the State lands, it could impact the communities along that coastline also.

24

25 So those are just my comments as a Council member.
26 bin.

27

28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, to put something before us, I guess, I will move that we adopt the Ivanof Bay's recommendations to the State of Alaska drawing a line across from the Pacific side in the lower portion of 9(E) to just north/south of Ilnik.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

35

36 MR. KRIEG: I just talked to Ivanof Bay and they would be ready like in 10 or 15 minutes if you're ready.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They can call anytime they want, we'll talk to them.

41

42 MR. KRIEG: Okay. Well, basically the way it's setup we have to call them.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You can do that, too, if you'd like, we're going to continue on with this. Go ahead, Ted.

47

48 MR. KRIEG: Okay.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second to that motion?

2

3 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I'll second it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert seconded the motion. Okay.
 Would you like to speak to your motion, Robin?

7

8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, I think I put the cart before the
 horse because I think I spoke to my motion. My comments
 earlier reflected why I made the motion on previous testimony
 from the Chignik, Perryville, Ivanof Bay. Also I think that
 since we are a Federal Subsistence Board and this proposals
 going to the State Board of Game, I'm kind of putting the cart
 before the horse again, but what if the State adopts the
 proposal to close State lands and, you know, here we're sitting
 saying there's no problem in that area when these people have
 continuously come before this Council requesting that some
 regulatory relief on caribou action be taken to try something
 -- to try to get caribou across to the Pacific side in that
 lower portion. And I think there's plenty of opportunity in
 the remainder of 9(E) north of this dividing line for
 subsistence as well as sport harvest on Federal lands.

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dick, are we within the guidelines?

25

26 MR. PASPAHALA: Excuse me, I'm not sure that I
 understand the question?

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are we going to go to jail?

30

31 MR. PASPAHALA: If you do what?

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're within the guidelines of

34

35 MR. PASPAHALA: To recommend a closure of Federal
 public lands?

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. From that area that we -- down
 to the end of the Alaska Peninsula in 9(E)? Okay. Good.

40

41 MR. PASPAHALA: If you go to jail, I'll join you, I
 guess. That's about all I can say.

43

44 MR. ABRAHAM: You could just take my place.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert?

47

48 MR. HEYANO: Maybe somebody in the staff can answer the
 question, what's your best guess estimate of how many caribou

50

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We're going to be saving by implementing this closure?

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're dealing with Federal land
 4 sellers.

5

6 MR. SELLERS: (Indiscernible).

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You count the resource.

9

10 MR. SELLERS: It's all habitat.

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's all habitat.

13

14 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers, Fish & Game. I would guess
 15 that if that whole area was closed you're probably talking
 16 about a harvest of less than 50 animals, of which, probably 48
 17 are bulls.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Wow. Any other questions of --
 20 Robert, does that satisfy you?

21

22 MR. HEYANO: Yeah, that does. Thanks.

23

24 MR. SELLERS: I'd like to make one other comment. I
 25 confess, you know, we've recognized the concern from those
 26 villages. And I think -- hope you would appreciate that if the
 27 State thought there was a solution to this to increase the
 28 number of caribou over there that we would be leading the way.
 29 But I think it's kind of a parallel to the situation some of
 30 you are familiar with when the area west of the Nushagak was
 31 closed to try to encourage caribou to move into that area. And
 32 it really wasn't until the Mulchatna caribou got over 150,000
 33 that you saw big numbers of caribou in there. And I guess our
 34 feeling is that there's -- there's no information that there
 35 was ever a huge use of that area and that closing hunting is
 36 going to change the distribution of caribou in that area.

37

38 If we thought there was some way to increase the level
 39 of use over there, I think we'd be in the lead in trying to
 40 propose it.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You want to transplant some of the
 43 Mulchatna herd to Stepovak.

44

45 MR. SELLERS: Well, maybe the Adak herd.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: There you go. I mean that really
 48 would be. You know, your other one has worked perfect.
 49 There's been good success to that. And -- so that's a valid

50

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question. Do you have another comment?

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We've
 4 at BBNA, have looked into that and the State and the Federal
 5 will have no part of transferring part of the Adak herd onto
 6 the mainland. Referring to the closure of the west of
 7 Dillingham there -- or west of the Wood River to encourage the
 8 migration for us, I look at that as exactly this, we didn't
 9 know if it was going to happen or not. But we did know that
 10 there was no caribou over in the Togiak area, very few mingling
 11 down from the Kilbuck herd. But we're seeing a trickle coming
 12 through now. And the area is still -- has remained closed off
 13 -- of the Mulchatna herd crossing the river and crossing
 14 the community at Dillingham and moving westward. So you don't
 15 know what I -- and on making the motion, I'd hope exactly that
 16 would happen.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, Sellers.

19

20 MR. SELLERS: Yeah. And I think the reason that it
 21 happened was primarily due to the expansion of the herd size
 22 and the expansion of the range. We're not going to allow the
 23 Northern Peninsula herd to expand past 15,000 if we can help
 24 it. So that, you know, maybe if it got up to 30,000 they'd be
 25 over there, but in the meantime, you know, there'd be massive
 26 range destruction so we're not inclined to let the Peninsula
 27 herd grow past 15,000 if we can manage that.

28

29 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. I wasn't advocating that. I was
 30 just saying with no hunting occurring in this area, maybe the
 31 existing -- or no hunting by anybody, maybe the existing herd
 32 will move over towards the Pacific side.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions for Sellers from
 35 the Council members. Thank you, Dick. Okay. We have a --
 36 let's -- if we don't have any other questions or comments by
 37 the Council members, let's either vote this up or down. Did
 38 you have a question?

39

40 MR. LaPORTE: Just for clarification, Dan. Your
 41 amended motion would delete what is proposed on the proposal at
 42 this point then?

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes. Close the lands taking of
 45 caribou, yeah.

46

47 MR. LaPORTE: And basically going for what, Ivanof Bay?

48

49 MR. SAMUELSEN: Ivanof Bay to Ilnik closure just in the

50

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Southern portion of 9(E).

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions?

4

5 MR. HEYANO: No questions, I guess.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Or comments?

8

9 MR. HEYANO: The comment is that, you know, I think
10 it's a good idea. It's probably pretty noble on the community
11 of Ivanof. I don't think the savings is going to be that
12 great, but if they're willing to try it -- the concern I have,
13 it appears to be a decision that was made rather recently. It
14 didn't make it into the State or to the Federal regulation
15 book. And there's another community involved with this
16 closure. It would be kind of nice if it was possible to
17 somehow to get the

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who is it?

20

21 MR. HEYANO: Perryville.

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Perryville supports it.

24

25 MR. HEYANO: Well, I don't -- I only see a resolution
26 from Ivanof.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It would take in Perryville.

29

30 MR. HEYANO: You know, -- and I guess I just want to
31 make sure that if they do, then I probably wouldn't have any
32 trouble supporting it. But I don't want Perryville to come
33 unglued

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Or Chignik.

36

37 MR. HEYANO:, because we are taking action that
38 actually hasn't had public review, I guess. And a pretty
39 drastic one, not that the idea is bad.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, we're closing it to everybody
42 except c&t.

43

44 MR. HEYANO: No.

45

46 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. We're closing

47

48 MR. HEYANO: Everybody.

49

50

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: We're even closing this portion off to
2 subsistence users. That's what they've asked for.

3

4 MR. HEYANO: Including Ivanof and Perryville -- the
5 residents of Ivanof and Perryville.

6

7 MR. LaPORTE: Which is past the bounds of Proposal #24
8 as written.

9

10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, that closes off Chignik and
11 Perryville, too, doesn't it?

12

13 MR. HEYANO: Right.

14

15 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Unless we hear from them I -- Robert,
18 what do you think, you're from down in that area? Do you
19 think

20

21 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I think they should be on
22 teleconference to see if they were in contact with Chignik.
23 Maybe they all intermingled together. Maybe they had their
24 council meeting and that's what they agreed on. Let them get a
25 hold of them. It's a good idea though.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Shall we pass at the concept if we
28 hear otherwise then?

29

30 MR. HEYANO: Yeah.

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

33

34 MR. SAMUELSEN: Ted, can you not even talk to them
35 directly?

36

37 MS. EDWARDS: We're close.

38

39 MR. KRIEG: I think we're getting there, yeah.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How about if we -- we have plenty of
42 information as far as Council members now, do you want to just
43 kind of table this until we hear from the people and then go on
44 and get some information on our next proposal?, break at noon,
45 one hour for lunch and then be back? I think we have enough
46 information to act on this if we can just get a little more
47 information from the other communities if we're on track or not
48 and we can't take too much time to do that.

49

50

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1 Peter is that okay with you? Robert?

2

3 MR. ABRAHAM: Sure.

4

5 MR. CHRISTENSEN: We have 15 minutes.

6

7 MR. SAMUELSEN: I have a recommendation. Maybe we
8 should go to lunch at 15 to 12:00 and come back 15 to 1:00.
9 We'll beat the lunch crowd and

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And we'll miss our phone call.
12 That's okay.

13

14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, set it up for 1:15.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Let's break for lunch
17 right now and be back here at a quarter to 1:00.

18

19 MR. LaPORTE: So be it.

20

21 (Off record)

22 (On record)

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are we ready to come back into
25 session, Tina?

26

27 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

28

29 MR. SAMUELSEN: Who's on there, Archie?

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Archie Kalmakoff.

32

33 MR. KRIEG: Okay. Archie, we're just about ready to
34 start, hold on.

35

36 MR. KALMAKOFF: Okay.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're ready to start. Archie, can
39 you hear us?

40

41 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yes, we can.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. This is Dan O'Hara, Chair of
44 the Federal Subsistence Advisory Board. And we're dealing with
45 our resolution requesting closure from Chignik roughly across
46 Back Lake over to the Bristol Bay side which is near Ilnik on
47 our resolution, right.

48

49 MR. KALMAKOFF: You're getting cutoff here -- the

50

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reception, okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Which mike is he dealing with.

4

5 MR. EDWARDS: Actually if you step away from your mike,
6 that seems to be getting in the way.

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

9

10 MR. EDWARDS: So if you can just speak loudly away from
11 the mike.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Can you hear me?

14

15 MR. KALMAKOFF: You're hearing me on there, we're
16 getting some bad cutoff here, we can't hear you at all.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Can you hear us? Can you hear me?

19

20 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yes, I can.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We're interested -- we have
23 your proposal for the resolution closing off the -- from
24 Chignik across Black Lake, the Ilnik and on down to Port
25 Miller. And we were wondering if you wanted to speak to your
26 resolution before the Council board today?

27

28 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yes, we would. The first thing of all,
29 I'd like to know what resolution is that, I don't recall any
30 resolution including the Chigniks there. All we're looking for
31 is closure between Ramsey Bay and

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, yeah, it's below Chignik.

34

35 MR. KALMAKOFF: Seal Cape.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. That's good, you're right.
38 That's the one we're dealing with. Have you checked with
39 Berryville or anybody else to see what their thoughts were, did
40 they go along with you or what do you think?

41

42 MR. KALMAKOFF: Well, we've talked to them over the
43 phone. I've talked with the council members over there and
44 they agree that we should -- should close down this area to all
45 subsistence and hunters, okay.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Thank you. We do have
48 the other Council members here today and I'll see if they want
49 to ask you any questions, okay, Archie?

50

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1
2 MR. KALMAKOFF: Okay.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anybody else?
5
6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.
7
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay, Robin.
9
10 MR. SAMUELSEN: Archie, we have a number of proposals
before us and we're on -- this is Robin Samuelsen and we're on
Proposal 24. And if we adopt the closure from Seal Cape to
Ramsey Bay then it -- does that take care of Proposal 26 in
94E), the drainages -- the proposed regulation is for 9(C),
hose and caribou, the drainages of Sandy River upstream from
Sandy River Lake and all drainages into Stepovak Flats? Are
you aware -- well, I don't know what page it's on there, but
it's on our Page 61.
19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Can you hear us okay?
21
22 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yeah. You're cutting off there again,
we can't -- we can't pick you up at all, okay.
24
25 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, okay. Does -- if the Council
adopts the closure from Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay area under
Proposal #24, does that take care of -- in your estimation,
does that take care of Proposal 26(C) also? Do you have a copy
of 26(C) in your possession?
30
31 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. It looks like we lost them.
32
33 MS. EDWARDS: I think we need to call them back.
34
35 (Off record)
36 (On record)
37
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'd like the staff to look at Proposal
26(C). I think it's -- it's my understanding that if we adopt
this amendment in the lower portion of -- south -- the southern
portion of 9(E)

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dave.
44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: it will take care of Proposal
26(C).
47
48 MR. FISHER: That's correct.
49
50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. That's correct. All right.
2 So that's fine. Okay. Are we going to try again to do
3 something.

4
5 MR. LaPORTE: Does that include moose?

6
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No.

8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, no.

10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Caribou only, not moose.

12
13 MR. LaPORTE: Proposal 26(C)?

14
15 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.

16
17 MR. KALMAKOFF: Hello.

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is that you again, Archie?

20
21 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yes, it is. I -- we got cutoff there
22 completely that time.

23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robin wanted to ask you a
25 question on 26(C). I'll give him the floor, okay.

26
27 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'll try again here, Archie. If we
28 adopt the proposed amendment closing Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay in
29 the southern portion of 9(E), there's also another -- your
30 proposal 24, there's also another proposal, 26(C) dealing with
31 the Sandy River drainage area, Stepovak Flats. It's a little
32 different where it lists moose and caribou. But I think that
33 the staff has alluded that if we take action on 24, 26(C) is
34 basically taken care of. Is that your assessment, do you have
35 proposal 26(C) in front of you?

36
37 MR. KALMAKOFF: Just a minute here. Can you hang on
38 for a minute, I'll try to find the proposal here? You were
39 saying that the 26(C) was the same as Proposal

40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Twenty-four.

42
43 MR. KALMAKOFF: Would you repeat your question again?

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. If we adopt the amendment
46 closing Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay under Proposal #24, in your
47 estimation would 26(C) also be taken care of, staff has
48 indicated yes?

49
50

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1 MR. KALMAKOFF: Can you tell us what 26(C) is on?

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: It's on Page 61 and it's asking the
4 proposed regulation Unit 9(E), moose and caribou, the drainages
5 of Sandy River upstream from Sandy Lake and all drainages into
6 Stepovak Flats within the Alaska Peninsula Wildlife Refuge are
7 closed to the taking of moose and caribou except by qualified
8 Alaska rural residents. That's what 26(C) says. In the
9 follow-up, in 26(C), additional information provided by the
10 originator, you only talk about problems with caribou, there's
11 no mention of moose anywhere in the justification. So I assume
12 the villages down there are concerned about the -- the
13 immediate concern is the caribou populations?

14

15 MR. KALMAKOFF: Yes, that's true.

16

17 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else, Archie? Archie,
20 anything else.

21

22 MR. KALMAKOFF: No. We don't have anything at this
23 time, okay. We'll be here.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you very much. We appreciate
26 your comments. Can we go back then on record, Tina, are you
27 ready to go.

28

29 Okay. Any other questions or comments by the Council?
30 What's the wishes of the Council members.

31

32 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think we have a motion on the table.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Call for the question.

35

36 MR. CHRISTENSEN: What is the motion?

37

38 MR. LaPORTE: Could you restate it?

39

40 MS. EAKON: It was to adopt Ivanof Bay resolution.

41

42 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

45

46 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I thought we had a motion on the
49 floor.

50

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: We do. I'll clarify my amendment. I
3 think it was an amendment to 24.
4
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right.
6
7 MS. EAKON: Good.
8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: In Unit 9(E), the southern portion,
10 close all Federal land south of Seal Cape to Ramsey Bay area.
11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Not Seal Cape.
13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. Seal Cape's in
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. That's right.
17
18 MR. HOOD: The actual Seal Cape is
19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, yeah. You're right, sorry.
21 Okay. You got the resolution, you can do it -- just
22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. Close the Seal Cape to Ramsey
24 Bay area of Game Unit Section 9(E) on the south side of Alaska
25 of the Peninsula on the Sandy River, Bear Creek and Wildman
26 Lake areas on the North Peninsula
27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second?
29
30 MR. SAMUELSEN: to all commercial and
31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Excuse me. I'm sorry.
33
34 MR. SAMUELSEN: and subsistence
35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Use of caribou?
37
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: use of caribou.
39
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second to that motion?
41
42 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I seconded earlier.
43
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All right. Then this
45 amendment for clarification is okay with you? Any further
46 discussion on this, yes, Robert.
47
48 MR. HEYANO: Question to the staff. I guess if this is
49 adopted by the Federal Board, is there going to be some way to
50

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monitor the effects of this, plus or negative down in that area?

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If the Federal Board passes it, you'll find a way.

6

7 MR. HOOD: That is the correct answer. The reality is that we have limited law enforcement funds and limited officers and so we will be attempting -- we will attempt to patrol it. And we will also implement it as far as any of the big game guides that have permits in that area, we will eliminate the caribou client off of their permits. But I would also point out that there's major portions of that country that is selected lands that is not Federal -- it doesn't fall under Federal lands and, of course, the State. And if the State does not follow along with your regulations we may have some other discussions.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. That remains to be seen, yeah, appreciate that. And we are only advisory in nature, Ron. You know, the Federal Board may say, well, I'm sorry, we're not going to do that. But this is what we're going to recommend to them if this motion passes. So thank you. Any other questions? What's the wishes of Council? Call for the question.

26

27 MR. ABRAHAM: Question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say, aye.

30

31 IN UNISON: Aye.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?

34

35 MR. LaPORTE: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. One opposition.

38

39 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

42

43 MR. SAMUELSEN: With the adoption of the amended language, I would hope that the appropriate Federal agency or people would go to the Board of Game meeting in March since it's the wishes of this Council to align ourselves to a practical extent to a State regulations that that area -- the avenue of cooperation is a two-way street, not a one-way street. And I'd like our comments to be brought forth to the

50

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Game Board when they make their decision.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We have the remaining part of 24 to
4 deal with. What's the wishes of the Council? Yeah.

5

6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I think we've addressed,
7 you know, they wanted to close all 9(E) and I think with the
8 amended language we were able to identify the hot spot area in
9 9(E). Certainly it wasn't my intentions to get a portion of
10 9(E) passed, the southern portion that we just passed and then
11 move on to further restrict the other user groups in 9(E). So
12 don't have any further action that I'm proposing on Proposal
13 24.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert.

16

17 MR. HEYANO: Yeah. I don't know if it has to be formal
18 action, Mr. Chairman, but I think it's -- whoever's going to be
19 representing the Federal side of it at the State level, if it's
20 appropriate we should support the recommended change that the
21 department's going to have for remainder of 9(E) for the non-
22 resident, which I heard is one bull caribou and the season
23 dates from the 10th of August through October 31st.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: As recommended by the Lower Ugashik
26 Advisory Board?

27

28 MR. LaPORTE: Lower Bristol Bay.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lower Bristol Bay, I'm sorry. So
31 your wish is not to leave the proposal as is, Robin, did you
32 now want to eliminate 24 and leave it to status quo from last
33 year?

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. What Robert says is -- I agree
36 with Robert. We should carry forth the changes we made earlier
37 down into the lower unit of 9(E), right?

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, what are they then?

40

41 MR. HEYANO: What are they?

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

44

45 MR. HEYANO: What I heard from

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sellers?

48

49 MR. HEYANO: Dick Sellers is that and this was

50

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Supported by the Lower Bristol Bay is that the non-residents would go to one bull caribou from August 10th to October 31st, same as what we did in 9(C).

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Status quo with the reduction of the late October hunt; is that where we're at? Okay. We have a representative from the Port Heiden area and we need to hear your views on that, too, Bobby, to see what you think?

9

10 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Well, I'd leave it like we did 9(C).

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That would be okay with you; you'd be satisfied with that?

14

15 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative) We'd still have that April hunt.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. Do we need a motion then or status quo? No, we're going to have to have a motion in order to get that lower deal, let's just make a motion and clean it up and go with it.

22

23 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I make a motion to pass #24.

24

25 MR. SAMUELSEN: As is amended?

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: As is amended?

28

29 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.

30

31 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second. Same language that we used on the previous page.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Everybody satisfied with that, does everybody understand that?

36

37 MS. EAKON: I don't.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Pardon me?

40

41 MS. EAKON: I don't understand what you're doing. Could you please explain to me what you're doing?

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Flip that back one more time, Helga.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robert Heyano will explain.

47

48 MR. CHRISTENSEN: That's the same thing we got.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: As we did in 9(C), Helga, it's a
 2 status quo.

3
 4 MS. EAKON: Okay.

5
 6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions by the Council
 7 members?

8
 9 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I think what it used to be is five
 10 caribou and one bull and now what all we're doing is four,
 11 four, you know, I don't see no problem.

12
 13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. No problem.

14
 15 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. The remaining Unit 9

16
 17 MR. LaPORTE: And that once again deletes the shaded
 18 area?

19
 20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Taylor, do we got a problem?

21
 22 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, I think we're uncertain
 23 whether Robert's motion was to adopt this same change on the
 24 subsistence hunter's caribou season into 9(E) or if he was
 25 referring only to the bottom paragraph there which is the
 26 State's proposed new restriction on non-resident hunters and
 27 the Council wants to offer their support on that bottom portion
 28 for 9(E) as you did previously in 9(C).

29
 30 MR. HEYANO: Can we ask Dick Sellers?

31
 32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. Dick, would you mind coming up,
 33 please and helping us. Talk to us.

34
 35 MR. SELLERS: The State staff proposal is to retain the
 36 existing resident hunting season in 9(E), no change for
 37 residents. And the way it's written in the book is there's
 38 also not a change for non-residents, however, my recommendation
 39 was to reduce the non-resident season to August 10th through
 40 October 31st with a one bull caribou limit. That was endorsed
 41 by the Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee and formally put in
 42 their minutes so that hopefully it would be on record and we
 43 wouldn't get into this problem that they had at the Board of
 44 Fisheries with proper public notice. There is that little
 45 cloud hanging over it because in this red book it reflects no
 46 change at all in 9(C), so there's that little bit of easiness
 47 here whether there's going to be proper public notice on a
 48 proposed change to the non-resident season.

49
 50

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1 MR. SAMUELSEN: So it's just the lower portion then?
2
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. But that's okay.
4
5 MR. SELLERS: That's for all of 9(E).
6
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other questions of
8 sellers?
9
10 MR. SAMUELSEN: So your motion only includes the lower
11 portion or do you have a motion?
12
13 MR. HEYANO: No. It includes 9(E), right? Yours is
14 for 9(E) for non-residents,

15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's right.
17
18 MR. HEYANO: one bull caribou, August 10th to
19 October 31st?
20
21 MR. SELLERS: That's my recommendation as a manager,
22 however, it didn't get incorporated into this red book. It's
23 also the recommendation of the Lower Bristol Bay Advisory
24 Committee.
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. The Lower Bristol Bay, okay.
27
28 MR. HEYANO: That's what I would -- I move we adopt for
29 9(E) non-residents, one bull caribou, August 10th to October
30 31st as a recommendation from this body to the State Board of
31 Game.
32
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: On 9(E)?
34
35 MR. HEYANO: On 9(E).
36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second on that motion?
38
39 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second.
40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions you might have of
42 sellers or Dave?
43
44 MR. LaPORTE: Question.
45
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question's been called for? All
47 those in favor signify by saying, aye.
48
49 IN UNISON: Aye.
50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
3
4 (No opposing responses)
5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm going to show that it's
unanimous. Thank you. How about 26(C), can we deal with that
one? It's already been -- just the caribou part of it.
9
10 MR. SAMUELSEN: 26(C)?
11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Can we deal with it easily?
13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, unless you have people
that want to comment, I'm prepared at this time, based on our
prior action to make a motion.
17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.
19
20 MR. SAMUELSEN: Helga, or somebody needs to clarify
what we can do here.
22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I guess, the only thing we would have
to have is probably public comment to make sure that -- if
there were written comments, it's gone into Tina. And I might
ask before we -- we've already had by departments and
biologists talk to us, if there's no other new information, I
guess we're going to be dealing with, Ron, Dave, Sellers? Do
we have anybody requesting public comment and I don't want to
leave Ted out because I know he has all the numbers here. If
you'd like to address that, Ted?
32
33 MR. KRIEG: I think on this one I'll just pass based on
the

35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What you gave earlier is
satisfactory?
38
39 MR. KRIEG: Right.
40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No other public comment? We'll close
public comment period then and if you have a motion, Robin,
we'll go.
44
45 MR. LaPORTE: Do we want moose listed on there at all?
46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. We're only dealing with caribou.
48
49 MR. LaPORTE: But still

50

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1
2 MR. CHRISTENSEN: It says moose and caribou, we should
but the Wildlife refuge closed the taking of caribou.
4
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
6
7 MS. EAKON: That would be your first amendment to the
proposal, okay?
9
10 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)
11
12 MR. LaPORTE: Okay.
13
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If there's moose in the area we don't
want to cut them off from taking that.
16
17 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They -- they cut them off according
to this.
19
20 MR. HEYANO: I guess maybe some discussion would be
helpful, Mr. Chairman. I think if it's the intent of this
committee to leave moose status quo, then we took care of the
concern of the caribou by adopting the amended 24 based on the
Tanof Bay Council resolution. So I guess maybe some
discussion here what some of the committee members want to do
because it's my -- because if we don't want to deal with the
moose then we could probably either take no action or oppose
26(C), but I think we took care of the problem on the caribou,
not not necessarily moose.
30
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we don't need to deal with the
caribou part of it and then when we come to 26(C), we'll deal
with the moose part of it?
34
35 MR. CHRISTENSEN: No.
36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No?
38
39 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah. We've already dealt with the
caribou.
41
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
43
44 MR. CHRISTENSEN: We'll leave this status quo and let
that take as is -- just leave the caribou as is, right?
46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)
48
49 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I mean the moose as is.
50

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
5
6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Based on the board's previous action on
Proposal #24, the amended language closing a portion of 9(E) to
all hunters and looking at Proposal 26(C) and the additional
information as provided by the originator, you know, there's
three paragraphs there and they're all dealing with caribou.
No mention of moose. I asked the question of Archie Kalmakoff
from this area whether the amended language of Proposal 24
would take care of Proposal 26(C) and he concurred on the
teleconference. There's been no indication that these people
are having -- that these people are not meeting their
subsistence moose needs, so I'd recommend that based on our
prior action that Proposal 26(C) be tabled.
18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second?
20
21 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I'll second it.
22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Second that. All right. Any other
24 comments from the Council?
25
26 MR. HEYANO: Don't we got to vote on this?
27
28 MR. LaPORTE: Yeah.
29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, tabled.
31
32 MS. EAKON: You do vote on a table.
33
34 MR. SAMUELSEN: It's non-debatable, but you vote.
35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We do?
37
38 MS. EAKON: You do.
39
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All those in favor say aye.
41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.
43
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
45
46 (No opposing responses)
47
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. It's tabled.
49
50

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1 MR. HEYANO: Can we debate it?

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. You can't debate.

4

5 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think we should oppose it.
 Because if the board adopts it it's going to be open to
 qualified rural Alaska residents and that's not what we said in
 our first one. That's the only thing I had. It's a lot
 different. But, you'll be there, you'll be at the meeting.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, what they're going to do

12

13 MR. SAMUELSEN: It doesn't matter to me whether we
 table it or oppose it.

15

16 MR. CHRISTENSEN: It's clearer to oppose it and I'm
 willing to bring it up for reconsideration.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think we all know our intent here.
 But if it's going to get mixed up in the shuffle. I guess the
 people to ask are staff that's going to be giving this report
 along with

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: To the Federal Board -- either you or
 I will be there.

26

27 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think they have the same question we
 do.

29

30 MS. EAKON: So is that okay?

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do we have an interpretation of the
 rule?

34

35 MS. EAKON: No. We're fine.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is everybody satisfied with
 this then or do you want to discuss it a little bit more and
 make sure we're -- Robert, give us again your thoughts on

40

41 MR. HEYANO: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think what we did in
 the Ivanof Bay Resolution is significantly different from what
 26(C) wants to do. It addresses moose and caribou, but, you
 know, I think the Committee, through discussion, from what I
 gather is not willing to take up moose, but 26(C) asks for --
 what we did was close it to all take and 26(C) asks for
 qualified rural Alaska residents to be able to harvest caribou.
 So think that's a difference than what we did. But I assume
 some representative of the Committee will be at the Federal

50

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Board meeting and make sure that by tabling it what our actual intent was.

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: When I asked to address 26(C) along
with 24, it was just to cleanup the proposal. We don't have to
address the caribou part of 26(C); is that right? Does
everybody understand that?

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Because we addressed on 24 with the
resolution from the Ivanof.

13

14 MR. LaPORTE: Explain it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. 26(C) is going to still remain
that there be no taking of moose in that area, unless it's by
c&t qualified individuals, right? Is that to be understood?

19

20 MR. HEYANO: All right.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we're clear on that?

23

24 MR. SAMUELSEN: So we should oppose it then instead of
tabling it.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you want moose to only remain c&t,
that's the question or do you want moose to remain status quo?

29

30 MR. SAMUELSEN: To me status quo was

31

32 MR. CHRISTENSEN: So they could continue to hunt, you
know.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, that's why I thought we should
say, well, the caribou would then take care of 26, but the
moose part of 24 needs to be either, yes, we will give c&t to
these people or, no, it stays status quo.

39

40 MR. CHRISTENSEN: We give c&t to local.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robin, what do you -- do you
understand what I'm talking about?

44

45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Staff, I think you got to come up and
help us out here. They already have a c&t on moose and caribou
in these villages.

48

49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, they do already have it.

50

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: And they -- they already have it. And
would it clarify

4
5 MR. FISHER: Wouldn't you oppose the moose part of
26(C)?

7
8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Would it clarify what we've

9
10 MR. FISHER: Do you want the status quo?

11
12 MR. SAMUELSEN: Would it clarify to staff that gives a
presentation to the Federal Subsistence Board if we oppose this
proposal and give our justification or tabling it; which one
would you prefer?

16
17 MR. FISHER: Well, I guess -- maybe Taylor can help me
out, but I'll start out here. I guess you could -- if you
would oppose the moose part, the caribou part's already been
taken care of in the other part

21
22 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.

23
24 MR. FISHER: but if you oppose the moose part of
25 then that would revert back to status quo as the regulations
were -- or what the current regulations are.

27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opening it up for everyone?

29
30 MR. FISHER: Like it is now.

31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Status quo is opening it up for
everyone, all user groups?

34
35 MR. FISHER: Um-hum. (affirmative) Like it is right
now.

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Taylor.

39
40 MR. BRELSFORD: Mr. Chairman, all of your motions would
be in the form of recommendations to the Federal Subsistence
Board. You've made a positive recommendation for an amended
proposal #24.

44
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA:

46
47 MR. BRELSFORD: We're now looking at Proposal #26(C).

48
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The caribou part of it.

50

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1
2 MR. BRELSFORD: Correct. And moose, it had both
3 elements in 26(C). In tabling it, you are recommending to the
4 Federal Subsistence Board that they table or take no action at
5 this time. And your comments indicate that your reason for
6 that had to do with having addressed the caribou portion in a
7 previous recommendation, your recommendation on #24 and that,
8 in effect, you believe the moose issue has been handled
9 sufficiently, that it's uncertain what was meant -- what was
10 requested in the proposal since the justification statements
11 all focus on caribou. So I believe the tabling would be taken
12 by the board to mean that you wanted no action on 26(C). That
13 you felt you had solved the problem with your action on #24.
14 If you were to vote it down, oppose it, on record, by a vote
15 and state your reasons, I think it would mean the same thing.
16 The recommendations would equal the same thing before the
17 Federal Subsistence Board.

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we're okay.

20
21 MR. HEYANO: Okay.

22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Everybody happy?

24
25 MR. HEYANO: Yeah.

26
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right.

28
29 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Helga, what do we have next here,
32 #25?

33
34 MS. EAKON: Twenty-five.

35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dave, are you on for #25?

37
38 MR. FISHER: What I'm going to do on -- Mr. Chairman,
39 I'd like to address 25 and 26 together. They both deal with
40 the same area. The staff analysis starts on Page 44. This
41 proposal was submitted by the Egegik Village Council and the
42 Bristol Bay Native Association. And what Proposals 25 and 26
43 would do would close Federal public lands to the hunting of
44 moose and caribou by non-qualified rural residents on the
45 Seversons Peninsula and the Island Arm area. All these lands
46 are within the Becharof Wildlife Refuge.

47
48 And if you'll turn to Page 52, -- 51 and a half, I
49 guess, the map there, you'll see the exact areas that we're
50

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talking about. And the -- I believe which is fairly accurate, current land status of that area. Is everybody kind of on line?

4

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. We got it. It doesn't say Seversons Peninsula written on the Peninsula.

7

MR. FISHER: That's my fault. I put the map together, I will correct that for the next meeting.

10

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) You see that little peninsula going to the west there, right there -- okay, do you see that little peninsula, got it -- okay.

14

MR. FISHER: In order to kind of speed things up today, I'll bypass on the caribou. We've pretty well discussed that. It's the -- the animals in that area are part of the Northern Alaska Peninsula herd, we've discussed that. And I'll give you sort of a little briefing on the moose population.

20

The overall moose population in 9(E) is stable. And the moose population in this area is stable, too. In reviewing some of the survey data that the refuge has done, there's been over the last four years there's been -- it looks like slight reduction in some of the large bulls in that area and I think that goes in line with the fact that the -- the hunting activity in the area, particularly the Island Arm area is increasing. However, the moose density and the bull/cow ratios are within management objectives. Residents of 9(A), (B), (C) and (E) have c&t use for moose in 9(E). Moose do play an important part in the general subsistence harvest in those communities.

33

This proposal is an expansion of Proposal #30(A) if you remember our meeting last year. And it's also an expansion of request for reconsideration #94-06. Those two proposals dealt specifically with the Seversons Peninsula. Basically, I guess what we have, we don't have a real biological problem, we have a public use problem in that area. The refuge did some monitoring in '94 and they started in mid-July and went through that first week in October. There really wasn't much activity in that area until that first week in September when the rapid buildup of hunting caps occurred in that Island Arm area. There were very few camps on the Seversons Peninsula, I think maybe three -- two or three to be exact. Most of the hunters that arrived in the Island Arm area were taken in by air taxi operators and soon as the moose season was over with the camps were gone by September 23rd.

49

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1 So basically the conclusions that the staff has come up
2 with, the work that the refuge has done indicates that it's not
3 really a guided problem, but it's an air taxi problem with
4 those air taxi operators bringing in unguided sports hunters.
5 And I think Ron will possibly address some alternatives that
6 he's considering for helping this problem.

7
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Before Ron comes, Council
9 members, do you have any questions of Dave?

10
11 MR. FISHER: Pretty brief. But if you have any.

12
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're familiar with it.

14
15 MR. FISHER: Okay.

16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert is the new one on board.

18
19 MR. CHRISTENSEN: But the board's advising me.

20
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So you're familiar with it?

22
23 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah.

24
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You are, good. Ron Hood, would you
26 like to come up and we have some questions we'd like to ask you
27 and maybe you have some comments you'd like?

28
29 Before Ron starts, if you've just come in and like to
30 make public comment, you certainly can fill out a form and as
31 we come to the proposals that you might be interested in, we
32 would be real interested in you having an opportunity to make
33 public comments on the proposals as we come to them. Ron.

34
35 MR. HOOD: Ronald Hood, Refuge manager for Alaska
36 Peninsula Becharof National Wildlife Refuge Complex. Before I
37 start, Helga, I presented you -- or gave you a copy of a letter
38 that I received from a resident that lives in the Kejulik River
39 Valley and I faxed that to you earlier and I'm not sure whether
40 the Council has seen that letter.

41
42 MS. EAKON: It was too late to send them a copy.
43 However, we did receive it at the office. And Bill Nower did
44 see it. He's in charge of

45
46 MR. HOOD: Is the Council aware of that letter?

47
48 MS. EAKON: No. I didn't have time to pass it on.

49
50

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1 MR. HOOD: And I failed to make any extra copies of the
2 letter. But I wanted to make sure that it's from Mr. Phil
3 Shoemaker who lives in the Kejulik River Valley year-round and
4 he's also a professional guide in that area.

5

6 For the Council's interest, I'll point out the blue
7 area over on the map shows what Proposals #25 and 26, 25 is the
8 - what I call 25 west. It is the western side of the
9 Seversons Peninsula plus the lands on that side. And then we
10 have 25 east, of course, is the east side of the Peninsula.
11 Now last year at the Federal board meeting in November I was
12 directed to prepare a discussion or options for using 810 of
13 ANICLA to address this issue at the refuge level. And that's
14 what this briefing paper that I've presented to you covers.
15 And just briefly I summarized the monitoring program for
16 Becharof Lake that we undertook last year and I'd like to go
17 over what we found.

18

19 We found 22 camps in the Becharof Lake area and that's
20 on the bottom of the first page. Eighteen of those camps -- or
21 one of those camps was on Seversons Peninsula at the east end
22 of it. The remaining 18 camps were concentrated throughout the
23 Island Arm area. And there's a map on the back that shows
24 where the locations of those camps were at. We -- the refuge
25 staff contacted 46 hunters, all were hunting moose with caribou
26 as an alternate target. Four hunters identified themselves as
27 residents of Egegik and were hunting with non-resident friends
28 from out of -- and all these non-resident friends were from
29 out-of-state. Ten were Alaska residents, non-c&t users and 32
30 were non-residents. Eight of the hunters were transported to
31 their hunting camp by boat from Egegik. Six were transported
32 on private aircraft and the remaining 32 were transported there
33 by air -- commercial air taxi operators operating under special
34 permits from the complex. The camps started to move on to
35 the Peninsula on September 6th. By September 10th most were
36 there. By the end of the State moose season on Sept- -- we
37 checked on September 23rd, all of these were gone.

38

39 Now as part of our monitoring of the hunting activities
40 on the Peninsula, we also made observations on caribou
41 movements. And as we were starting we noticed -- we observed
42 over 5,000 caribou crossing the Egegik River in early July.
43 This is actually slightly before we started our monitoring
44 period. And during the July 15th to October 4th monitoring
45 period, we did not observe any significant movements around
46 Becharof Lake. And as I reported at our Newhalen meeting, just
47 as we were getting read to go to that meeting we received a
48 report that there were 3,000 caribou in the Burls Creek,
49 Gatherly Creek area which is on the west side of the south end
50

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of Becharof Lake.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Right across from the Seversons
4 Peninsula.

5

6 MR. HOOD: Right. In fact, it's that blue area and
7 just south of that blue area on the west side is where we're
8 talking about. We made a flight out there to check on this on
9 October 21st. In that area under -- under question we observed
10 extensive tracking and the tracks appeared to be moving off to
11 the north west along the south shore. And we observed
12 approximately 500 caribou up at the south west end of Becharof
13 Lake. So it appeared to us that that major movement of caribou
14 went up the south end of the lake and I assume went around and
15 crossed on the west end of the lake.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They went down by Kejulik Mountain
18 and just down along the shore line to the west and then went
19 around by Egegik River?

20

21 MR. HOOD: That's correct.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And then on north?

24

25 MR. HOOD: Yes. Now we did not observe them cross
26 there, but we observed the tracks moving in that direction and
27 saw the 500 caribou at the west end of the lake there.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

30

31 MR. HOOD: We also checked carefully to see if any
32 caribou had crossed over to the -- using the Seversons
33 Peninsula to the east side or the Little Narrows, a little
34 farther to the south in that same area and we observed no
35 tracks indicating that there had been major movements.
36 However, we did observe a small herd of about 100 caribou that
37 appeared to have just swam from the small island and the Big
38 Narrows area to the Featherly Creek side. They were laying on
39 the beach there in that area resting and, in fact, two of the
40 bulls at the rear end of the group got up and ran back the way
41 they came, jumped in the water and swam back to the island.
42 And also we observed a small group of caribou on Seversons
43 Peninsula itself on the other side of the island as if they
44 were getting ready to swim toward the island, although that's a
45 hypothesis or speculation on my part.

46

47 So basically we did not find any evidence to support in
48 1994 any major movement of a caribou across Seversons
49 Peninsular either at the Seversons Peninsula or at the Little

50

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Narrows where it would've been another obvious location for them to cross.

3

4 We did observe local caribou movements. And I think that there's quite a bit of local caribou movements across that area. During our monitoring, I also -- we -- every time we saw a caribou or a moose in that area we made note of it. And our observations were on 8/12 there were two caribou on the island at the Big Narrows. On 8/30 there were two caribou observed on Seversons Peninsula. On 8/31 there was one moose on Seversons Peninsula and 10/21 observed 100 caribou resting on the shore near Featherly Creek and then the two bulls swimming back and then the small group on Seversons Peninsula.

14

15 But moving on down through the discussion, it appears to us from what we've observed during moose season out there, we don't have a biological problem, we have a conflict between user group problem. And we have one option that we can exercise locally and will exercise at the refuge on air taxi operators. And I -- if you look at the bottom of the second page, something I call complex option and I'll read this. Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge Complex will take positive action in 1995 to reduce the opportunity for conflict between non-guided clients of air taxi operators and subsistence users in the Island Arm area of Becharof Lake. Through implementation of Section 810 of ANICLA, we will take one or more of the following actions. One, limit the number of special use permits issued to air taxi operators authorized to deliver clients into the Island Arm area Becharof Lake; two, limit the number of parties, clients authorized for the Island Arm area during the September 1 to 20 Federal and State moose seasons; three, limit the access points that air taxi permit holders can utilize to south of Becharof Creek on the east side of Island Arm and south of Featherly Creek on the west side; and, four, close access to the area to all air taxi permit holders during the September 1 to 9 time frame.

37

38 And I am coming to you today asking for some guidance on what this Council believes would be the proper way or mix of these to implement in that area to reduce the conflicts that have been going on. And this is what I was going to present in our earlier -- if we had gone by our normal agenda items. But basically, that's what I have to present, in the actions that we are going to take at the refuge level.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is that it Ron?

47

48 MR. HOOD: Yes.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you. Any questions of Ron,
2 Yes, Robin.

3
4 MR. SAMUELSEN: In response to your question number
5 one, Ron, limit the number of special use permits to air taxi
6 operators authorized to deliver clients to the Island Arm area;
7 what kind of reduction are you looking at?

8
9 MR. HOOD: Well, that's -- that is one of the reasons
10 that I am here. To get some advice on how many we should allow
11 to operate in that area, one, two. We, through 810, I have the
12 hammer to close it down if it is so needed. I do not feel like
13 we need to go that far, but I do know that we need to make some
14 significant reduction in the amount of air taxi clients that
15 are delivered down there. But I also want to point out that
16 our action on air taxis will not reduce the -- or will not
17 limit sport hunters who access the area through private
18 aircraft or through -- by boat from Egegik. Because they are
19 accessing the area without taking a -- using a commercial
20 operator that requires a permit from us.

21
22 MR. SAMUELSEN: One more question, Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

25
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Did you have a meeting with the
27 residents of Egegik on this issue?

28
29 MR. HOOD: I -- no, with the residents -- I met with
30 the board -- with the Lower Bristol Bay Board and tried to get
31 some input at that time. Frankly, I failed to get any
32 significant

33
34 MR. SAMUELSEN: Lower Bristol Bay Advisory Committee?

35
36 MR. HOOD: That's correct.

37
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: But you haven't had a meeting with the
39 residents of Egegik?

40
41 MR. HOOD: No. I have not.

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The village council or anything like
44 that, you haven't met with them?

45
46 MR. HOOD: No, sir.

47
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other questions of Ron?

49
50

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1 MR. CHRISTENSEN: A solution.

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

6

7 MR. SAMUELSEN: This is again that I feel it was a
proposal put in by the Traditional Council of Egegik, I don't
know, you know, I can't sit here and in all honesty tell Ron
what number I think is the right number. I think that Ron and
his department and the residents of Egegik need to sit down and
come up with a compromising number where both user groups could
utilize this area and not disenfranchise the subsistence users.

14

15 MR. HOOD: And we do plan to move forward in that.
Because we need to meet with both the user group, the air taxi
operators and get their council and we also need to get with
the local user's council on that.

19

20 MR. SAMUELSEN: In the other regional council meetings
this issue has come up time and time again, under different
numbers, but it's been a conflict between user groups. As Ron
has stated, there's no biological justification, it's just
there is too many non-guided hunters in this area. And the
subsistence users out at Egegik felt that they were being
driven off a traditional and historic use site which is the
Seversons Peninsula. And if Ron is happy that -- or if Ron
thinks that these four steps here will definitely result in a
reduction and is willing to go work with the traditional
Council of Egegik to come up with a number here, you know, I'd
rather go that route. Because from what I understand from the
residents of Egegik that there's always been hunting down there
but it wasn't until we seen this big spike of non-guided hunts
that the problem resulted. Ron, is that a pretty

35

36 MR. HOOD: Well, it's more complicated than that. In
the late '80s there was a buildup of the outfitters that we've
referred to using that area and that was where the conflict
was. We managed to solve that issue by implementing our policy
of big game guides and the State passing -- changing their law
in defining what was outfitting and what was guiding. That
resolved that issue. Now we have a new issue that has
surfaced. And that is the air taxi operators delivering non-
guided clients into the area and, frankly, in large numbers in
1994.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And the reason they do that is, for
the thing, they can get in there. There's a lot of places in
Becharof you can't get into, the Bible Camp and maybe down to

50

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the Dunes and Egegik River and that's about it even on floats.
 2 And so the Featherly/Seversons Peninsula, you get in there
 3 there's protection, you've got two streams that are excellent
 4 fishing, you've got a lot of moose and mostly likely caribou,
 5 so that -- it's going to be the favorite spot to go. That's
 6 going to be the targeted area.

7

8 Now it's this Council's responsibility not only to deal
 9 with the biological problem, but when the sports entity and the
 10 not users do have a conflict, it's this body's responsibility
 11 to deal with that issue also, aside from the biological
 12 problem. That's where it gets a little more binding. And if
 13 you want to go ahead and get some satisfaction from Ron and
 14 Egegik Council to solve it and come back here in another year,
 15 that's fine. I think it probably could be worked out providing
 16 there's some way you can reduce the numbers, Ron.

17

18 MR. HOOD: Well, I

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And that's

21

22 MR. HOOD: On the air taxi clients, I can reduce the
 23 numbers. On the non-guided private air, that's a whim of
 24 nature -- a whim of their own thing. And so we have the
 25 potential to resolve this issue and then suddenly have another
 26 issue thing. But at this time, we have identified that it's
 27 the air taxis and their clients that appears to be the problem
 28 and we can resolve that issue.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other questions of Ron?
 31 Yeah.

32

33 MR. LaPORTE: Just one comment. As a board here
 34 though, as long as the subsistence needs are being met, is it
 35 our jurisdiction to start messing with conflicts between user
 36 groups.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. That's our job, isn't it,
 39 Taylor?

40

41 MR. SAMUELSEN: In Section 810 it is.

42

43 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's the unpleasant part of your
 46 b.

47

48 MR. BRELSFORD: I think there was a first part of Tim's
 49 question, if subsistence needs are being met

50

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1
2 MR. LaPORTE: Yeah. If subsistence -- yeah.
3
4 MR. BRELSFORD: then you don't mess with that. I
think perhaps your view is that the information suggests that
subsistence needs are at risk in some respect, that there is a
conflict that impacts the satisfaction of the subsistence
needs, that's why you're addressing some solutions.
9
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm not sure that subsistence needs
are being met in the Seversons area by the local people of
Egegik. And that's about one of the few places they can go to
to deal with subsistence. Yeah.
14
15 MR. CHRISTENSEN: From a resident of Egegik they say
that they -- he's been going up there for 10 years and the last
few years he's been running up there and he gets so discouraged
by all the other hunters around there that they just turn
around and go home and it's the same issue we talked about in
our advisory meeting. And he's looking for help from Ron and
us. We can come up with better solutions, let's say like throw
in a 10 permit hunt, you know, (indiscernible) down 30 more
hunters out there. But, no, they have been filling their
subsistence needs down there.
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They have been?
27
28 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They have been
29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
31
32 MR. CHRISTENSEN: -- they haven't been filling
their
34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, they haven't been.
36
37 MR. CHRISTENSEN: He said they haven't been.
38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, okay. Thank you, Ron. If
there's no further questions, we have other public hearing to
take place on this. And let's see, I don't think we need the
State of Alaska unless, Sellers, you got a burning issue you
want to deal with on this, no, okay. Does the Council members
have any questions of Sellers? Okay. And then are there other
department heads that need to address this? So let us go to
public hearing. And Ted, would you like to come and make
comment? We have John Eckert who's signed up also. And, Joe,
you're going to be addressing this issue, too, are you?
49
50

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1 MR. KLUTSCH: Three sentences.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

4

5 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native Association,
Natural Resources Department. I think to start out I've got
copies of a letter here written by Charlie Kelly and statements
by 13 residents of Egegik that have signed supporting this.
This is when it was still Proposal -- well, this is Proposal
30(A), the Seversons Peninsula, but these additional two
proposals, you know, also -- surrounding both sides of the
Seversons Peninsula refer to the same issue. So I've got
copies of this and I'll pass those out. And there's some good
information here. I guess what I would like to do is just go
ahead and read it also into the record.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are you going to read this whole
volume?

19

20 MR. KRIEG: Well, it's only one and a half pages, the
others are the signed statements.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We don't have that much time.

24

25 MR. KRIEG: Okay. I guess to start out, too, you know,
as we've already established it's the non-guided hunters. The
hunters, you know, that may be flying in on their own, it
doesn't seem like it's a guided hunter problem in this issue.

29

30 I'll just read the whole thing and once again, this was
written for the Federal Subsistence Board meeting that was held
back in November when Proposal 30(A), the Seversons Peninsula
proposal was revisited by the Federal Subsistence Board.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go right along.

36

37 MR. KRIEG: Charlie Kelly, Subject Proposal 30(A). I
will not be able to attend the hearing in Anchorage. I
understand that you will be able to read my testimony as to why
I support Proposal 30(A). The Seversons Peninsula, Island Arm
Area traditionally has been the hunting grounds for the
subsistence users of Egegik. The area was used so much so that
cabins have been built and Native Allotment claims are located
in the area.

45

46 The efficiently mobile sport hunter, guided and non-
guided have taken over the area. The local subsistence user is
greatly upset by the sport hunters way of hunting the caribou
and moose. They have no respect for the animals. They use

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airplanes to spot the animals and in some witnessed cases actually use their aircraft to herd the animals. When they shoot the animal it is shot in the front quarters as to not ruin their prized possession, the antlers and cape. I have also witnessed the sport hunter taking the antlers and cape out first then going back for the meat, many times the sport hunter will say the bears got the meat when in reality they had no intention of recovering the meat. If a sport hunter takes any meat the only parts that are taken is the back strap and deboned hindquarters, the rib cage, front quarters, heart, liver and tongue is left in the field.

12

13 When a subsistence hunter takes a caribou the animal is shot in the heat utilizing all caribou parts, heart, liver, tongue, the whole carcass. Subsistence hunters never lose meat to the bears. The only part of the caribou left in the field is the head, lower legs, lungs and intestines.

18

19 Local hunters are disheartened by the tent city of sport hunters that they will see in the Seversons Peninsula, Island Arm area. They know that the competition is so great that they most likely will not be able to get their winter supply of meat from there. It also sickens them to know how much actual animal is taken and how much more will be left to waste. The specie of caribou in the Island Arm area is different from those migrating across the Egegik River. The texture and taste of the meat is so much more superior than the other caribou which has interbred with reindeer, that is why the local subsistence user hunts the caribou in the Seversons Peninsula, Island Arm area.

31

32 The existing cabins in the area are being utilized by the sport hunter, when traditionally they were used by the subsistence hunter.

35

36 Guided and non-guided sport hunters, when they don't fill their moose harvest ticket they stay longer to fill their caribou harvest tickets. They are staying longer so they don't leave empty handed, displacing even longer the subsistence hunter.

41

42 Seversons Peninsula needs to be closed so the caribou migration will not be interrupted. There are so many sport hunters and their camps on the south shore that it is impacting the caribou crossing at the Narrows. Ten and 12 years ago I would see caribou crossing, my family and I would camp in the area, get our winter supply of meat and go home, now it is a rare site if you see caribou crossing there. You can see on the ground the caribou migration trails from the south side

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mainland through the island to the Seversons Peninsula, they
 number about a half a dozen trails. Their (caribou)
 impressions in the ground are eight inches to a foot deep,
 these show their migration route and that is where they cross.
 And then the following pages are signed by 13 residents of
 Egegik.

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you have any further comment to
 what, Ted?

10

11 MR. KRIEG: No. Unless there's questions.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anyone have any questions of Ted?
 Thank you very much.

15

16 MR. KRIEG: You're welcome. Thank you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Joe, did you want to make -- you're
 signed up for comment on 25; do you wish to make a comment?

20

21 MR. KLUTSCH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Just briefly, this is
 an interesting concept as far as the solution that Ron Hood is
 proposing. It may have long term ramifications, it could cause
 more or less of a domino effect. If these transporters don't
 choose to act responsibly, they may seek out other areas on the
 refuge, other areas in the lake system to take what they're not
 able to take in this area. So I would urge that the Fish &
 Wildlife Service be prepared for a possible shift in pressure
 to other areas where maybe similar things might occur.

30

31 And then I'll just conclude by saying that the refuge
 people documented that there were a number of Egegik residents
 hunting with non-resident friends in this area that were taken
 there by boats. And that seems a little inconsistent if they
 aren't meeting their subsistence needs why somebody in the
 village would be doing that but that's something I suppose they
 would have to look at themselves. But I think the Fish &
 Wildlife solution is a step in the right direction. Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: When the people go into Becharof
 Lake, the shelter is on the south side. And going up into the
 Seversons Peninsula you get into that south, Ron, you're
 familiar with it, that's about the only place you can really go
 and spend time and camp with a boat and not have it swamped
 during the day, so they're going to go there. That's where the
 conflict is going to be at. And it's not going to go away
 until it's fixed.

48

49 And so, John Eckert, you said you -- did you want to

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make a comment to this.

2

3 MR. ECKERT: I'm not a very eloquent speaker. Mr.
 Chairman and board members, I've been following this
 Subsistence program for a couple of years now. And it seems
 there's always a conflict between the Federal and the State.
 Nobody can decide who's going to be boss. And I have a problem
 with the word, subsistence. I'm a subsistence user, but I make
 \$40,000.00 a year and I get a sport license and I can go buy my
 meat in a market. I'm in competition with the people that have
 a lifestyle, not a subsistence style but a lifestyle. And I
 believe it's time that we should change the Federal regulations
 to support the people with a lifestyle. You take New Stuyahok
 and up north here and down in Egegik and those places, they
 don't have government jobs like we do here. They don't have
 all kinds of economy that we have, so they don't live a
 subsistence style, they live a lifestyle.

18

19 The people here have a subsistence style of living.
 Most of you people have a subsistence style of living. If you
 have a lifestyle and you're living out in the bush, why you
 live off the land. And the subsistence word is what's the most
 confusing problem that we're having with this program. If the
 Federal -- the Natives are Federal controlled, they should be
 under Federal control, not State. And I don't think the State
 should be telling the lifestyle people when they can have a
 piece of meat to eat.

28

29 If I was a Native living in New Stuyahok and I have 10
 children, the subsistence laws are closed, hunting season's
 closed, what am I going to feed my children if I wasn't lucky
 enough to get a moose or a caribou or go 300 or 400 miles to
 get a seal or something. What am I going to feed my children
 if a moose comes through the village and I shoot it, they put
 me in jail. That's not fair. That's his lifestyle. This is
 what he uses to feed his family. So I think we should change
 the word from subsistence to lifestyle for the Natives through
 the whole State of Alaska, not just here in southwest Alaska.
 We got 29 villages here, one or two are exempt but the rest of
 them are lifestyle people. And you keep pushing this word
 subsistence and then you have Anchorage bucking it tooth and
 nail because they want to come out here and glean all of the
 best caribou with the horns and everything else, leave the meat
 to rot. Those are the things that we should close down. And I
 think the Federal government should have that authority on
 these Federal lands, stop some of that stuff. The State says
 they'll stop it, but they never control it, they never observe
 what the hell's going on. They don't go out in the field and
 arrest people when they're reported. I mean what the hell are

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you going to do with them? If we're going to have those kind of people protecting our rights and as the quality of our herds and the quantity of them, then let them do their job or take another job that they're more capable of doing. They've been reported to do a lot of things against the -- that the people did against the law and they have never even had the knowledge to report what they did about it, not a word, no response from them.

9

10 This is wrong. So I think the word, lifestyle should be implemented instead of subsistence for the Natives of Alaska period. I think that would settle some of our problems between the Federal and the State. Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you, John. Any other members of the public who want to do public comment on #25? Okay. We'll close it to public comment and what's the wishes of the Board? Yes.

19

20 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'd like to get Ron back up and ask him a question, Mr. Chairman. Ron, in the Proposal #25, in additional information in the last paragraph on Page 40; it says the Draft Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Wildlife Refuge Environmental Assessment prepared by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service contains five alternatives. Alternative B would manage the Alaska Peninsula/Becharof within -- Alternative B describes sensitive wildlife areas and would recommend that areas within one-half mile of key caribou crossings at Becharof Lake be closed to sport hunting. The Narrows formed by the Seversons Peninsula is one of those crossings. Due to the fact that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has identified the Seversons Peninsula adjacent to the caribou crossing for closure, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has acknowledged that a problem exists and should be addressed. Is that a correct statement?

35

36 MR. HOOD: It's like reading a chapter or a verse out of the Bible and basing a church on it.

38

39 MR. SAMUELSEN: So it's in the eyes of the beholder?

40

41 MR. HOOD: You're familiar with the planning process I am sure. And in the planning process you develop alternatives to be analyzed and evaluated and a decision to be made from. That comes from one of the alternatives that we developed, evaluated and did not select as a preferred alternative and implement.

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. And the follow-up question under, I think you said 810?

50

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1
2 MR. HOOD: Yes. Section 810.
3
4 MR. SAMUELSEN: And for my sake and the Council's sake,
5 could you reiterate what 810 says?
6
7 MR. HOOD: Not from memory, sir.
8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.
10
11 MR. HOOD: We have to do an evaluation on any
12 commercial activity that we issue a special use permit from.
13 And evaluate its impact on subsistence, both on the opportunity
14 for take and the viability of the resource. And normally we
15 don't have -- we do not find a problem or have not in the past
16 found a problem on air taxi permits, but here we have
17 documented evidence that we have an issue and so we have to
18 take positive action. Does that -- fuzzy enough for you?
19
20 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.
21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions of Ron? Do you
23 have a question?
24
25 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yes.
26
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. I'm sorry.
28
29 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Any ball park numbers that you're
30 looking at for the reduction for the air taxi -- or what type
31 of number are you looking to reduce the
32
33 MR. HOOD: Off the top of my head I would say two to
34 three air taxi operators and perhaps three to five parties in
35 the area. But I'm seeking some counsel on that.
36
37 MR. CHRISTENSEN: How many people are we talking about
38 that was implemented?
39
40 MR. HOOD: If a party is four people, that would be 12
41 people.
42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And this is on the mainland or the
44 Seversons Peninsula?
45
46 MR. HOOD: It would be the Island Arm area. And
47 basically that would be the Seversons Peninsula south. And you
48 will notice that we did -- or propose to make the Seversons
49 Peninsula a no landing zone or as far as commercial -- or as
50

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far as air taxi operators are concerned.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's good. Go ahead, Robin --
4 Excuse me, Robert you have the floor.

5

6 MR. CHRISTENSEN: No, no.

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. You got the floor.

9

10 MR. SAMUELSEN: If the board -- Council adopts Proposal
11 25, can you show us on the map, Ron, what's available to the
12 non-subsistence users in that area; what area?

13

14 MR. HOOD: (Indiscernible) and I take no action, it's
15 this small area right here. And then a few people can -- will
16 be around the rest of the lake, but it's these (indiscernible)
17 and this is what we're looking for is good moose hunting
18 country. This is basically where we're at. And then, of
19 course, there are a few locations in the Kejulik River Valley
20 limited access points.

21

22 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. So they'll still have access to
23 the vast majority of the lake there

24

25 MR. HOOD: Oh, yes.

26

27 MR. SAMUELSEN: and that surrounding, the non-
28 subsistence users?

29

30 MR. HOOD: Correct. I would point out that on the west
31 side, over here, if you look at your books, there are large
32 amounts of selected lands in there unsurveyed, plus one five
33 acre Native allotment. I will have a great deal of difficulty
34 enforcing a regulation on the west shore line.

35

36 MR. SAMUELSEN: One more follow-up with Ron, Mr. Chair.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Go ahead.

39

40 MR. SAMUELSEN: Ron, is that Native allotment being
41 leased presently?

42

43 MR. HOOD: I can't speak to that. It's the wife of
44 Jack Meyers that owns it.

45

46 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Ron? Thank you,
49 Ron. Okay. What's the wishes of the Council?

50

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1
 2 MR. SAMUELSEN: I don't know how to approach this Mr.
 Chairman. But, you know, I'd like to see a -- I guess you
 might call it a step-down approach to this proposal. And I'd
 like to give Ron the Council's blessings to implement a
 reduction and try to reduce the user conflict between
 subsistence and non-subsistence users. However, if the meeting
 between Egegik residents and Ron is unproductive and they can't
 agree on the four steps presented to us, then I see no
 alternative then for adoption of 25. But I don't think
 adoption of 25 is necessary at this time if we could achieve
 parts of one through four.

13
 14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robin, what kind of a time
 frame are we looking at? I mean we're acting here as a

16
 17 MR. HOOD: We will have a decision by April 30th that's
 about the time we issue special use permits. So we will have
 to have this resolved by April 30th.

20
 21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If we don't -- all we can get out of
 what your comments -- saying right now, Robin, is would be to
 have Ron go to Egegik and reduce the pressure to a certain
 number, okay? If Egegik doesn't want to do that then you can
 still reduce the pressure, you can do that -- you have that
 power to do that?

27
 28 MR. HOOD: Yes.

29
 30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. That's fine. But we don't
 have another shot at dealing with this issue. If we just give
 it to Ron today, which is fine, I would have no problem doing
 that, we're not going to have an opportunity until next year
 when we come back to deal with this again because we're not
 going to meet again before the Federal Board meets is what I'm
 saying. Right, Helga?

37
 38 MS. EAKON: Right.

39
 40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So this is a one shot deal, which is
 fine. I have no problem with Ron going down to Egegik, in
 fact, if I knew the time he was going down I'd love to go down
 with him as chair of the Council and talk with them and see if
 we can get something resolved.

45
 46 We take this to the Federal Board and they turned us
 down last year and gave us a justification, but we haven't gone
 anywhere with it. So I guess the next best step would be then
 probably for someone to -- from the Council to assign this
 50

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to Ron and see if we can get the problem reduced. If not, come back next year and take a good hard look at it and then we got to go back again saying, we're just going to close it down to that, we'll do it. Yes.

5

6 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think there's two issues here, Mr. Chairman. There's that -- one what I'm hearing is, at least, one board member says that -- and I tend to go along with it. So, I'd like to see if Ron can work out one through four with the community of Egegik. And I guess if that's not possible, then I'd like to have Ron to go ahead and work up one through four by himself to see if that, in fact, would reduce the user conflict. And I think, you know, we could come back next year and revisit this. I would prefer this type of action over what's in Proposal 25 at this time. And, you know, if it doesn't work, then I think we could take a look at it or go one way or the other.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you have a comment, Robin?

20

21 MR. SAMUELSEN: I was wondering if staff had any comments?

23

24 MS. EAKON: Well, we did -- if for some reason, Ron and the residents of Egegik couldn't reach consensus, you do have an option to present an RFR to the board when they meet in August. That's an option you might take.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I never thought of that. Any other comments, yeah, Tim.

31

32 MR. LaPORTE: Just one comment here. I -- I'm a little disappointed that there aren't any representatives of the user group that we're discussing here to comment on them themselves. And I'll just go on record so when they read this, the bus transporters and air taxis need to be here and represent themselves so they can see what we're up to here, too. And I agree with Ron -- I mean I agree with the concept of lowering the use by permit system or whatever. What usually happens is when an area gets so concentrated like that, the air taxis should start regulating themselves anyway. I mean seeing the amount of people in the records here that were in there, I think 30-some non-residents, I mean there sounds to me like there's 40 or 50 people camped in one small area there and that's not really a quality trip for any one of the hunters, regardless of sports or subsistence or anything else. So you might as well go to Anchorage and hunt in downtown.

48

49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go visit Binky. Sellers, do you want

50

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to come up and address us?

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: I wouldn't even want to hunt like that.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are we going to do a motion?

6

7 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

10

11 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers, Department of Fish & Game.
12've just got two thoughts. One is a possible alternative, in
that, right now local subsistence users have a 10 day head
start, their moose season starts September 1st, State season
starts September 10th. And I think it was documented that
there was virtually nobody in that Island Arm area until
September 6th when air taxis started deploying moose hunting
camps. If there's some -- I don't know what the timing of the
hunting is from Egegik, but there's a potential to open the
subsistence season even earlier to give them even more of a
head start, maybe even finish their hunt before anybody starts
to bring in non-locals. That's one thought.

23

24 And the other thought is, again, as Joe Klutsch
mentioned, are we going to get into a domino situation where
these air taxis, instead of going to the Island Arm or taking
moose hunters over to Nakeen or up into the Branch River and
starting to conflict with subsistence users from a different
village. You know, just another thought to keep in mind.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Dick? Thank you,
appreciate it.

33

34 Wishes of the Council?

35

36 MR. HEYANO: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I think Dick Sellers'
point is exactly it. In my experience, people don't quit
hunting, they move to other areas. And in this case, if
there's X amount of people who won't be able to use this area,
they're going to find a different area to use. But to me,
that's -- to me at this point that's the preferred -- one
through four is the preferable alternative to what Proposal 25
says.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Let's make a motion.

46

47 MR. HEYANO: Okay, Mr. Chairman. I move we reject
Proposal 25. And that we -- I move that we reject Proposal 25
for the one -- for the complex option presented to us by the

50

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Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge one through four. And have
 Ron attempt to work with the community of Egegik to implement
 one through four and if that's impossible or if there isn't any
 results to that then have the refuge implement one through
 four.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Could you add one more thing to your
 motion, and that's what Helga said, that we could come back to
 the Federal Board and do what in August?

10

11 MS. EAKON: A request for reconsideration.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you mind putting that in so
 that if it couldn't resolve and everything disappeared we
 could, at least, come back and address the issue again?

16

17 MR. HEYANO: In August -- well, the way I look at it,
 MS. Chairman, I don't have any trouble doing that, but I think
 one way or the other, with or without the community of Egegik,
 one through four is going to be implemented.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

23

24 MR. HEYANO: And we won't actually know until September
 one whenever that season is over if one through four worked or
 not.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Do you want to second that
 motion?

30

31 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Discussion.

34

35 MR. ABRAHAM: Question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question's been called. All those in
 favor say aye.

39

40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?

43

44 (No opposing responses)

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Passed. Break time, five
 minutes.

48

49 (Off record)

50

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1 (On record)

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we have before us 26, which is
4 what the Council would like to just read into the record that
5 we would make a motion that 25 and 26 actually are the same.
6 Is that right Council members?

7

8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)

9

10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Should we address it in the form of a
11 motion so that we can be clear on that? Are you ready Mr.
12 Motion Maker.

13

14 MR. HEYANO: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I move that the
15 intent that Proposal 6 (sic) -- the request in Proposal 6 is
16 identical to

17

18 MR. SAMUELSEN: Twenty-six.

19

20 MR. HEYANO: 25.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

23

24 MR. HEYANO: And that we combine 25 and 26 together
25 with our actions and justification.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second?

28

29 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Now before we act on a
32 motion. I don't know -- the only other person who signed up on
33 this proposal is Ted -- no, no, he's on 26(A). And Joe said he
34 Joe we will give you an opportunity to do public comment if
35 you feel like you want to.

36

37 MR. KLUTSCH: On 26

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, okay. We got you for 26(B).
40 Any more discussion?

41

42 MR. HEYANO: Question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.

45

46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?

49

50

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1 (No opposing responses)

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now we're on 26(B). New team members
Here.

5

6 MS. EAKON: Helga Eakon, Coordinator for this
Subsistence -- Federal Subsistence Council. Proposal 26(B) was
Submitted by the Bristol Bay Subsistence Regional Advisory
Council. And it would close Federal public lands in the
Aniakchak National Preserve to the taking of moose and caribou
except by qualified rural Alaska residents. On Page 5 of your
minutes of the October meeting in Newhalen, you will -- I'm
sorry, on Page 4, you will note that the Council did take
action on this proposal. This had been a tabled Proposal
36(C). And at the October meeting the Council did adopt this
proposal and they based it on teleconference testimony of local
subsistence users that their needs weren't being met. However,
at that meeting we did not have moose data and -- which we do
have, thanks to Susan Savage. Would you like to hear this
moose data?

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

23

24 MS. EAKON: Okay.

25

26 MS. SAVAGE: I guess as a little preview, what I would
like to show again, I don't know if we had a good map at the
last meeting. But the area that we're speaking to, this is
Aniakchak National Monument Preserve, the Monument is here, the
Preserve is here. And the area that's -- this also preserve,
but these are selected lands that will not qualify under
whatever action you take here.

33

34 And my impression of the use by most subsistence users
is that most subsistence users access Aniakchak Preserve from
the water and in through the bays. So their access for moose
and caribou under the Federal subsistence program is a little
but limited because the actions that take place from Federal
subsistence proposals will not effect

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. I want you to keep going but
put your hand to where most people take the animals, by the
water?

44

45 MS. SAVAGE: No. My impression is that they get
Aniakchak on a commercial fishing boat or by boat. And they
are accessing the Preserve from the Pacific side into the
bays.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Chigniks and Kodiak?

2

3 MS. SAVAGE: Well, Kodiak is not Federal subsistence
4 user for this area.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That doesn't mean they don't take
7 their seiners over there and get animals though.

8

9 MS. SAVAGE: Exactly. Right.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

12

13 MS. SAVAGE: But there is low lands in here and this is
14 easy access. The capes are very rocky and the exists are very
15 difficult. But if you choose to act and support Proposal
16 26(B), you'd be closing non-subsistence hunting in this area,
17 but not necessarily in the area that's white.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Area white belongs to who?

20

21 MS. SAVAGE: It's Federal land, but it's not public
22 land. It's under Federal management, but it's not public land
23 subject to the green book. It is subject to the regular State.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is that Native selected lands that
26 hasn't been transferred yet?

27

28 MS. SAVAGE: Yes. Right.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So you're the keeper of it, but it's
31 subject to Stat regulations, right?

32

33 MS. SAVAGE: Right.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Continue on, please?

36

37 MS. EAKON: Okay. And the preliminary staff
38 conclusions is that the moose population is currently stable.
39 That the Federal and State biologists aren't aware of any
40 actual evidence to indicate that the moose migrate from one
41 side of the Peninsula to the other or that non-subsistence
42 hunting interferes with localized movements. The caribou
43 abundance on the -- oh, that's caribou. It doesn't appear
44 necessary to close the Aniakchak National Preserve to non-
45 subsistence use for the purpose of maintaining the normal
46 migration and movement patterns of either moose or caribou.
47 And it does appear that subsistence opportunities do exist and
48 in the case of moose, the Federal subsistence season opens nine
49 days earlier than the State season, while few non-subsistence

50

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Hunters attempt to access this area in December.

2

3 In the case of caribou, few non-subsistence hunters
4 hunt in this area, particularly now that harvest limits for the
5 growing Mulchatna caribou herd have been liberalized.

6

7 And that concludes the staff report.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Helga or Susan?

10

11 MS. SAVAGE: Actually there's some moose data that you
12 might want to refer to on Page 57.

13

14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you like to address that Susan.

15

16 MS. SAVAGE: What I took quite a few weeks to do this
17 fall was to prepare a draft report, it's not in your package,
18 but the results of that draft report are. And the State of
19 Alaska collects moose harvest data via the harvest ticket
20 system and they have added it into a very large data base and I
21 took that data base and looked at it this fall.

22

23 And they divide their data up by what is called UCU,
24 uniform coding unit, which corresponds to a river drainage.
25 And unfortunately those river drainages don't correspond very
26 well to the Federal boundaries. So we have to kind of make
27 some estimates from what they do. But one of the UCU's is
28 completely within Aniakchak National Monument Preserve. And
29 the data for that UCU is given under Table 2, Page 57, the
30 column that says UCU in Aniakchak, that's the UCU that's in
31 green there. So over a 10 year period, local people who have
32 hunted, there were 11 people who reported hunting in that area and
33 six people who reported harvesting moose in that area over a 10
34 year period. And non-local Alaskans, there were 16 people who
35 reported hunting and six that reported harvesting over 10
36 years. And non-Alaskans, people from the Lower 48 and foreign
37 hunters, there were 16 hunters and 15 were successful over a 10
38 year period in that one UCU that's colored in green.

39

40 Now the other UCU's, there's four UCU's that are
41 partially within Aniakchak, this UCU here, here, here, here and
42 here -- I guess there's five of them. And I lumped all the
43 data from the UCU's that were partially within Aniakchak, but
44 that's going to represent harvest from a really large area
45 where Aniakchak actually only represents about 20 percent of
46 these numbers. So that next column represents UCU's that are
47 partly within Aniakchak. And so over a very large area, 21
48 local hunters hunted and seven were successful. Forty-seven
49 non-local Alaskan hunters and 18 were successful. And 117 non-

50

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local Alaskans and 102 were successful over a 10 year period. But that represents area that is on State and Federal land outside of Aniakchak as well as partially within Aniakchak.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The second column?

6

7 MS. SAVAGE: Yes.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

10

11 MS. SAVAGE: And so those numbers are totaled together. And you can see that while local hunters don't represent very many people that hunted, they are hunting in Aniakchak and they are harvesting moose in Aniakchak at a low rate. But 30 percent of those people are successful, which is even a little bit higher than other Alaskans that are not -- who are hunting moose there, they are not as successful as people who come from outside.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who's the manager head of this Aniakchak?

22

23 MS. SAVAGE: Bill Pierce is superintendent of both Katmai and Aniakchak.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So he's the guy that we need to talk about number of permits issued in the area or how the system works?

29

30 MR. PIERCE: Both of us.

31

32 MS. SAVAGE: Sure.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members, any questions? I've got some I want to ask of Susan.

36

37 MS. SAVAGE: I also might point out that as I mentioned before, we have four guide areas in that area. We are in the process of redoing our guide program and we propose, although, we don't know for sure if that's the way it will go that we only have two guides in that area rather than four.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So four -- 117 hunts and 102 animals, four guides have killed that many moose?

45

46 MS. SAVAGE: Actually these are not -- these are guided and unguided -- this data here is guided and unguided and that's over a 10 year period.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Let's go back to the first
2 column there. UCU in Aniakchak.

3
4 MS. SAVAGE: Um-hum. (affirmative)

5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And non-Alaskans did -- 16 of them
7 went in there and got 15 moose, obviously they are guided
8 hunts, I would assume?

9
10 MS. SAVAGE: Generally they are, yeah.

11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The type that Joe Klutsch -- I mean
13 the guides who know where the animals are at and they bring a
14 client in and they get an animal?

15
16 MS. SAVAGE: Yes. I'd say that's generally how it is.

17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So Bill, can you and Susan
19 reduce these numbers down? This is the question I want to ask
20 because I think this is the issue down there. And having flown
21 this area a lot and talked with the Chignik guys there. And a
22 lot of time in the spring time these guys will come in with
23 their boats and that's the only access they have is mostly on
24 Native lands actually, and you come in there with a 42 foot
25 skiff and a seine skiff, you're not going to walk all the way
26 the top of that ridge like Joe Klutsch is going to do with a
27 super cub and get 15 out of 16 hunts. So I guess the question
28 I have that this body needs to address is, if the guys are not
29 getting animals down lower, the same old story, either killing
30 them before they get to the bottom of the hill or they may
31 never come to the bottom of the hill or you need to reduce your
32 number of takes in this Aniakchak Preserve area so that your
33 cost people would have more access to game if that's the only
34 method they had of access in a game (sic) -- do you understand
35 what I'm talking about?

36
37 MR. PIERCE: Right.

38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

40
41 MR. PIERCE: I may or may not have the answer and

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: May have the answer.

44
45 MR. PIERCE: Susan may support me here. Bill
46 Pierce at Katmai and Aniakchak. From the guided hunt
47 perspective, I think we're working well with the guided hunt
48 projects. From the unguided and similar to what Ron was
49 saying, we don't have, currently, any management tools that

50

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We're able to apply to limit the number of unguided or the air taxi type operation.

3

4 MS. SAVAGE: Although, I don't think that many
5 outfitters are using Aniakchak because as I said for the
6 caribou argument it's very far. Yes, the moose issue is a
7 little different than the caribou issue because you don't have
8 - you're not dealing with the migratory population. But it's
9 a very far distance from King Salmon to get to Aniakchak and
10 it's a risky operation. So I'm hearing something and I've
11 heard this before and maybe you are the ones that need to tell
12 me, but I think what you're saying to me is maybe the problem
13 isn't guided hunters and maybe it's not even outfitted hunters,
14 but it's people that are coming in on a commercial fishing boat
15 who are actually not qualified local subsistence hunters.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They are qualified local subsistence
18 hunters. There may be an occasional Kodiak seiner who has a
19 Chignik permit who's in the area who may go hunting in the
20 area. But your biggest number of users are going to be the guy
21 who's doing -- fishing for dogs there or pinks up in one of
22 those bays.

23

24 MS. SAVAGE: But he's a local resident or not?

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. From Chignik -- Chignik permit
27 holder coming up from Chignik Bay Lagoon, Lakes, Perryville,
28 Tanof, we all have -- that's their fishing district.

29

30 MS. SAVAGE: Okay. So they would be subsistence.

31

32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They're in that area, you're using it
33 all the time in the fall time when they have a fall fishery.
34 They may even be longlining for halibut or something, you know,
35 and it's in between openings and they're in there anchored up
36 there and they are qualified c&t users, okay?

37

38 MS. SAVAGE: Right. Okay.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And they're hunting the area.
41 Obviously, a seine skiff and a 42 foot seiner without a four-
42 wheeler, they're not going to get up there where the guided
43 hunt is at or even the air taxi operators coming, like Penair
44 whoever flies in there, most likely Penair, is going to be
45 dropping people off who do know where the animals are at and
46 are targeting on them and aren't going to be successful.

47

48 MS. SAVAGE: I guess I'm confused as to where they're
49 going to be dropping people off except on the ocean -- on the

50

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coast. I mean they can drop off on Meshik Lake, they're probably not going to be dropping off in the Caldera, (ph) but it's really hard -- I mean there's some ash flows down there where you can land a small plane on, but it's really tough to just

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You can't land in the Preserve at all with an airplane?

9

10 MS. SAVAGE: Well,

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: With a cub?

13

14 MS. SAVAGE: You're a pilot, you are probably better to tell me -- yeah, with a cub you probably can.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

18

19 MS. SAVAGE: Anything bigger than that

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Or a 185.

22

23 MS. SAVAGE: I don't know.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'll bet you that many people going in there know where to land and where to hunt the animals. When you see this kind of success rate taking place versus a guy who's hunting from the shoreline with a 42 foot limit skiff, that's the point. And the point I'm making is if you do reduce the number of animals taken and perhaps maybe there will be more people from -- who is your c&t user from the Chignik and obviously the only way they're going to get there is a boat that size because it's too rough of seas to do anything else. They're not going to go up there with a skiff and they don't hunt with airplanes down there.

36

37 MS. SAVAGE: You know, this is a 10 year sum. These numbers are 10 year sums,

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

41

42 MS. SAVAGE: so that's like an average of 1.5 Moose per year.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) We wrote this proposal, this is ours?

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: What did we do in November?

49

50

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1 MS. EAKON: The original one was submitted by Bristol
 Bay Native Association. And the Council adopted the proposal
 at the October meeting so, therefore, it had to appear in the
 proposal books this time around as this number.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, we have a guide here who says
 he hunts in this preserve. He must get in there some way and I
 don't think it's with a 42 foot limit seiner. Any other
 questions of the staff? Okay.

10

11 We appreciate you making your comments and we'll most
 likely want to talk to you again. And who is the next one in
 line to deal with this issue or do we have anymore staff
 members that need to deal with this issue 26(B)?

15

16 MS. EAKON: No.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: None? Okay. We'll take public
 comment and we only -- we have two, Ted, you do 26(B) and Joe
 Klutsch.

21

22 MR. KRIEG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Council
 members. I'll brief and just say that it's basically the same,
 you know, the same thing we've been dealing with, the lack of
 caribou on that Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula. And, you
 know, since the Council already listened to this at the fall
 meeting in Newhalen and, you know, adopted it, I guess is the
 way I understand it, I'll -- that's all I have to say.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you. No questions.

31

32

33 MR. KLUTSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that
 the staff comments pretty well reflect the comments that I made
 in my -- that written transcript that I gave you. I think it's
 important to recognize at this point that the actual harvest
 levels within the Preserve area in question probably don't
 warrant a closure at this time. And I think I heard Robin say
 that in relation to his comments on Proposal 26(C). I think
 it's also important that the Council recognize that every
 effort's been made through the State's system to maximum
 opportunity for caribou hunting in this area by extending the
 season through April and on the Pacific side opening it as
 early as July. That leaves those caribou little -- or just the
 time they need for calving and to get up and starting to move
 around and they're a huntable population in there.

47

48 Biologically the level of harvest in there, the harvest
 of bull caribou during that time period, September and October

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does not appear to pose any major problem as far as locals having the opportunity to meet their subsistence needs on caribou especially in light of those longer seasons.

4

5 In terms of the moose, the population has been stable down there for the last decade. It's logistically extremely a difficult place to hunt up the main center portion of the valley. I operate on the south side of the Preserve, Butch King operates on the north side of the Preserve. My level of effort on moose, and that's why I read into the record the numbers of caribou and moose that I have actually taken in there over the last eight year period, his level of effort is somewhat greater than mine, but there's more moose pasture on that north side than there is on the south side. And there's substantially more area involved in the north side and the actual design of his guide area in the Preserve.

17

18 I know that the Park Service is completely committed to doing whatever is necessary to reduce the conflicts if they were to occur between non-subsistence hunters and subsistence hunters. I can't fully put it in words how completely they monitor our activities. I mean it is -- we are boxed in to the 25th degree. I'll repeat it, activity plans, activity summaries, employee rosters, copies of the hunt contracts, days/nights spent, it is -- it takes me a month out of my life every year just to push Federal paperwork.

27

28 And I was going to make a comment in reference to some of the things Ron Hood was saying on the Becharof issue. Someone sent me a bumper sticker that said, If you like the BRS, you'll love the Fish & Wildlife Service, but I've been afraid to put it on my car since I have to go to Ron to get my permit.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I hope he has a sense of humor.

36

37 MR. KLUTSCH: Yeah. They're good at scheming things up.

39

40 MR. SAMUELSEN: We are lucky, he is in the bathroom now.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: He's a little guy, too.

44

45 MR. KLUTSCH: I would also like, for the record, to say that it is not my practice nor has it been my practice to use the super cub for extensive surveillance to locate specific animals and to target those specific animals based on what we're seeing from the air. That's a pre-rut moose hunt down

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there. And once you put those moose to bed, if you can even see them at all with a degree of heavy alder brush cover down there, they might not get up for two or three days, they might wander all night long. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack when you're selectively hunting down there. And we find our game with binoculars, not with airplanes.

7

8 In regard to the air access, the center portion of the valley has a good -- as Susan said, a good number of cinder blowdowns and cinder landing areas where aircraft as large as Cherokee 6's can be landed. Although, I've seen little or no air taxi effort whatsoever in the last 10 years. I'm not really familiar with a lot of what goes on on the Pacific side since the area I'm allowed to operate in doesn't extend over into there. I have flown over it on several occasions and noticed a number of four-wheeler tracks now in the Aniakchak Bay area that appear to be based from Chignik or somebody's seiner boats, the 42 foot boats seem to be the ones putting these four-wheelers off. I would say that it's my local knowledge tells me that those moose don't migrate from the center portion of the valley or the feeder streams -- the feeder streams into the Meshik, they don't migrate to the Pacific side.

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They don't go over the hill down the other side?

27

28 MR. KLUTSCH: I'm sure there are a few of them, Dan. And that once you get past Albert Johnson Creek and you start getting down towards the head waters or that portion of Aniakchak River where it spills out into that cinder flat there's some that are going to work up and down there. But that's enormous country. There's just a lot texture there and there's a lot of country to hunt. I think it could be fairly argued that the four-wheeler traffic on the beach corridor in Aniakchak Bay could have as much to do with running moose out of there as anything else. And those -- and that didn't use to be there. The -- again, the level of effort seems marginal enough and well monitored enough at this time, it doesn't, from my prospective, warrant a closure. And I made my pledge to Bobby and the Port Heiden people, I'll stay out of their way and I've made every effort to do so in the past. And that includes the State land. And I think you know Butch King well enough, you can talk to him and that he'd make a commitment to do the same.

46

47 So given the biological aspects of this and the opportunity with longer seasons, earlier seasons, later seasons, I would urge the Council to reject 26(B).

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Leave it status quo -- any questions
3 for Joe? Appreciate it. And I have no more requests for
4 public comment. We do have all the staff reports necessary and
5 what's the wishes of the Council? Yes.

6
7 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, has the -- do we have
8 numbers that show -- it says in the Chignik area, moose have
9 been very scarce in the last 10 years. Subsistence hunters
10 from Chignik Bay used to be able to get a moose in a few hours
11 of traveling time from the village, but no longer possible and
12 it goes on; do we have any data that shows that the subsistence
13 needs aren't being met in the Chignik area on moose?

14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dick Sellers.

16
17 MR. SELLERS: I don't have any such data.

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Don't you look at the moose in the
20 Chignik area?

21
22 MR. SELLERS: I don't -- again, the harvest reported on
23 State harvest tickets from the villages of 9(E) is very small.
24 We don't do any moose surveying south of Meshik River. I do
25 spent, you know, an awful lot of time in the Chignik/Black
26 Lake area doing the bear studies and there's certainly no
27 change in the moose numbers over the last seven years. I've
28 been working intensively down there.

29
30 MR. SAMUELSEN: How about Susan?

31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Susan, did you have any moose
33 numbers, Black Lake?

34
35 MS. SAVAGE: On moose harvest numbers?

36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Moose populations.

38
39 MS. SAVAGE: It's very difficult to us, as Dick will
40 also tell you to survey moose down in the lower -- southern
41 part of the Alaska Peninsula.

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Nobody wants to fly into Chignik.

44
45 MS. SAVAGE: Because of the snow conditions. We were
46 able to do a moose survey in the Pacific trend area this winter
47 and it was very strange because the numbers were nearly
48 identical with the survey that had been done 10 years
49 previously. So the numbers have been stable, you know, I don't

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know if they've fluctuated up and down between those -- in that 20 year period, but the numbers were the same basically over that period for a very small area that we surveyed on the northern part of Aniakchak Preserve along the coast and in the refuge.

6

7 And last year in '8- -- '93, they surveyed in the Chignik -- sorry, Cinder River drainage on the north side of the Preserve and Monument and those numbers showed fairly stable population also. We have not been able to survey in the Aniakchak River drainage. I did lay out a trend area for that this year, but we did not get the snow conditions. I don't have any data further down.

14

15 The question you asked a minute before that though was what are the harvest data for that area and I do have a table in here somewhere.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: Page 56?

20

21 MS. SAVAGE: Well, that's the

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: One year's data.

24

25 MS. SAVAGE: Well, those harvests were all taken in different years. But that gives you somewhat of an idea of the kind of numbers that people have been harvesting around that area, but all those represent different years. I can't find my table.

30

31 MS. COILEY: Do you mind if I

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Give us your name for the lady.

34

35 MS. COILEY: Pippa Coiley, Alaska Department of Fish & Game. On Page 56, the table that represents ADF&G's subsistence division data. Community Average CPDB -- or Community Profile Database. And there's another heading, Average HTD, which is the Harvest Ticket Database. So we have what was reported to the division during surveys and then what was reported through harvest tickets. And Chignik Bay, Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake, there's been three or four surveys done in those communities, so what you're seeing here is an average of those years. So some years the harvest might -- for instance for Chignik Lake, I'm assuming there might have been a year where the harvest of moose was higher than eight. Now as you get to Chignik Bay, the average harvest from the community profile database with subsistence division is one and I think that might be for caribou. The numbers for Chignik Bay are

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lower and it has to do with the access. They have to go that little bit further. It requires

3

4 MS. SAVAGE: That's moose.

5

6 MS. COILEY: Right. And also for caribou, Chignik Bay tends to have a lower count. It has to do with access, they have to go that little bit further. And that harvesting for Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake often requires even an overnight or longer trip. And so as regarding the question is opportunity being met, that's the data that's been collected.

12

13 MS. SAVAGE: Actually the average, that's a community average. But those numbers are each based on one survey. I could not pull up some of the more recent data that's been done, so each of those numbers represents one survey.

17

18 MS. COILEY: I see. And most of those surveys have been done in '89 and '90.

20

21 MS. SAVAGE: Actually for Chignik Lagoon and Chignik Lake and Egegik, Ivanof Bay and Perryville they were done in '84.

24

25 MS. COILEY: These were the first surveys. Since then there's been a series of three surveys done in each of those communities and I don't know what the numbers are off the top of my head.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Let me just mention to the board what you observe when you're flying in the area. I could be wrong and certainly correct me if you think I'm wrong, but I don't think there's a desire to take as many moose in the Chignik area as their are desires to take caribou. And, in fact, you'll find that in a lot of villages, they prefer caribou over moose. I come from the part of the country where we always want moose and have just been introduced to caribou, so I'd take a moose any day over caribou. But people, even in Naknek, would prefer to have a caribou over moose a lot of times. And you have a lot of moose in the Chignik areas. There's an incredible amount of animals down there in the Chignik area and Ivanof Bay and Perryville area. I've flown that area extensively, I mean like many times a year. And the brown bear population in that Black Lake/Chignik Lake River area is horrendous, there's just bears everywhere.

46

47 And I don't know, I'm surprised Dick Sellers hasn't shown down there. But man oh living, but there's all kinds of moose in that -- between

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1
2 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Black Lake.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. And so if you wanted to go get
5 one, I believe you can go get one. But I think the issue is
6 they really do prefer caribou and there are no caribou. So I
7 guess I could be wrong and Bobby you probably know this as well
8 as I do or better. But I think if they -- it's probably a 20
9 minute skiff ride from the bay to the lagoon and then from
10 there you're going up inside with a skiff, you know, you go
11 across the lakes and up into the Chignik River and Black Lake.
12
13 MR. CHRISTENSEN: Yeah.
14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And pretty good hunting in there if
16 you wanted to get a moose. And I don't think it's too
17 difficult to do a 20 minute seine skiff ride from around the
18 bay to -- have you ever been down there?
19
20 MS. SAVAGE: I've taken the
21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's not very
23
24 MS. SAVAGE: boat ride.
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: far, it's accessible. The
27 reason I mention that is I think that probably the moose
28 population is pretty good around Chignik Lakes area bay, the
29 accidental taking of moose with a seine skiff and a 42 foot
30 limit seiner is something they're doing in between, maybe
31 fishing. And Aniakchak may not be related to Chignik, that's
32 my own opinion but I could be wrong.
33
34 MS. SAVAGE: Well, in '92 I went with Lisa Scarbrough
35 who is the subsistence specialist -- or subsistence, I'm sorry,
36 I don't have your exact titles, but she's the equivalent of
37 Bippa down for the Chignik area. And we asked them to put a
38 page in their survey about Aniakchak use and I'm sorry I
39 haven't had time. It's been two or three years now to analyze
40 that data, but my general impressions from the surveys that I
41 conducted myself was that some people did go up to Aniakchak
42 and it was usually associated with commercial fishing and
43 occasionally they would make a special trip up there but it
44 wasn't a regular thing that everyone in the village did, it was
45 more of just as opportunity arose that was a possible place
46 that they would go. But I don't think it's a major focus area
47 for all of the hunting.
48
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you very much. What's the
50

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Wishes of the panel on 26(B)?

2

3 MR. SAMUELSEN: I don't know I -- I think up in the
Newhalen meeting we had -- well, I know Sam Stepanoff was there
and gave us -- gave the Council good information on the area.
You're real familiar with the area, based on your comments
sounds like there's plenty of moose in the area. In the area
that's being affected maybe -- you described the area that we
have no control over which is the shore line, that's private
property -- I mean -- yeah private property. And if we get
Kodiak residents coming over and acing out the Chignik folks
out on the moose -- and Susan, I believe, said that Kodiak
doesn't have a c&t on them moose, right.

14

15 MS. SAVAGE: That's correct. Kodiak does not have --
it's under customary and traditional use for moose hunting under
Federal subsistence rules.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. I'm kind of in a quandary here
where we go. On the migration of caribou, I think we pretty
much addressed the caribou issue, you can correct me if I'm
wrong in amendment to Proposal #24. And that 26(B) would be
dealing with the moose issue; am I on track here or am I off
base?

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think he's right.

27

28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Not you Robert, I know what you'd be
saying.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's your turn.

32

33 MR. LaPORTE: I think we're talking about a different
geographic area, aren't we, Aniakchak? This is mostly just in
the Aniakchak National Preserve.

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: This over here on this side.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Quite a ways from Chignik. Well, we
need to either accept it or reject or modify it or whatever you
want to do.

42

43 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

46

47 MR. HEYANO: I guess listening to the information and
reading through the printed information, it kind of appears to
me that this Aniakchak part that the proposal requests that we

50

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Have only qualified rural Alaska residents using, according to reported harvest there's very little use in it. I guess that's kind of where I'm -- the thing that's kind of has me concerned on Page 57, you know. It seems to me if this was a use that a lot of the local residents used, that the -- that that number would be substantially higher. But approximately -- you know, it's a fairly low number.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) Yeah.

10

11 MR. LaPORTE: And that's a 10 year number besides all.

12

13 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think in here I read that the compliance of getting a permit is very low in these villages. I think a lot of the report -- a lot of the take goes unreported; is that right, Susan?

17

18 MS. SAVAGE: That's often correct that people don't get licenses or tickets. So actually people might be using more. And they might be more successfully harvesting moose that we're not aware of. So, you know, these are the numbers that we have and your weight -- you know, the weight that you put to them would probably be as valid as the weight that I put to them because you know your local users better, probably than I do.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

27

28 MS. SAVAGE: I think what people probably are a little not more conscientious about moose tickets than they are about caribou tickets.

31

32 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. For sure.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So

35

36 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I don't think they use that much moose over at Chignik.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You don't think so.

40

41 MR. CHRISTENSEN: No.

42

43 MR. LaPORTE: They're having halibut.

44

45 MR. CHRISTENSEN: They don't have -- they rather have caribou. You always hear that.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What do you think about you and I going down there someday and using the Council -- to survey?

50

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1
2 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I'd love to any time.
3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We could get an idea then. What's
5 the wishes of the board? Time is of the essence here friends.
6
7 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, based on the information
8 provided by staff, I move to oppose Proposal 26(B).
9
10 MR. LaPORTE: Second.
11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who seconded it, Tim?
13
14 MR. LaPORTE: Yes.
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. I thought I heard a different
17 voice. Any other questions or comments from Council members?
18
19 MR. HEYANO: Question.
20
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Call for the question, all those in
22 favor say aye.
23
24 IN UNISON: Aye.
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Proposed?
27
28 (No opposing responses)
29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Holler, when you want to take a break
31 Robin. 26(C) -- oh, we did that one -- no, we didn't.
32
33 MS. EAKON: Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry, what did you do on
34 26(B)?
35
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We opposed it.
37
38 MS. EAKON: Opposed, okay.
39
40 MR. SAMUELSEN: I moved, Tim seconded it.
41
42 MS. EAKON: Okay.
43
44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Twenty-seven?
45
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Ten bull moose on 27. Who is
47 the staff people that handle this, Taylor?
48
49 MR. BRELSFORD: I think this

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CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lee, yeah.

MR. BRELSFORD: will be Lee and I.

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. You're on, Taylor.

MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I believe Proposal #27 revisits a very similar policy call to the one that you addressed last night. In this instance it has to do with providing for a traditional harvest practice, ceremonial potlatching in a situation where there's some biological concerns and so the management of that subsistence opportunity would have to be somewhat careful. Again, this is a community the proposal is submitted by the Newhalen Tribal Council and Bristol Bay Native Association. It would allow residents of Newhalen to take up to 10 bull moose per regulatory year for ceremonial potlatches in Unit 9(B), up in the Lake Clark and Preserve area under the terms of the Federal registration permit.

We're suggesting that the Council consider the other villages nearby that also have resident zoned community status and participate in the same ceremonial traditional. So in view of the time, I think what I'd like to do is really turn directly to the preliminary conclusions. And if you have questions about the biological status or more detailed concerns we'll go back and try and pullout the actual data.

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

MR. BRELSFORD: But it's clear from the deliberations of the board and of the Council a year ago that fresh moose is an important part of the Denaina ceremonial traditional of ceremonial potlatching. And that Federal permits for this purpose were established a year ago for the residents of Nondalton. From existing documentation, it's clear that several other communities also share in this tradition. And those other communities would be Iliamna, Newhalen, the requesting community, Pedro Bay and possibly Port Alsworth. The cultural situation in Port Alsworth is somewhat different, that, it is not a majority of Native residents and so we were a little uncertain whether ceremonial potlatching would be a cultural tradition in Port Alsworth. For the careful ones among you, I would also be specific to point out that the residents of Newhalen are actually Yupik rather than Denaina. My understanding is people nowadays do use the word, potlatch, refer to ceremonial meals both in the Yupik communities and the Denaina communities.

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1
2 As very simply, there is some concern about the status
3 of the moose population in this portion of Unit 9(B). There's
4 some evidence that it's -- it is character- -- there's not some
5 evidence, the evidence says that this population is
6 characterized by low productivity and density. And so
7 extending new subsistence opportunities would have to be done
8 somewhat judiciously. We think a permit system, again, would
9 be the wisest way to approach this. We'd like to ask the
10 Council to consider a modified version of Proposal 27. We
11 think a total of 12 ceremonial potlatch moose permits would be
12 wise in reference to the conservation of a healthy and natural
13 population of moose.

14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: For all five communities?

16
17 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct. That the total
18 biological allocation would be 12. And that these would be
19 available to the communities of Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen,
20 Pedro Bay and in light of your judgments, perhaps, Port
21 Alsworth. The permits for ceremonial takings would be in
22 addition to existing fall and winter seasons. It would not
23 substitute for the current individual harvest bag limits. And
24 we're basically turning to you for some guidance for how those
25 permits, the biological allocation should be distributed
26 among the four or possibly five communities.

27
28 I realize we're moving pretty quickly here and let me
29 just wink at Lee to see if I missed anything on critical
30 biological information. This is his area and he's worked very
31 closely on this.

32
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lee, you're on.

34
35 MR. FINK: Lee Fink, Lake Clark National Park. And,
36 yeah, I think unless there's any specific questions in an
37 effort to move along, you guys have -- you know, we've looked
38 at these areas before. So maybe we'll just address specific
39 questions.

40
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Tim.

42
43 MR. LaPORTE: Just one. Nondalton does have this
44 authority now, have they taken any moose or have they requested
45 any permits as of today?

46
47 MR. FINK: No. They have not. We haven't had any
48 requests this year. And this regulation was extended for this
49 entire season for Nondalton. Well, our map is covered up a
50

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1 little bit but maybe we'll

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You can take it down.

4

5 MR. FINK: open it up. I think the map is a tool,
6 you know, whenever we talk about extending special regulations
7 up lake -- it's difficult access. So I think generally a lot
8 of the use has been traditionally in concert with fishing
9 effort when they were up the lake for fishing. And anything
10 else, lots of times a year travel is difficult. As you get
11 into winter, part of the lake is frozen, part of it is open and
12 it's really difficult to get up lake. But, you know, basically
13 to exercise these rights, the individuals, from whichever
14 village they would be would have to travel a considerable
15 distance to the head of Lake Clark. So chances are we're never
16 going to have a real high participation.

17

18 MR. LaPORTE: Based on as a potlatch, I mean this is a
19 specific ceremony. It's not per chance fishing trip that a
20 moose happens to walk out on a beach.

21

22 MR. FINK: No.

23

24 MR. LaPORTE: They definitely went there to get meat
25 for a ceremonial meal?

26

27 MR. FINK: That's right. We feel that this just
28 affords a way for -- to perpetuate traditional, you know, if
29 they can't get a moose somewhere else closer to home under
30 state funeral potlatch arrangements or if it's another type of
31 potlatch, then they have the option to, if the conditions
32 permit, make the journey up lake and attempt to get a potlatch
33 moose.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How many permits did we issue last
36 year to Nondalton?

37

38 MR. FINK: We did not issue any. There were no
39 requests.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. But I mean how many do we allow
42 did this committee recommend, do you remember off hand, I
43 don't remember doing it?

44

45 MR. FINK: Last year there were no numbers.

46

47 MR. BRELSFORD: Six.

48

49 MR. FINK: There six, right.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
3
4 MR. FINK: Up to six.
5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. And the time frame was what?
Do you remember offhand, I know it's not fair to ask you this a
year later when I can't remember myself?
9
10 MR. FINK: For the -- it's year round.
11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So they could do it in the summer
time, too then, right?
14
15 MR. FINK: Right. Any time a ceremonial potlatch would
warrant taking a moose for whatever reason.
17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other questions of the
staff? Okay. Thank you very much. Are there any other staff
members that need to address this from any other department
heads here? No. I have no requests for public comment. So --
oh, yes, pardon me. Ted, thank you for reminding me, I'm
really sorry. It says right here, 27 big time. You're on.
24
25 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. Okay. I'll try to brief here also
to keep things moving along. Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native
Association, Natural Resources Department. When we originally
submitted the proposal we did say -- it was ceremonial
purposes, not potlatches and that was later changed in
anchorage. And I talked to Bill Nower and he said, yes, the
proposal had already gone out but he recognized the fact that
we wanted to say purposes.
33
34 As we heard Mr. John Eckert say earlier, you know, it's
not subsistence, it's a lifestyle. And this proposal really
gets to the essence of that issue. You know, it provides for a
customary and traditional practice that promotes cultural
identity for the residents of Newhalen. And as Lee stated,
Nondalton didn't apply for any of these permits last year. And
I talked to them in the fall and asked them if they -- you
know, if they had applied for any, I haven't talked to them
since, but they said, no, they didn't have the need yet. So I
think that this shows that they practice restraint and they're
not just going to, you know, go wild on this. You know, it's
really important to them.
46
47 You know, as far as -- the other, Pedro Bay, Iliamna,
they also did have a chance to put in a proposal for this but
decided not to at this time. And I -- you know, I don't see
50

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any problem with adding them. But I guess, here again, I'm --
You know, I'm a little bit concerned about the competitive
thing it might setup if you say there's like 12 total and you
have to divide it between the villages. You know, I guess
that's something I'd have to get back to the tribal councils
on. But, you know, it's just something to think about. And
that's all I have to say unless there's any questions.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I have a question for you, Ted.
10 Let's say we took the five villages and did the number at 12
11 like Taylor recommended today, and when the 12 were gone, five
12 villages were involved, just no more.

13

14 MR. KRIEG: Yeah.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think that's a fair way of doing
17 it. But you'd like to get back and talk with them a little bit
18 and see whether or not they

19

20 MR. KRIEG: And I'm not saying, you know, you can make
21 a decision here. I'm not saying that -- you know, I'm not
22 necessarily asking you to wait to make

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No.

25

26 MR. KRIEG: that decision.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: But as far as you're concerned, you'd
29 rather check back with them, right?

30

31 MR. KRIEG: Right.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you have a comment or question?

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: No.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions of Ted? Thank
38 you, Ted.

39

40 MR. KRIEG: Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And you'll be making other comments
43 here, too, on other proposals. And be sure to remind me if I
44 forget you. Okay. We have finished staff input, public
45 comment, what's the wishes of the Council?

46

47 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'd like to have Taylor come up. He
48 recommended four villages and, you know, on the fourth one it
49 was -- and possibly Port Alsworth.

50

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1
2 MR. BRELSFORD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Robin, this refers
3 back to the discussion last night about the resident zoned
4 communities in Lake Clark National Park and Preser- -- in Lake
5 Clark National Park. The total set would include Lime Village
6 on the Kuskokwim Water Shed, but the information to date
7 suggests that their traditional uses are actually up in Unit
8 89, the portion of the park up in Unit 19, not down in the Lake
9 Clark area itself. So the five that we thought were most
10 directly involved based on their traditional use areas and the
11 custom- -- the resident zoned status were, Port Alsworth,
12 Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen and Pedro Bay. And as a matter of
13 the cultural traditions, I've suggested that the circumstances
14 are a little bit special for Port Alsworth as compared to the
15 other four communities that are historically and today
16 predominately Alaska Native in population.

17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Not necessarily so because Port
21 Alsworth is a part of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.
22 They have been given land and that village status. They
23 applied for it and they're part of it, so they have the same
24 cultural rights and Glen and different ones -- it's under the
25 same tribe that I'm from, so

26
27 MR. BRELSFORD: That's certainly true, Mr. Chairman.
28 Our information came from the census designation in which
29 people report their ethnic identification. And I'm kind of
30 scrambling to find the figure. Port Alsworth in the 1990
31 census had only 1.8 percent of the residents of 55 residents at
32 that time identify themselves as Alaska Native in the census.

33
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And in what year?

35
36 MR. BRELSFORD: In 1990.

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, 1990, okay.

39
40 MR. LaPORTE: It's probably less than that now.

41
42 MR. BRELSFORD: The figures are in another previous
43 proposal if we would need to refer to it.

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. And if I can continue, Mr.
46 Chairman and maybe Lee could answer this; the productivity has
47 declined from an average of 22 cows -- calves, 100 cows, '82 to
48 485 average to an average of 13 calves per 100 cows, '90 to
49 494. The lowest -- the calf/cow ratio is the lowest -- in '94
50

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was the lowest reported since surveys were initiated. Now I've got some concerns here by upping it to 12, it seems this herd is in a spiral decline; is that what you're telling me here in this report, Lee?

5

6 MR. FINK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Basically the overall moose population does seem to be in a decline. However, the bull/cow ratio seems to be very high which indicates that the pressures are probably not from hunting directly on the moose population. So as we move into other regulations, you'll see that we're -- we're pretty serious about not upping any cow harvest, but there is a feeling that more bulls could be harvested without damaging or further declining the population. Because as Dick Sellers has pointed out there's a fairly large number of bulls that are available for breeding.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. So with the removal of 12 additional bulls, it wouldn't create no conservation concerns on this?

22

23 MR. FINK: That's the feeling at this time that the removal of 12 additional bulls or 12 bulls that may be removed through, you know, an unusual season or an extended season through the year that that probably would not, at this time, effect -- or precipitate or increase the decline that the population seems to be in. Because I think as the figures here indicate, it's 69 bulls per 100 cows.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How many -- excuse me, do you have anymore?

33

34 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. I'm done. I'm done, thank you.

35

36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Tim, you were next, you had a point here.

38

39 MR. LaPORTE: I had a question on the predators or whatnot. I know there's a really good wolf population up here. And I know talking with Bob and Hank at Keyes Point, I think three cow moose were killed this winter right on Keyes Point by wolves. And is that something that's -- I mean do you think the wolves are more apt to kill cows than than bulls and that part of our bull/cow ratio problems up there?

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What about bear?

48

49 MR. LaPORTE: And bears in the spring, too?

50

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1
2 MR. FINK: Well, I'm not a biologist. And I don't know
3 if Dick is still here or interested in coming up and bailing me
4 out on this. But just as a local manager who flies a lot in
5 the area, there are fairly -- there appears to be fairly high
6 wolf and bear populations. They obviously prey -- I don't know
7 if they, you know, specifically target cows over bulls or more
8 opportunistic, whatever they can get. I've certainly seen both
9 carcasses, you know, that have been taken by wolves. And
10 they're certainly, you know, a factor in the picture.

11
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lee, -- Tim is that all you had
13 there?

14
15 MR. LaPORTE: Yes.

16
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The local people -- the only animals
18 that are going to be taking out of that is by the five
19 villages; no one else can hunt there period?

20
21 MR. FINK: That's correct.

22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How many moose do they take a year?
24 It here in our chart somewhere how many that they take a
25 year -- the local people?

26
27 MR. FINK: There is some reported harvest in here.

28
29 MR. BRELSFORD: But it's not specific to the land
30 status. We wouldn't be able to tell how much of that is from
31 Federal lands verses other lands.

32
33 MR. FINK: Yeah. Again, most of our -- until we
34 implement some of these Federal register hunts that we're kind
35 of now moving towards, the State harvest records don't really
36 indicate generally whether it -- it's difficult to separate
37 whether it's the -- the animals were taken off State land or
38 whether they come from the park or the preserve. And so we
39 have numbers of general harvest that's reported, but it would
40 be very difficult to determine what proportion is coming from
41 lands that would now be either Kijik Corporation lands or State
42 lands or Park lands.

43
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Man, you know, when we give our moose
45 report here in our little green card, Dick Sellers, we tell
46 exactly where we got that moose. Why is it different in the
47 Park, Preserve or Native lands?

48
49 MR. SELLERS: Well, we -- you know, we modified the
50

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permits -- or the

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Taylor, could you give him your seat
4 there?

5

6 MR. BRELSFORD: Of course.

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dick Sellers, State of Alaska. Dick,
9 when I get my green card, you know, it says it's on -- it's on
10 the Kvichak and it's two miles below Levelock and it's up on a
11 bank.

12

13 MR. SELLERS: Well, we purposely

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We know where we got it.

16

17 MR. SELLERS: modified the harvest tickets to ask
18 twice where an animal came from and still we get a large number
19 of reports that come back and say, I hunted 9(B) and I --
20 specific location, Lake Clark. And that's as specific as a lot
21 of hunters are willing to tell us.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You have to protect the lands, okay.
24 Well, that's fine. I appreciate that. I'm sorry to drag you
25 up here, but -- well, okay. Thank you. Okay. What's the
26 wishes of the Council? Robin.

27

28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to
29 offer an amendment to Proposal 27. A total of 10 permits for
30 the harvest of bull moose for potlatches on the Federal public
31 lands in 9(B) would be available for the communities in
32 Nondalton, Iliamna, Newhalen, Pedro Bay and possibly Port
33 Alsworth -- and Port Alsworth, not possibly.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is there a second to that
36 motion?

37

38 MR. ABRAHAM: Second.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Any further discussion
41 from the Council members?

42

43 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman?

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. Excuse me, do you want to
46 address your motion?

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think
49 that in earlier meetings that -- that it was expressed by one

50

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of the communities up in this area that the ceremonies are tied to their culture. We've had -- on acting on a previous proposal where we approved, I believe, it was six bull moose, we had Ted get up here from BBNA and staff also say that no permits were issued to the village that we had afforded this privilege to and recognized their traditional practices.

7
8 I have some concerns. I know the bull/cow ratio is up, but I have some concerns with the high predation problems, I think that are in the area. We heard about bear and wolves. The calf/cow ratio is the lowest since surveys were initiated, so, you know, I think by a reduction to 10 and including them communities, no permits were issued to date, that we'd be recognizing their customary and traditional practice of holding potlatches throughout any given time of the year when one is deemed necessary it will be by permit by staff. I don't know if they'd be damaging the herd any and we'd be affording them people an opportunity to practice what they culturally believe in.

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robert, did you have a comment?

23

24 MR. HEYANO: No. Mr. Chairman, I'd be supporting the proposed amendment. I guess I -- you know, we probably opened the door for Nondalton to take six. We have 27 requests, 10 with the community of Newhalen. And based on some of the information provided to us, there's no doubt in my mind that we're dealing with a moose population that's, in my opinion, not very healthy. So I think this is actually going to be a savings.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I just as soon see the people eat them than the wolves eat them.

35

36 MR. HEYANO: Right. The only thing I'd add -- an amendment -- I don't know if your amendment addressed only bull moose?

39

40 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. Only bull moose.

41

42 MR. HEYANO: Okay. And I'd include the community of Port Alsworth, Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: He did.

46

47 MR. SAMUELSEN: I did.

48

49 MR. HEYANO: Okay.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other further discussion anyone?
3
4 MR. HEYANO: Question.
5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question, all those in favor say aye?
7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.
9
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
11
12 (No opposing responses)
13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead.
17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: They wanted us to divvy up the guidance
19 divvying up between the communities. I'm not comfortable in
20 doing that not knowing the -- how many people are in the
21 community right offhand.
22
23 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, let me offer a possibility. In
24 light of the fact that potlatches occur when required in the
25 communities and that we haven't seen a rush of requests along
26 these lines, perhaps what we could do is proceed on an as
27 needed basis. That the communities who have a death and with
28 commemorate it through a potlatch or through a ceremony
29 would come for the permits until those were exhausted. And if
30 that's not an adequate solution, we would need to revisit it.
31 I believe it would be wise to alert the Council to the fact
32 that the existing regulation does provide, from last year, does
33 provide up to six moose -- bull moose by Federal registration
34 permit for the community of Nondalton. And if our intention
35 here is to distribute the 10 permits differently, I think we
36 ought to probably put on the record, your recommendation if --
37 you know, if Nondalton has six set aside as is currently the
38 case, then no change in -- no opinion for change would be
39 required. If you do expect that they would be distributed
40 differently then Nondalton may not have six set aside

41
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Wait a minute. I could be wrong
43 here, but when we passed this motion Nondalton doesn't have six
44 moose anymore. This is 10 for the whole area, five villages.
45
46 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think that's our understanding
47 from the biological purpose.
48
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
50

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1
2 MR. BRELSFORD: I think it would be wise if we
3 clarified that specifically on the record. That you intention
4 in the motion is to recommend to the board that the 10 be the
5 total and that they be distributed without regard to the six
6 set aside for Nondalton last year.

7
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Does that need to be in the form of a
9 motion?

10
11 MR. BRELSFORD: If it meets your intent, I think it
12 would be on the record that this is a clarification of what you
13 intended.

14
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. Go ahead, Robin.

16
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, as a maker of the motion,
18 that was my intention, 10 total.

19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Ten total. And that includes the six
21 Nondalton a year ago?

22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Um-hum. (affirmative)

24
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's not an issue anymore?

26
27 MR. BRELSFORD: None is set aside.

28
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll take a five minute
30 break.

31
32 (Off record)

33 (On record)

34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So did Dick decide to go back to
36 Anchorage, Helga?

37
38 MS. EAKON: Yes.

39
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. We're on 28. We're back
41 okay, Tina?

42
43 COURT REPORTER: Yes.

44
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you. And we have Taylor and
46 Lee to address 28.

47
48 MR. BRELSFORD: That's correct, Mr. Chairman. We
49 thought in this instance we'd let Lee take the lead. He's head
50

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batter here.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

4

5 MR. FINK: For the record, Lee Fink, Lake Clark
National Park. We'll try to cut to the quick, get this as
short as we can, I guess. Twenty-seven and 28 are moose
proposals again for the area we were previously discussing.
And I'll just kind of summarize both of them -- both of these
proposals would target the female component of the moose
population, and, you know, the biology does not support that at
this time.

13

14 So, I guess unless there's any specific questions I
won't take up a lot of time.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: The competition for a bull moose seems
greater, would extending the season alleviate that problem?
I've gotten reports that between December 1st and December 31st
that freeze-up hasn't occurred and they're having a tough time
getting out to get their bull moose.

24

25 MR. FINK: Well, the problem, I think that the
biologists have extending the season because it gets pretty
stressful for the cows if the extend that season into a time
that would really be practical. I mean here we are in February
29 well, the end of February and Lake Clark has still not been
suitable for travel. And this is not particularly unusual.
I've been there 10 years and only a couple of years in that
time frame have we ever been able to travel consistently on the
ice even in January. So I'm not sure, just given our
geographic location that extending it a couple of weeks would
afford much of an advantage for the average hunter.

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions? Does anybody else
have any other questions? Taylor, did you have any comment on
that?

42

43 MR. BRELSFORD: I think the only remark we might make
for the record, is that there is some information to suggest
that historically the traditional harvest practices did include
antlerless takes in the winter period. So the request would
seem to correspond to accommodating traditional harvest
practices. However, the biological circumstances is
constrained as Lee has suggested.

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. This would be a cow or a bull
moose, Proposal 28 and 29.

4
5 MR. FINK: Proposal 28 would be -- yeah, it reads rural
residents of Nondalton only one moose so that would be bull or
cow?

8
9 MR. BRELSFORD: It would be bull or cow, yeah.

10
11 MR. FINK: And then Proposal 29, that extends to -- for
the Nondalton residents only in Proposal 28 that is both in the
August to September 15 season and the December 1st to the
December 31 season if it was -- in Proposal 28 which is
restricted only to Nondalton residents. Proposal 29 is for all
residents, local rural residents. And it reads that one moose,
however, -- one moose August 20 through September 15th,
however, antlerless moose may be taken only December 1 through
December 31. So basically it's the cow season in the winter is
what -- for all residents.

21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, Tim.

23
24 MR. LaPORTE: Is this something that we're going to
have to revisit next year for Iliamna, Pedro Bay, Newhalen,
Port Alsworth and all of a sudden be duplicating this all over
again and come up with one antlerless moose and now we got five
villages to do the same thing?

29
30 MR. FINK: I think Proposal 29 speaks to all villages.
So if we are opposed to 29 this year, that would indicate that
unless the biology of the population changes, we probably
wouldn't be in favor of it next year either. So basically
these two proposals are very similar. Twenty-eight is
restricted only to Nondalton residents and an antlerless bull
may be taken at any season that is opened. Proposal 29
includes all local rural residents and the antlerless season is
restricted to the winter.

39
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: December 1 through the 31st?

41
42 MR. FINK: Yeah. December 1 through the 31st hunt.

43
44 MR. BRELSFORD: We're again talking about the same
lands that we touched on before.

46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

48
49 MR. BRELSFORD: And really the same user groups, the
50

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same resident zoned communities. So Proposal 29, it would be open to the c&t users, to the subsistence users would actually primarily effect those five resident zoned communities that we talked of earlier.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other comments?

7

8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. Addressing Proposal 28, going back to Page 71, it looks like they have a success rate of a little better than 50 percent on hunting moose in the five communities. Am I assuming about right?

12

13 MR. FINK: Yes. Those figures -- that would be all lands, both Federal public and private or State. But that they experience about a 50 percent ratio.

16

17 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

18

19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Taylor, did you have anymore comments to make? Any other questions of Council -- I mean, excuse me, Council members any questions? Do we have any other department heads that we need to have come and address this issue today? Sellers.

24

25 MR. SELLERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dick Sellers, Fish & Game. Just a real brief comment. As we were talking about with caribou, the single most important factor that regulates the moose population, whether it increases or decreases is cow survival rates. And over the course of the last 12 years, we've collected more and more data on moose populations throughout Unit 9. And as we detected changes in productivity we've become more conservative on cow hunts. And Unit 9(E) was the first area that the State closed and eventually closed the lower portion of 9(B), Lake Iliamna because we documented very low cow production. The Lake Clark portion, 9(B) was the last area that the State closed and that was closed, I think in '87. Again, as we documented declines in calf production we became more conservative with cow harvesting. And that's probably the prudent way to go. Unless you got a herd that's at carrying capacity and you need to reduce the number of moose, you probably want to be real conservative on how many cows you take.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions of Sellers? Thank you, Dick. Any other department heads that need to make comment to this 28 and 29, we're dealing with bulls. Okay. We have public -- thank you, Lee. Ted, would you like to come and make a comment? I guess there is no other individuals who have got in a pink card so

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1
 2 MR. KRIEG: My name is Ted Krieg. I work for the
 Bristol Bay Native Association, Natural Resources Department.
 First off I wanted to start off saying, due to the problems we
 were having with the teleconference line, I called Nondalton,
 they were standing by, they were going to try to be -- give
 some comments and testimony. But I told them it just wasn't
 working out very well. So we went -- decided not to do that,
 but they weren't going to let me off that easy so they decided
 that they would try to fax something. And I just checked the
 fax and it isn't here yet, but if it comes, maybe I can bring
 it in later.

13
 14 But the one thing that I -- I have another -- I have a
 resolution from the Nondalton Tribal Council that I'd like to
 read into the record and that will be it unless there's any
 questions.

18
 19 Nondalton Tribal Council Resolution 94-14. Requests
 for the Federal subsistence regulations to be changed to allow
 hunting for moose of either sex in Unit 9(B); Whereas the
 Denaina Athabascan residents of Nondalton have customarily and
 traditionally relied on moose as a valuable food source;
 Whereas the area of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve has
 been a traditional moose hunting area for the residents of
 Nondalton; Whereas, the subsistence needs of the Nondalton for
 moose are not being met, during the 1994 fall moose season
 subsistence hunters did not see a bull moose so we have no
 fresh meat; Whereas, Nondalton hunters have observed a
 substantial increase in hunting pressure from hunters that are
 being flown into the area; Whereas, in the past it was legal to
 kill cow moose; Whereas, Section 804 of ANICLA provides for a
 subsistence priority over other purposes; Now, Therefore, be it
 resolved that the Nondalton Denaina formally requests the
 Federal Subsistence Board to adopt our proposal to allow the
 hunting of both cow and bull moose in Unit 9(B). We would like
 the Bristol Bay Native Association to work with us to provide
 information in support of this proposal. Passed and Approved
 by duly called quorum of the Nondalton Tribal Council this 11th
 day of November 1994. And it's signed by William Trefon, Sr.,
 and Clara Trefon.

42
 43 One other thing that came to mind as I was reading this
 was, -- and it's just for, you know, general comment, that in
 talking to the Nondalton Tribal Council they expressed a lot of
 displeasure with the fact that they have their Kijik Native
 Corporation lands there and that falls under State regulations.
 And they feel like they can't -- can't do -- you know, hunt
 the way they need to in that area. And that's just, you know,
 50

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their general comment.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

4

5 MR. KRIEG: Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Ted? Thank you,
 Ted. Would the -- yes.

9

10 MS. COILEY: Pippa Coiley, Alaska Department of Fish &
 Game. At the -- for the last couple of years I've gone
 sporadically to Iliamna Advisory Committee meetings that
 encompasses Nondalton and the communities around Lake Iliamna.
 And they have asked a couple of times to have the moose season
 modified. There's a lot of competition in the fall and in the
 winter, as we all know, freeze-up hasn't happened sometimes.
 They've asked for extended bull moose season into January. And
 premised by the fact that they feel that local people can tell
 the difference between cows and bulls. And they've also
 requested cow seasons. They've tried to develop those
 proposals to put into State regulations.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions. Okay, thank
 you. All right. Yes, Tim.

25

26 MR. LaPORTE: Just one comment. Every year it's
 different up there as far as like Lee was saying, the traveling
 on the lake and that. This year, Lake Iliamna froze over
 completely December 19th, the entire lake was frozen. All the
 bays and that were frozen substantially earlier than that. And
 real heavy snowfalls throughout the end of November and the
 first of December brought all the moose down out of the
 mountains. And there was moose for the free taking all the way
 up and down the shore line, all the way to Pedro Bay there was
 literally hundreds of moose. And there was probably more moose
 taken this year up there than maybe the last many put together.
 So every year that travel situation and the need for the
 extended season changes. This year it changed in everybody's
 favor up there.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: One year the caribou walked all the
 way to Port Alsworth.

43

44 MR. LaPORTE: Well, last year we had caribou all over
 Iliamna. Christmas Eve we had probably 25,000 right in Iliamna
 and Newhalen, this year we haven't had a caribou track
 anywhere. There's nothing up there.

48

49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, you better talk to the advisory

50

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board about that, I guess.

2

3 MR. LaPORTE: Yeah. We got to send in a proposal.

4

5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. What is the wishes of the
Advisory Board on these two proposals? Do you want to deal
with maybe them individually?

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I am totally against
allowing a cow hunt based on staff comments.

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. I wouldn't vote on the cow
hunt.

14

15 MR. SAMUELSEN: I guess what I'm grappling with in my
mind here is are the subsistence needs of bull moose being met
by the residents. And if -- maybe I'll have to call staff up
one more time, Lee? Lee, are the subsistence needs being met
by this village?

20

21 MR. FINK: All the villages together or

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, just

24

25 MR. FINK: Nondalton?

26

27 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

28

29 MR. FINK: Boy, you know, every year I'm not sure.
Some years are better than others. As Tim said, this year was,
I think, a particularly good year. The moose seem to be lower
earlier because of heavy snowfall. I don't think you would
find too many people saying that they -- the moose were not
available this season. Some seasons that's definitely the
case, moose stay high late and they're very difficult to
access. If the dynamics of the pop- -- of the decline were
different, you know, sometimes the cows are low earlier so
they're -- they may be more appealing because they tend to come
down before the bulls do.

40

41 But whether or not they're always met, I guess I don't
really have that information.

43

44 MR. BRELSFORD: I think perhaps one of the keys, Mr.
Chairman, would be the fact that the lands under jurisdiction
under the Federal subsistence program are a very limited
proportion of the total harvest area for Nondalton or these
other communities. And, in fact, probably not the primary
harvesting areas for these communities with the exception of

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Port Alsworth which was much closer to the up lake area. So the testimony, I think, is fairly clear that people have -- in the communities do have concerns about meeting their subsistence needs. But on the Federal lands in question, there are not competing uses. The Park lands are not open to non-subsistence users so that federally qualified subsistence users are the only people harvesting moose in these areas.

8

9 MR. FINK: Mr. Chairman?

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

12

13 MR. FINK: Could I maybe point one thing out on the map here again?

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

16

17
18 MR. FINK: In probably late December -- once again, here is Nondalton which is probably the primary user. This is all land that is now Kijik Corporation land and earlier in December when this portion of the lake was frozen I flew the Chinitna drainage here, just the lower end of it. I was actually on my way back from a funeral in Nondalton and just took a turn over this area. And I counted over 60 moose below Banks Creek here down to just above the mouth of the river. So this year there are -- there were quite heavy numbers in here. And traditionally, I mean this was the land that was selected by Nondalton and I think this is their traditional hunting ground. It's much more accessible. You can virtually -- it's virtually accessible without even traveling on the lake if there's a moderate snow pack even. You don't necessarily need ice, all you need is an adequate snow pack and this land is all accessible and this is excellent moose habitat. But it's not Federal public land. And, you know, again we're not speaking of Federal public land until you get up into this upper regions. And as you can see this is pretty steep country and it's certainly not as valuable a moose habitat as some of this land is that is Kijik land at this time.

38

39
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lee, could you go back over there again and show us that red boundary, the north there, Kijik lands? Okay. See that red boundary that goes along there, follow it all the way around and keep going, that's on the west side of the mountains.

41

42 MR. FINK: And this is the western Preserve boundary.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And they can hunt in there?

45

46

47

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1 MR. FINK: They could hunt in here, yes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is it flat lands?

4

5 MR. FINK: This is mixed terrain. The valleys, there's
fairly wide valleys. There's some pretty steep peaks. But I
think traditionally, you know, the moose populations in -- if
they don't receive too much pressure have been fairly stable in
here. And I don't think, traditionally, they've had to travel.
I think you're getting -- we're talking about traveling a
pretty good distance once you get up into this country and
traditionally that hasn't been necessary.

13

14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative) Go ahead,
Tom.

16

17 MR. LaPORTE: Did you, as a flying ranger, did you
observe any moose hunting activities up in the park itself?

19

20 MR. FINK: During the winter season I didn't observe
anybody coming up lake into the past -- past Port Alsworth.
The Port Alsworth residents that were out on subsistence hunts,
the rum- -- the story I hear is that they pretty much enjoyed
200 percent success hunting moose in this area right directly
around Port Alsworth. Some of this is Tanalian Incorporated
land and the local village corporation land, but they were
hunting on it and some of it was over into preserve and even
park land. I think only one or two -- one moose this year was
only actually taken out of the park, a couple out of the
preserve and one or two on the corporation land.

31

32 MR. LaPORTE: How about during the fall season?

33

34 MR. FINK: During the fall season, yes, we had an early
fall season that was established by the Federal Board this
year, it opens August 20. And we had a fair amount of local
use, Nondaltons, where Natives traveled up and hunted their
traditional -- some of them, local folks, even, you know, have
Native allotments up here that they hunt near. Though our
subsistence regulations don't apply on their land, they need to
go off their own land to hunt. You know, they were up in that
area hunting this fall.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Interesting, the ranger season.

45

46 MR. LaPORTE: Were there success?

47

48 MR. FINK; The success rate I'm not sure of. We
haven't seen the State game harvest reports from this. And

50

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that was not a Federal registration hunt, so we don't really get a handle on it until we get the State data back. And like Bick said, lots of times it's not very specific, it just says, Lake Clark.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Lee, what you think of extending the season through January since there is a good possibility everything won't freeze-up and we'll get a big snowfall by January on bulls and if you named the specific amount of bulls, not necessarily just for Nondalton, but for all five of the communities? As a Council member I seriously doubt if I would vote on giving any -- I would not vote on giving any cows in that area period and I don't know if they want a bull in January or not. You don't have to answer that, but that's something we might, you know, think about. If we feel like there's not enough animals and sometimes they don't get them and they may not use it in January either. Yes, Robert.

18

19 MR. HEYANO: Well, I guess, Mr. Chairman and maybe a response to your comment there is that at this point in time I'd have a -- I'd be very -- I find it very difficult to make the season any more liberal than it currently is. We're dealing with a piece of land up there that is strictly used by the five communities.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's right.

27

28 MR. HEYANO: And from all indications we have a moose population that is at moderate to low densities. We have a 1994 cow to calf ratio of 100 cows, 110 calves per 100 cows, which in my personal opinion is extremely low. We have a -- the picture I get with the moose population is it's steadily declining. And I look at the current regulations and they have currently a season that is equivalent to the moose season we have in 17 which has a substantially stronger moose population. So -- you know, and I don't doubt one minute that maybe they're not -- they're having a hard time getting moose, you know, but I think that's a direct reflection on maybe the population of the moose. I don't -- I don't see how I could at this time keeping the protection of the resource as a number one priority allowing any more liberal season than what's currently in the books. In fact, I'd be looking at taking some reduction here shortly. You know, I think the thing we got to dealize is, you know, is the report hints to possible predation as a cause. And in this day and age getting predation -- get any type of predation control on the park land is nonexistent and that's another thing we're going to have to take into consideration.

49

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1 So those are just kind of my thoughts on these two
2 proposals.

3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's the wishes of the Council?
5 We've got quite a bit of information here so we need to either
6 accept or reject 28 and 29, they can be handled together?

7
8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

9
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, sir.

11
12 MR. SAMUELSEN: I make a motion that we oppose Proposal
13 28 and 29 based on staff comments, no sport harvest is
14 currently being permitted within park lands. We've got the
15 five communities -- resident zoned communities that are
16 harvesting in the area already. And also staff comments on the
17 health of the herd that shows the cow/calf -- calf/cow ratio
18 and Council members comments I concur with.

19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Council members, is there a second on
21 that motion?

22
23 MR. HEYANO: Second.

24
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any further discussion by Council
26 members?

27
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Question.

29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.

31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?

35
36 (No opposing responses)

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Number 30. And -- okay, Dave
39 you were the lead agency? You are

40
41 MR. LaPORTE: Didn't we do 30 last night?

42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. Thirty is King Salmon, I think.
44 Isn't 30 the next one, Dave?

45
46 MR. FISHER: Thirty is the next one, that's correct,
47 Mr. chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And this is extended -- earlier moose
50

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Hunt on Federal lands?

2

3 MR. FISHER: Okay. Proposal 30 was submitted by the
Bristol Bay Native Association. And I did discuss this with
Ted over the phone, I think probably about three or four weeks
ago and there was a little bit of concern on the staff part as
to really what the intent of the proposal was. And Ted and I
didn't really reach a solution at that time over the phone so
he said to go ahead and present the analysis as the way the
proposal was written and we would iron it out at the regional
council meeting so here it goes.

12

13 This proposal is for Unit 9(C), that portion draining
into the Naknek River from the south. It would lengthen the
current fall season from September 1 to September 15th to
August 20th to September 15th. In other words, it would add an
additional 12 days to the hunting season. It would require a
Federal registration permit for the season of August 20 through
August 31. And the provision that currently exists for the
harvest of the five antlerless moose during the December season
would be eliminated. The proposal as written would also remove
the closure on Federal public lands to non-subsistence hunters
during the December season. And the proposal would allow the
harvests of any bull rather than only antlered bulls. And the
Federal public lands connected with this proposal are the
Becharof National Wildlife Refuge. The moose population does
appear stable at this time in that area, surveys conducted by
the refuge staff show that the moose move into the refuge from
the adjacent Katmai National Park and that movement starts in
December, around mid- to late December depending on weather
conditions.

32

33 As you recall, the antlerless season was, I believe,
implemented in '90, '91, that December season and since then
there's been very little harvest of antlerless bulls. The
harvest there's been minimal. All rural residents of 9(A),
9(B), (C) and (E) have customary and traditional use for moose
in 9(C). However, it appears this proposal would directly
affect those local residents in King Salmon, Naknek and South
Naknek.

41

42 The preliminary conclusions and some of the concerns
that the staff had concerning this proposal, the early season
should not affect the health of the moose population in this
area. And talking to some of the locals, apparently there's
not very many moose in that area in August anyway. The State
the purpose of this proposal was to provide an early season
and to provide an opportunity for subsistence hunters to
harvest some moose before they are chased out by the caribou

50

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Hunters that are there a little bit earlier. And that's just 2- that's one of the concerns we had. The caribou hunters are going to be in there in August 20th and I understand the primary means of getting up to that area is by a jet boat, so we were wondering if that activity wouldn't chase those moose hunters out -- or chase the moose out of the area for the moose season that would start on -- that's proposed to start on August 20th.

9

10 We do have some concern about removing the antler requirement. We feel that it may cause increased pressure on cows during that time of the season. And there's also sort of a land status problem. The only access to the Federal public lands is through Native corporation lands and State lands. In other words, you got to go through an area that's closed to get to an area that's open to hunting.

17

18 That's basically sums up #30.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Have you thought about the reduction of the base being closed lessening the pressure on the animals?

22

23 MR. FISHER: That's

24

25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's a factor also?

26

27 MR. FISHER: a factor. That should be considered, yeah.

29

30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Dave? Well, thank you very much. Dick Sellers, do you have any comments since we're dealing with animals regulated by the State of Alaska?

33

34 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers, Fish & Game. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think our biggest concern is the one of confusion and knowing when you're going to be legal to be hunting on Federal lands as you go up Big Creek. And basically that's going to be the primary access route up Big Creek. And as the Fish & Wildlife Service pointed out, it might be pretty tempting to take a moose that you saw before you got to the boundary there.

42

43 I guess the other concern we had was about the justification. I think most of the traffic prior to boat traffic on Big Creek prior to September 1st is by fishermen. And then starting September 1st, probably the next biggest user group are brown bear hunters under the permit hunt. So that the rationale that moose hunters -- or rather that caribou hunters are chasing moose away prior to the start of September

50

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1st doesn't seem to jive with what we notice happening on the
2 creek in terms of boat traffic.

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you really think that the boats
5 chase the moose away?

6

7 MR. SELLERS: Well, that would be another thing that's
8 a little bit dubious in my mind. I think, you know, those
9 moose that do inhabit Big Creek are used to an awful lot of
10 boat traffic all summer long. They don't -- there's not a big
11 influx into Big Creek until much later in the fall so I think
12 that the moose that are living there in August and into
13 September are used to hearing boat motors virtually
14 continuously.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. I don't think that's an issue.
17 I don't think that's an issue in a lot of areas. You know,
18 like the Kvichak, they lay 10 feet in the bank and you got all
19 kinds of noises going by there. So that's -- any questions of
20 Dick? How about the antlerless thing?

21

22 MR. SELLERS: Well, the State has kind of reverted to a
23 one bull season rather than stipulating that they had to have
24 antlers and that doesn't seem to have caused a problem. So I
25 think we could probably live with a one bull season.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, Dick. Does anyone
28 else need to -- yes, refuge manager Ron Hood.

29

30 MR. HOOD: Ronald Hood, Refuge manager, Alaska
31 Peninsula Becharof Refuges. I have to admit that when I saw
32 this proposal I was somewhat confused as to what its intent
33 was. The antlerless season had been installed in that area
34 with a five antlerless limit in response to the stated desires
35 of the local advisory committee -- Fish & Game advisory
36 committee to have a antlerless hunt whenever the State closed
37 the antlerless hunt on Big Creek -- I mean on King Salmon Creek
38 the north. And so I was -- like I say, I was somewhat
39 confused and surprised to see that someone would propose to
40 eliminate that hunt.

41

42 This matter was taken up by the local advisory
43 committee and I wanted to make sure that you all under- -- note
44 that in that record they voted to reject the proposal entirely.
45 And their rationale as I understand it, at the time is they
46 liked the concept of opening the season a few days earlier on
47 August 20th, but they did not want to give up the antlerless
48 hunt in December. And, so, therefore, they voted to reject the
49 proposal in its entirety.

50

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1
 2 I would point out that access into the Big Creek area
 3 is the key to the December hunt. It's also the key to the fall
 4 hunt. The access in the fall is either by aircraft or it is by
 5 jet boat to get into the Federal hunt area. The demise of the
 6 base has had significant impacts on the decrease -- in
 7 decreasing the number of people going up the river either to
 8 fish or to hunt. I've had several people remark to me about
 9 how quiet it was on Big Creek this year when they went up
 10 either to fish or hunt, that there was just almost no traffic
 11 up the creek anymore. In the fall hunt this year, it must have
 12 been a hell of a year for hunting moose in the Bristol Bay area
 13 because we -- this was the first year that we have had any
 14 success in the December hunt for the last three or four years
 15 to speak of and we had a very good year. We issued five
 16 antlerless permits of which we know took one antlerless -- one
 17 cow. Another hunter reported a bull and three have not
 18 reported back. But we have reports of, at least, five more
 19 moose -- I believe it was -- no, it was -- yeah, five -- six --
 20 well, let me get my head straight here on the total number
 21 whose reported in the underground network in that area of which
 22 we have a few ears listening to. There was four animals taken
 23 over near the Park boundary and four animals, I believe taken
 24 along Big Creek, so a total of eight animals taken during the
 25 fall. And the key to that was the lake -- or the river and the
 26 creek froze-up this year, we had good access. And we also had
 27 snow and for the first time, in my memory, we had people using
 28 snow machines to access into the refuge and take moose. Now
 29 that is a new development for us. And we will be watching that
 30 closely because if we have a series of years of good snow we
 31 might begin to have more success than we might be -- that the
 32 population can sustain. But at the present time we have no
 33 problems.

34
 35 Other than that, I will open for -- I'll shut up and
 36 let you all ask me a few questions.

37
 38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anybody have any questions of Ron?
 39 Okay. Thanks, Ron, appreciate it. Any other department heads
 40 that need to talk here today? All right. We'll go to public
 41 testimony, Ted, you're registered for #30.

42
 43 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native Association,
 44 Natural Resources Department. If you'll remember this proposal
 45 when we initially presented it, it asked not only to start the
 46 season earlier, but to extend it later into January. That was
 47 resolved at the Newhalen meeting and we decided to just start
 48 the season earlier. Since then it's come out that -- and I
 49 have concurrence from the tribal councils of South Naknek and
 50

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King Salmon that they do not want to lose the five antlerless moose season.

3

4 One question, and I didn't get total concurrence on this, but it appears to me the way the regulation is written it says, the antlerless season will be closed when five antlerless moose have been taken. And I think I talked to Dick Sellers and correct me if I'm wrong, but by mid- to late December, the moose have lost their antlers, so basically, that's saying that if you don't get a bull -- if you don't get an antlered moose before five cow moose are taken, then the season's closed. So by mid-December that season could be closed. Am I correct? If, you know, there's no moose with antlers, the season's closed?

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Ron.

17

18 MR. HOOD: The loss of antlers is not total with the younger bulls. There was a significant number of bulls with antlers when we made our counts in December.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I've rarely ever seen a bull lose his antlers in December anyways. Sellers?

24

25 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman, I think my comment was that we stop doing surveys by December 10th because there is some antler drop which would skew the sex ratio. But as been pointed out, a majority of bulls, specially the younger ones retain antlers all the way through the end of December.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I've seen some big ones in February, too, up in Pile River.

33

34 MR. SELLERS: Yeah.

35

36 MR. KRIEG: Okay. I stand corrected on that.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's okay. That's a good point.

39

40 MR. KRIEG: Oh, the other thing is we -- this last sentence that's crossed out in the new proposed regulations, public lands are closed during December for the hunting season of moose except by eligible rural Alaska residents, we don't want to eliminate that either. So leave in the antler -- five you know, if I could ask the Council to amend the proposal to leave in -- or at least the, you know, the proposed regulation, leave in the five antlerless moose and leave in the sentence that says public lands are closed during December for the hunting of moose except by eligible rural Alaska residents

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and then the season will also start August 20.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other comments?

4

5 MR. KRIEG: That's all I have.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions of Ted? You know, I
~~8~~ really can't figure out why the Naknek/Kvichak would oppose an
~~9~~ August 20th opening. Were you there Ron?

10

11 MR. HOOD: Yes, I was.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And they oppose an August 20th

14

15 MR. HOOD: It was my interpretation that they didn't
~~16~~ want to endanger losing the cows -- the antlerless season.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Can't you have both? Can't you have
~~19~~ both? The antlerless season is in December.

20

21 MR. HOOD: You are in the position of deciding that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, Ted.

24

25 MR. KRIEG: You're welcome.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Ron, come back up here and explain
~~28~~ this to me now. I don't understand this losing this antlerless
~~29~~ hunt in December. We start the August 20th season, do you have
~~30~~ a number of moose that can be taken in the refuge?

31

32 MR. HOOD: There would be no limit to

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

35

36 MR. HOOD: it. But let's face it, in that time
~~37~~ of the year there are not very many moose available, antlered
~~38~~ moose available along Big Creek. It's about -- I would
~~39~~ venture a guess there's less than five.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)

42

43 MR. HOOD: And then the other access area is over
~~44~~ around the boundary area close to the Park. And last year was
~~45~~ good year. We had four moose taken during that time frame,
~~46~~ two of them were by guided hunters, one of them was a
~~47~~ subsistence hunter and the other one was a non-resident -- or a
~~48~~ non-c&t.

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: This one would be only, what we're
2 determining to be qualified people, not open to commercial
3 hunting or that type of stuff is what we're dealing with here?

4

5 MR. HOOD: That's right.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's correct, okay.

8

9 MR. HOOD: It would be c&t eligible.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, then you come to your December
12 hunt, December 1 to December 31st, you issue five antlerless
13 permits, whether bulls or cows -- bulls who've lost their
14 horns?

15

16 MR. HOOD: Right.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Why would these people lose animals
19 in December because they had an early August hunt?

20

21 MR. HOOD: They would not lose any.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, then what is the problem?

24

25 MR. HOOD: The problem was is the proposal, as shown
26 there, had lines through the antlerless hunt. The proposal was
27 to drop the antlerless hunt.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: In December?

30

31 MR. HOOD: In December.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, no, we can't do that. Okay. The
34 fight came on. All right. It just took a little while.
35 Thanks a lot, Ted. Okay, Robin.

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, I'd like to offer an amendment to
38 proposal 30.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

41

42 MR. SAMUELSEN: To include the language of the December
43 hunt all the way down to Alaska residents. So it would read,
44 the December hunt, antlerless moose may be taken by Federal
45 registration permit only. The antlerless season will be closed
46 when five antlerless moose have been taken. Public lands are
47 closed during December for the hunting of moose except by
48 eligible rural Alaska residents. And it will say, however,
49 during the period August 20th through August 31st, bull moose
50

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may be taken by Federal registration permit only. The permit must be obtained in King Salmon. The open season August 20th through September 15th and December 1st through December 31st. I guess that's current language.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. And that does protect the antlerless moose?

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

10

11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else to your proposal or is that it?

13

14 MR. SAMUELSEN: That's it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Second?

17

18 MR. CHRISTENSEN: I'll second.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert seconded. Any discussion from the Council members? Yes.

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, as indicated by the Naknek/Kvichak Advisory Committee doing away with the antlerless moose hunt during December would be a lost opportunity to subsistence users. Ron Hood has explained and the light came on with you that that's exactly what would have happened. The cow/calf ratio, the bull ratio for this herd shows it's a -- there's no conservation concerns with the herd. It's a healthy herd. I have personally talked with residents of King Salmon, Naknek and South Naknek and they'd like to have the opportunity in August and be more in line with what is happening over in Unit 17 now.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other discussion by Council members?

37

38 MR. HEYANO: Just a comment. I guess I don't have a problem with the amendment, Mr. Chairman. But I think we need to keep in mind is that there's very little Federal land in this area. And I don't know, I guess if the local people could figure it out and work it out where they're at, it's one thing, but that's the only concern I have about it. If the State doesn't and I don't see any proposals in there for the State to have companion regulations, so in about two years there it's going to be confusing to somebody.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Only the Federal land's going to be affected by this. Yeah, go ahead.

50

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1
2 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. There's a lot of buzzing out
3 here in staff. Maybe we got to get staff comments before we
4 vote.
5
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do we have a problem out there?
7
8 MR. BRELSFORD: She's taking the close version and you
9 had it right.
10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All right. If there's no
12 further comments by Council member, call for the question.
13
14 MR. HEYANO: Question.
15
16 MR. SAMUELSEN: Question.
17
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.
19
20 IN UNISON: Aye.
21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed?
23
24 (No opposing responses)
25
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Keep going?
27
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.
29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Number 33, I believe is next -- no
31 Lee, 32 is it?
32
33 MR. FINK: Take your time, when you're ready.
34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you do that before I got here?
36
37 MS. EAKON: We did that one already.
38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. It is 33 then.
40
41 MR. SAMUELSEN: Where do we go now?
42
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thirty-three.
44
45 MR. LaPORTE: Thirty-three.
46
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We get to deal with sheep now. Okay.
48 We have staff on 33.
49
50

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1 MR. FINK: Lee Fink, Lake Clark National Park. And
 2 we've kind of looked at Proposals 33 and 34 together here since
 3 they deal with the same population and the same geographic
 4 area. Proposals 33 and 34 request changes in harvest
 5 regulations for sheep in Unit 9(B), including a later season
 6 from September 20 through October 30. Proposal 33 would retain
 7 the existing harvest limit of one ram with 7/8 curl, but extend
 8 the new season to the residents of Nondalton only. Proposal 34
 9 would remove the sex curl restriction and extend the new
 10 regulation to all subsistence users in 9(B).

11

12 We'll just kind of go through quickly the text that we
 13 have and then look at some questions. The current Federal
 14 subsistence regulation for sheep hunting in Unit 9 is August
 15 16th through September 20th with one ram, 7/8 inch curl -- or
 16 7/8 curl. Then there's some harvest data that basically shows
 17 a fairly limited use, maybe a -- I'll step to the graphic aid
 18 over here one more time and just kind of point out where,
 19 again, looking at a fairly restricted area of land a little
 20 farther -- before I step over there, basically the Park has
 21 been monitoring the sheep in this area and the figures are on
 22 I don't have a page number on this one, but in 1981, the
 23 survey reported 104 and in 1985 147 sheep, 1987 123 sheep and
 24 in 1992 93 sheep. And that is on Page 101 in your booklet for
 25 that figure.

26

27 And we'll see that we're looking at, you know, a pretty
 28 small population of sheep and at the very southern end of their
 29 boundary -- as far south as the population of dall sheep
 30 extend. Basically the cutoff for dall sheep is near Upper
 31 Tazimina Lake. No sheep are documented ranging below this
 32 Upper Tazimina Lake. And the sheep that we're talking about,
 33 there's a small resident population on Tanalian Mountain, Holy
 34 Mountain, Copper Mountain and then up here on Sheep Mountain.
 35 they're all located basically right over in this area and
 36 that's where the majority of the subsistence use takes place
 37 also.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What about Tanalian?

40

41 MR. FINK: Tanalian, yeah, I mentioned that.

42

43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You did, I didn't hear it. Okay.
 44 All right.

45

46 MR. FINK: But -- actually the population on Tanalian
 47 -- has received very little pressure because it's
 48 predominately

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yews.

2

3 MR. FINK: yews. So the majority of the heavier
4 hunting would take place up in the Copper Mountain area and
5 then some back in the Holy Mountain area. That's where the
6 bigger rams tend to -- you tend to find them.

7

8 But I think the important thing to look at in these
9 proposals is that we're looking at a very small and very
10 fragile sheep population with the census number in '92. We're
11 scheduled to do another survey this summer if funds permit,
12 we'll have an idea. But you can see the sheep productivity has
13 ranged from a high of 61 per 100 yews in '85 to a low of 16 per
14 100 in '92. Rams comprise 43 percent of the sheep population
15 in '92 with 55 percent of the rams being classified as 7/8 curl
16 or larger. So there are some bigger sheep in the population --
17 rams in the population.

18

19 The -- moving forward here, the elimination of sex and
20 curl restrictions in Proposal 34 would definitely favor a
21 harvest of yews because they occur in larger groups and habit
22 less rugged terrain. And are generally less wary of hunters.
23 The harvest of yews from this small population may diminish the
24 resource to a point where it would be impractical to allow any
25 hunting. However, under Federal -- under current Federal
26 subsistence management program relations, there is no
27 determination of customary and traditional use eligibility for
28 subsistence taking of sheep in 9(B).

29

30 Again, we're dealing with the same small local resident
31 populations. It shows a total of the villages would comprise
32 of 529 residents. Well, maybe we could just kind of -- in an
33 effort to same time, we could go back if you have specific
34 questions.

35

36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's your recommendation?

37

38 MR. FINK: The recommendation, based on the existing
39 population, would be that we could support an extension of 20
40 of 20 days, that would make the season from September 20 to
41 October 9. That appears justifiable at this time. All hunters
42 would be required to obtain a Federal registration permit
43 harvest -- Federal registration permit. And we don't feel that
44 it would be necessary to restrict that to the residents of
45 Mondalton only, but include

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The five communities?

48

49 MR. FINK: the five communities just to keep it

50

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Similar.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: September what to October what?

4

5 MR. FINK: September 20 to October 9.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

8

9 MR. BRELSFORD: And retain sex and curl.

10

11 MR. FINK: Yeah. And we would retain the sex and curl
restriction. It basically just be a -- an extension of the
season. A little longer season when the rams could possibly be
lower, a little more accessible, but yet still affording some
protection to the yews by retaining the curl restriction.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: When does rut take place with these
animals?

19

20 MR. FINK: Well, I'm not a sheep biologist and I don't
think we have one here.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, good point. Okay,
had question. Anything else, Lee?

25

26 MR. FINK: No. I think, unless you have -- maybe I
could just answer specific questions.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions you might have,
Council members of Lee. Yeah, Robert.

31

32 MR. HEYANO: Not of Lee, but I just wonder if Sellers
had an answer to that question. I would be interested to hear.

34

35 MR. SELLERS: November.

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: November?

38

39 MR. HEYANO: November.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So it would be beyond that period of
time, okay. Sellers, did you have a -- excuse me, any other
questions for these gentlemen. Thank you. No comment from the
State department? All the department heads are satisfied that
other input is needed. Go to public comment card, it says
that 33, Ted, you're on.

47

48 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native Association,
Natural Resources Department. Once again, I have a resolution

50

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that I'm going to read into the record. And the main thing is with the Nondalton Proposal #34 is that it better fits their customary and traditional needs because it -- you know, if there's snow higher in the mountains it moves the animals down.

5 Anyway, Nondalton Tribal Council Resolution 94-14 requests for the Federal Subsistence Board to change the dates of the sheep season to September 20th to October 30th in Unit 9(B). Whereas, the Denaina Athabascan residents of Nondalton have customarily and traditionally hunted dall sheep; Whereas, the area of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve has been a traditional dall sheep hunting area for the residents of Nondalton; Whereas, during the current season the sheep are too high in the mountains. Traditionally sheep were hunted later when snow on the mountains moved them to lower elevations; Whereas, Nondalton hunters have observed a substantial increase in hunting pressure from hunters that are being flown into the area; Whereas during the current season, subsistence hunters had to compete with sport hunters; Whereas, Section 804 of ANILCA provides for a subsistence priority over other purposes. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Nondalton Denaina formally requests the Federal Subsistence Board to adopt our proposal to change the dall sheep season to September 20th to October 30th in Unit 9(B). We would like the Bristol Bay Native Association to work with us to provide information in support of this proposal. Passed and approved by duly called a forum of the Nondalton Tribal this 10th day of November 1994, signed by William Trefon, Sr. and Clara Trefon.

28

29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes. Tim?

30

31 MR. LaPORTE: Yes. Maybe a question more for Lee, but two items. One you can't access Lake Clark hunting by an airplane anyway can you, you have to access it by boat and number two, along with that same question, that area's not open for non-subsistence hunting anyway, is it?

36

37 MR. FINK: Lee Fink, Lake Clark National Park. That -- the first question, that is correct, you cannot access subsistence use in the Park by aircraft, it's by boat only and that's the predominate access.

41

42 MR. LaPORTE: By boat or foot or however you choose to get there.

44

45 MR. FINK: By boat or foot or combination thereof. It's tough to boat to those sheep. And the second one was

48

49 MR. LaPORTE: Conflict with non-subsistence

50

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1
2 MR. FINK: There is no sport hunting. That -- those --
3 that population is in the hard Park which is restricted to
4 subsistence use only. Yeah. There is no conflict -- no user
5 conflict there.

6
7 MR. LaPORTE: So based on that, with your recommended
8 changes to the proposal of -- instead of rural residents of
9 Nondalton only, rural residents of the Lake Clark user zoned
10 communities?

11
12 MR. FINK: Yeah. That is correct. It's been our
13 approach to this that, you know, those five communities or six
14 communities are they all basically attain equal status. They
15 were previously existing resident zoned communities of the
16 Park. There's a flux between the communities, nowadays, people
17 from Nondalton have moved to, you know, Iliamna and Newhalen,
18 though they may have family ties more to Nondalton and it's
19 kind of a group they all lived there, if they've traditionally
20 used the resource, if the resource allows it at this time, then
21 it's just to keep the regulation more simplified, it would
22 extend to all of them equally.

23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions? Yeah.

25
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Lee, October 9th, I don't know of a
27 regulation that -- of a hunt that closes on the 9th. It's on
28 the 1st, the 15th, the 20th.

29
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Tenth. Where did you get that
31 number, Lee?

32
33 MR. FINK: I guess we just wanted to be different.

34
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You are.

36
37 MR. FINK: Actually our biologist came up with that
38 date

39
40 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, I think it just matches a 20 day
41 extension season.

42
43 MR. FINK: just as a 20 day extension, exactly.

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: If we took that 9th date and put it on
46 the 15th, then additional six days, how much more anticipated
47 harvest do you think would happen?

48
49 MR. FINK: I think the reason we were comfortable with
50

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1 just the 20 days and ending it on the 9th is, as you progress
2 farther into -- this is my limited knowledge of sheep biology.

3

4 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

5

6 MR. FINK: But as we get farther -- later into the
7 season, the sheep come progressively lower. And the yews come
8 first and then the rams come down and the lower they get they
9 more accessible they are. So the later we extend the season, I
10 think we probably -- if, in deed, there are people out there
11 depending on the numbers, you would probably enjoy a higher
12 success ratio in less rugged terrain the later in the year that
13 you would be out there hunting the sheep. I think that's why
14 our biologist restricted it to just 20 days and kept it October
15 19 because as you get into the middle of October, the snows are
16 really starting to come down the mountain and push the sheep
17 significantly lower and possibly they're even starting to move
18 across the valley floors to their -- to what may be a different
19 winter range than they had for the summer. And, of course,
20 then they become very -- very accessible.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who is your biologist and where do
23 they live?

24

25 MR. FINK: Al Bennett. He lives in Port Alsworth.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: He couldn't make it down for this?

28

29 MR. FINK: He was unable to.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's too bad. It would have been
32 good to have gotten some information. Any other questions of
33 me? Yeah. Excuse me, Ted were you finished?

34

35 MR. KRIEG: Well, I just wanted to clarify, at least,
36 my understanding of Tim's question. And I think I could ask --
37 you would really need to ask the tribal council for
38 clarification, but I think it's just a difference in
39 definitions when they talk about people flying in and the
40 competition. You know, I think one of the things that they've
41 seen happen in that area recently is just a lot more hunters
42 coming through. Like coming through Lake Clark Pass and it
43 might not necessarily have anything to do with the sheep
44 season.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We know that. Yeah. We know that
47 there's no more pressure on them other than the people who are
48 eligible from the five communities.

49

50

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1 MR. KRIEG: So I think that's

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Land at Port Alsworth and walk up the
4 mountain and then they're on the land.

5

6 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. Anyway

7

8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thank you. We appreciate that.

9

10 MR. KRIEG: thank you. I just wanted to point
11 that out.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's good. Any other questions?
14 What's the wishes -- excuse me, did you have a

15

16 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. Not a question.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Go ahead.

19

20 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to offer an
21 amendment for Proposal 33 and 34.

22

23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

24

25 MR. SAMUELSEN: That amendment would extend the season
26 from September -- closing of the season to September -- from
27 September 20th to October 10th, a 21 day extension. It will be
28 for permit only. It will be restricted to the five villages and
29 retain the sex and curl restriction.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Like it is now?

32

33 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is there a second to the
36 motion?

37

38 MR. LaPORTE: I'll second it.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Tim, seconded it. Would you like to
41 speak to your motion?

42

43 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The -- kind
44 of alluded to Lee on the 9th, I don't know of a season that
45 closes on the 9th, it's usually the 1st, 10th, 15th, 20th,
46 31st.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They will understand that better,
49 yeah.

50

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1
 2 MR. SAMUELSEN: And staff has alluded and recommended
 3 to the Council that the permits be retained. That the
 4 inclusion of the five villages and that the sex and curl
 5 restrictions remain in place. I think extending it later -- I
 6 think a 21 day extension is -- the Council would providing
 7 ample opportunity for these people to meet their subsistence
 8 needs on sheep. And the department staff has indicated that
 9 extending any later than the dates provided the snow cover will
 10 force the sheep down into the valleys and possibly have a
 11 negative effect on the population.

12
 13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other comments?
 14

15 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman. Just that I'd be voting in
 16 favor of the amended. I noticed in the comments that the State
 17 ADF&G supported -- could support a season extension to the 10th
 18 of October. So I think based on what Robin said, by providing
 19 that additional opportunity and still providing protection for
 20 the sheep population.

21
 22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other comments, Council members?
 23 Call for the question.

24
 25 MR. HEYANO: Question.

26
 27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.

28
 29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30
 31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed.

32
 33 (No opposing responses)

34
 35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I believe the next proposal is 33 --
 36, I'm sorry, 35. Okay.

37
 38 MR. BRELSFORD: Proposal #35 was submitted by John C.
 39 Raudsen. It addresses the management of beaver in Units 9(A),
 40 4C), (D) and 9(E). And requests the authorization of firearms
 41 as a method for taking beaver under a trapping license in these
 42 units from April 1st to April 30th. It would increase the
 43 harvest limit from 40 beaver per season to 50 beaver per season
 44 and extend the season by 30 days to end on April 30th.

45
 46 This is quite similar to a proposal that was before
 47 this Council and the Federal Subsistence Board last year. In
 48 April of '94 the board adopted a proposal allowing the use of
 49 firearm as a means of taking beaver and extending the season in
 50

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Unit 9(B). So this addresses all of the other units in Unit 9.

2

3 I'd like to turn just directly to the preliminary
 4 conclusions. The status of beaver populations in Unit 9(C),
 5 9(D) and 9(E) is not well documented, but it's estimated that
 6 the population is stable to increasing. It seems to correspond
 7 with the observations of local residents as well. Allowing for
 8 the use of firearms and extending the season to April 30th
 9 would not risk the conservation of a healthy beaver population
 10 in the remainder of Unit 9. The taking of beaver for purposes
 11 other than food in April, when the fur quality is low, would
 12 not be consistent with subsistence uses. We think the Council
 13 has discussed the issue that the late seasons have to be
 14 intended as a food season since the food quality has been low
 15 and would be low at that time of year.

16

17 On the matter of the harvest limit, it doesn't seem
 18 that the current limit of 40 beaver per year is constraining
 19 subsistence takes. Increasing the seasonal limit -- the
 20 seasonal harvest limit to 50 beaver might lead to excessive
 21 pressure on beaver populations in some localized areas near the
 22 communities and it might risk the health of the population in
 23 that area.

24

25 Basically we're asking the Council to consider
 26 recommending a modification similar to what you did last year
 27 for Unit 9(B), so that no more than 20 beaver out of an annual
 28 limit of 40 could be taken from the extended season in April.
 29 In effect, retain the existing harvest limit and specify that
 30 no more than half of that could be taken in the new extended
 31 season. And with that I'll conclude and answer questions if
 32 you have them.

33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Half meaning of the 40/20?

35

36 MR. BRELSFORD: Correct. Of the 40, no more than 20
 37 could be taken during the April period, during the newly
 38 extended opportunity.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Just like last year's proposal.

41

42 MR. BRELSFORD: And in this -- in that version it would
 43 correspond entirely with what was done a year ago.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Any questions for Taylor?
 46 Okay. Thank you. Do we have anyone else out there from the
 47 various bureaucracies that want to address this issue? Yeah.

48

49 MS. SAVAGE: Susan Savage, Katmai National Park. I

50

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1 just have a brief comment. In Park Service units and this
2 would apply to Katmai National Preserve in Aniakchak National
3 Monument and Preserve. Under a trapping license we have a
4 special regulation in the Park Service where you cannot use a
5 firearm. So although you might pass this proposal for other
6 conservation -- Federal conservation units, it wouldn't apply
7 in the Park Service units.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You can shoot a caribou in your
10 preserve with a gun?

11

12 MS. SAVAGE: This is a trap- -- you cannot use a
13 firearm under a trapping license.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So you can't carry your gun and your
16 shares in the same day?

17

18 MS. SAVAGE: Right. Well, yeah, you can use a gun to
19 dispatch an animal that's been caught in a trap

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

22

23 MS. SAVAGE: But you can't just shoot an animal that
24 wasn't been caught in a trap if all you hold is a trapping
25 license.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: In Aniakchak Preserve?

28

29 MS. SAVAGE: In Park Service units, yes.

30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What about

32

33 MS. SAVAGE: Katmai Preserve?

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

36

37 MS. SAVAGE: Yeah. That also applies.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's from the Alagnak branch River
40 up towards -- that's one of the things that's

41

42 MS. SAVAGE: Along that corridor, yes.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's really a problem. Okay.

45

46 MR. HEYANO: Question.

47

48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

49

50

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1 MR. HEYANO: What if you had a hunting license?
2
3 MS. SAVAGE: If you have a hunting license you would
4 have to follow whatever bag limits are under the hunting
5 license.
6
7 MR. HEYANO: Thank you.
8
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So if he had both, there's not a
10 problem?
11
12 MS. SAVAGE: Right. If you

13
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If you had a hunting license and a
15 trapping license?
16
17 MS. SAVAGE: Can you hunt beaver, I'm not even sure?
18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Shooting a beaver is something new
20 from the Federal days a long time before Statehood.
21
22 MR. HEYANO: It doesn't look like it.
23
24 MS. SAVAGE: Let's see, beaver isn't listed under
25 hunting.
26
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You could trap it, but you can't
28 shoot it; is that right?
29
30 MS. SAVAGE: Right.
31
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So in all Aniakchak

33
34 MS. SAVAGE: Monument or Preserve or Katmai National
35 Preserve or the Alagnak Wild Corridor.
36
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Now point out the Katmai
38 Preserve?
39
40 MS. SAVAGE: So it would be this part of Katmai
41 National Preserve, the Alagnak Wild Corridor and -- these
42 three.
43
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. But the white area that's going
45 up along Lake Iliamna toward Nondalton is not effected by that?
46
47 MS. SAVAGE: Do you mean this area in here?
48
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.
50

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1
2 MS. SAVAGE: Well, you're changing a Federal
3 subsistence regulation, you're not changing the State.
4
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. That's State, that's not
6 Federal. Okay.
7
8 MR. HEYANO: It looks like, Mr. Chairman, and correct
9 me if I'm wrong, Susan, in order to accomplish what this
10 proposal wants to do we'll have to address it under the hunting
11 rather than the trapping?
12
13 MS. SAVAGE: Well, I think for other Federal lands you
14 can address as written. For Park Service lands you would have
15 actually propose that beaver be added under hunting. Is
16 that correct?
17
18 MR. BRELSFORD: To the effect right now is that the
19 purple lands would be subject to the revision that's before
20 you.
21
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (affirmative)
23
24 MR. BRELSFORD: Unit 9(B), Lake Clark area up in the
25 lakes
26
27 MR. SAMUELSEN: Blue.
28
29 MR. BRELSFORD: that's already been touched on
30 and the same prohibition that Susan's described applies in Lake
31 Clark.
32
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We couldn't touch that then?
34
35 MR. BRELSFORD: Right. So we're primarily talking
36 about refuge lands on the Alaska Peninsula as the effected
37 Federal lands under this proposal.
38
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Pardon?
40
41 MR. HOOD: I snicker because that's breakup and there's
42 nobody going to be able to access Federal lands anyway.
43
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, you never know. Okay. Thank
45 you, Susan, if there's no other questions. Do we have any
46 other department heads -- Sellers, did you want to address that
47 issue?
48
49 MR. SELLERS: Dick Sellers, Alaska Department of Fish &
50

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Game. At the risk of prolonging this meeting longer than anybody wants to be here. I feel compelled to make some comments. The official department position is neutral on this. But if I go back through my file cabinet for 20 some years now there's a long term documentation of conflicts or perceived conflicts of beaver versus salmon. In 14 years of going up to Tliamna Advisory Committee, you know, there's two subjects I can guarantee will come up and one is too many bears and one is too many beaver. And I can't help but wonder if some of this proposal isn't based on the fact that there's a perception of conflicts with beaver dams and salmon spawning habitat.

12

13 And I just, I guess, urge some consideration -- I know the data isn't presented here, but I went through some of the household survey data from various communities here and the documented level of beaver consumption per household is extremely low throughout villages of 9(C) and 9(E). I mean we're talking less than 10 pounds per household per year consumed. And if the proposal's asking for 50 beaver to be allowed to be shot, that seems to be far in excess of what the documented use is. I also know locally here, talking to beaver trappers, that every beaver that's caught, the carcass is brought back before it's skinned and that all the beaver trappers I know are more than willing to make beaver carcasses available to anybody that wants to use them for human consumption. In fact, the vast majority go to dog teams. And I think it's pretty well documented that dog team use in most of 9 -- 9(C) and 9(E), in particular, is virtually non-existent, there's a couple teams here locally. But I'm just -- question, I guess, you know, what the real intent and purpose of this proposal is.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions for Sellers? Thank you, Dick. Before you go though, when we addressed this issue last year, and a gal from California came up with Five Million Members from Environmental Organization or whoever she was with, you know, brought up this same issue. And we did not deal with this issue on beavers versus salmon, that's not the issue we're dealing with here. The issue we're dealing with here is if our local people -- say I decided to take one of my grandchildren out and get a beaver this spring and eat it. That's what I'd like to do under this proposal, not because they built a dam, I don't believe they really effect the salmon. I'd be honest with you. And I would not kill a beaver because they're restricting the salmon stream; it's not my place to do that. But it might be my place to be able to go out and get a beaver and eat it. And I do like beaver. And if I can beat the dog mushers out of a beaver, I'd just as soon get one, they're very good meat as you know. And there doesn't seem to

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be need to be much of effort on targeting beaver anymore, is there?

3

4 MR. SELLERS: Mr. Chairman, now there is a surplus of beaver, that's not in doubt.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

8

9 MR. SELLERS: I guess the question is, if the proposal asks for a bag limit of 50 to be able to be taken during April with a gun, is that, you know,

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. That -- no, you got a good point.

15

16 MR. SELLERS: is that going to cause a burnout in the local areas that are accessible. And I guess in the long term if it's determined by the court that navigable waters fall under Federal jurisdiction, then there will be opportunities around villages in navigable waters to take beavers, you know.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

23

24 MR. SELLERS: How many is needed per hunter or trapper.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Absolutely -- you're right, that figure is quite extreme. I'm amazed to even see it there. I don't know if they even took any last year in the Lake Iliamna country when the Federal Board passed on this proposal to give them that, maybe they didn't take a one. And maybe like the Brown bear hunt, you know, up at Lake Clark. Any other questions for Dick, speeding right along. Any other department head need to talk? Ted?

34

35 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Bristol Bay Native Association, Natural Resources Department. I think this proposal many addresses a customary and traditional need. That, you know, the local residents feel that they would like to have a need -- hunt -- I know I talked to Mr. Knudsen before he left and he said he'd be available to do a teleconference also, but due to the fact that the phone system didn't work to well, you know, he's not going to have a chance.

43

44 I guess I just have to take this chance, too, to say that the Park Service regulation that restricts, you know, restricts hunting under a trapping license, I don't know, I think, you know, local people view that as kind of an eliteness (sic) thing. And I think it's one of the things that -- by the Park Service, and I think it's one of those things that kind of

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drives people crazy about the Park Service anyway. So just a general comment. Other than that, unless there's questions.

3
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions for Ted. Thank you. What's the wishes of the Council on this issue? Yeah.

6
7 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I recommend that the bag limits stay at 40. And I'd like to make a motion, let's see, the beaver limits stay at 40.

10
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. How about 20 out of 40 in April?
13

14 MR. SAMUELSEN: And we adopt the -- what we did in Unit 95B) last year, that no more than 20 beaver from the annual limit of 40 can be taken during the extended season in April. I guess we'd move the season to April 30th.

18
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thirtieth, yeah. Second?

20
21 MR. HEYANO: Second.

22
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you want to address your motion, Robin?
25

26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. I think a 40 limit is adequate. We all know that if a person, like over on the Nushagak is exceeding their limit 20, they usually come back with 40, they get their wife a license, I don't think we need to up it to 50. Staff has indicated the current population is stable to increasing.

32
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members any other comment on the motion? Call for the question.

35
36 MR. HEYANO: Question.

37
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say aye.

39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.

41
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oppose.

43
44 (No opposing responses)

45
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Helga, do we have any other proposals before us?

48
49 MS. EAKON: No.

50

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1
2 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We have

3
4 MR. SAMUELSEN: It's late, you said we'd be done by
5:00.
6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now you have to walk out the door at
8:30, right?
9

10 MR. SAMUELSEN: I got to walk out at about 20 after.
That's when my plane's going to be there, I think.
12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So we have three issues we
need to deal with. Peter -- excuse me

15
16 MS. EAKON: Mr. Chair, there are agenda items that I
can deal with that would dispatch -- just to take care off the
record.
19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.
21

22 MS. EAKON: Okay. Please refer to your agenda. Let's
look at 7A, Old Business Reports. We have received only one
report and that is from the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.
The purpose of these reports is to keep you informed as to
activities and proposed activities by the land managing
agencies. And what I could do is type up Andy's report and
first mail it to you. It's just advising you of what's going on
at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.
30

31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Good.
32

33 MS. EAKON: 7(B) there's no burning issue here. We
first wanted to extend you a courtesy and tell you what's going
on with customary and traditional use eligibility process. We
can also handle that via a paper report and mail it to you.
7(C) annual report 1994. I am happy to report that you do
finally have a response to your 1993 annual report and, Pete,
would you please pass this folder around. You can each take
one, that is a response to your 1993 -- the annual report 1994
last October, the Council adopted a motion that the '94 annual
report just highlight the recommendations so far. That was
done, you do have a copy of it in your book. 7(D) Regional
Council Charter Renewal. I am also happy to report that
Secretary Babbitt signed off on the charter, so we can legally
act -- take action. 7(E) was already taken care of by Ron
Wood's report on the conflicts option. 7(F) that is -- that's
something that we're going to hear today that was a report from
Katmai, Susan Savage helped along by Ted of BBNA. 7(G) review
50

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of special actions. Pete Abraham had requested a flow chart, you do have it in your books. Under New Business, 8(A) Council Nomination process. The process ends on February 28. There are two seats open, those currently held by Pete Abraham of Togiak and Dan O'Hara of Naknek. And that application period ends on the 28th.

7

8 MR. SAMUELSEN: You're submitted again?

9

10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Um-hum. (Affirmative)

11

12 MS. EAKON: Okay.

13

14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

15

16 MS. EAKON: And 8(C) the staff committee is wrestling with problems on the definition of resident. You should read that handout carefully and send me your comments. 8(D) we were going to ask Sandy Rabinowitch of Park Service to explain the Park Service proposal on Same Day Airborne. So that's yet to do. 8(E) is solely discretionary. There's a copy of a resolution from the Eastern Interior Regional Council. They're unhappy with factory trawler incidental take in the Bering Sea. And finally, 8(F) (1) the NARC Petition. I think this is really important when you go back. I wish you could read this very carefully. The 60 day comment period opened recently and is going to end in early April. And the purpose of this petition as I had mentioned earlier was that AFN and other groups are proposing to the Secretary of Interior and Agriculture that selected, but not conveyed lands are to be treated as public lands for the purposes of the subsistence priority in Title VIII. And that uses on non-public lands in Alaska should be restricted to protect subsistence uses on public lands in Alaska.

35

36 I want to really flag this to your attention that when you go home, please read this carefully. If you will send me your comments, I can consolidate them and submit them before the comment period ends in early April. And that's it.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. I think one issue that we probably should take action on real quick like is if Peter Abraham wants us to deal with an emergency caribou opening on the Mulchatna herd in the drainage Togiak area, we should begin getting Richard to get to the Federal Board and give these people an opening, if possible. What do we need to do, Helga, real quick like to handle that?

48

49 MS. EAKON: We need a request from what entity,

50

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Whatever entity it is in Togiak to the Federal Subsistence Board saying that you would like a special action to open harvest of caribou in units da, da, da, da, and say why and straight away if you fax it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What action is needed from this group; is there any action needed from this group?

8

9 MS. EAKON: No. Because

10

11 MR. BRELSFORD: It's not required. But I think if the Council endorses this and have a recommendation on the record for the benefit of the Federal Board would be helpful.

14

15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Let me tell you, just briefly, what I'm talking about. In the upper part of the drainage there in Togiak, the Togiak River area, Peter, correct

18

19 MR. ABRAHAM: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

20

21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: me if I'm wrong? The Mulchatna herd is in that area, but it's closed.

23

24 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah. Well, the thing of it is, see, see this side over here, this part over here, see they had an emergency order opening over here.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

29

30 MR. ABRAHAM: And that's, I think, two -- yeah. As of right now, see, the caribou are right in this area, just along side of this line here. But instead of using this over here, if we had -- bring this line using Togiak River as a line here, but stay away from Cape Constantine over here as far as possible, because regardless of where the caribou's are, they're going to be hunted. The thing I'm getting at is to legalize the hunt so in the eyes of the law the people can be (indiscernible). That's all I'm asking, just extend this line to -- over to Togiak -- Togiak River the other line.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you feel that that's too open-ended to make a motion on?

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Given the number of the Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, there was a number of animals that were

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observed in the Twin Hills area just north of Togiak that were
 2- that the biologists said were probably North Peninsula herd
 3- part of the Peninsula caribou herd or they might have been
 the Kilbuck caribou herd that migrated down -- Nushagak
 Peninsula herd.

6

7 MR. ABRAHAM: The caribou that hang out behind Twin
 Hills, possibly from Cape Constantine there.

9

10 MR. SAMUELSEN: That's what I meant, yeah.

11

12 MR. ABRAHAM: See, they're migrating up behind south
 side of Togiak Lake and that area over here has no snow.
 There's no access by snow machine or whatever, so is this Cape
 Constantine over here. Because all the rivers over here are
 opened up. Maybe a little bit from Manokotak our hunting is
 over here, that's just about it. That's why I'm asking, you
 know, this question here.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What should we do -- or Taylor, and
 in about two minutes.

22

23 MR. BRELSFORD: Well, I think where it's been -- the
 Board has been asked to address this and I think given the
 migration patterns and the exceptional circumstances, they've
 been prepared to act with dispatch. So I think you could
 indicate your intent to support an emergency opening for a
 temporary period to provide for harvest on the Mulchatna herd
 in 17(A) similar to what's occurring in Unit 18. That you may
 want to underscore that you don't expect the Nushagak Peninsula
 herd to be affected by this temporary circumstance. And I
 think a special action can be prepared and put before the board
 on that basis.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's the wishes of the Council?

36

37 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman.

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

40

41 MR. HEYANO: We've, at the Nushagak Advisory Committee
 discussed this at length and actually, I guess I would be very
 hesitant to support an opening until I can see exactly

44

45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Need some numbers.

46

47 MR. HEYANO: what that proposal is saying. We
 have concerns, as Pete said, about protection of the Nushagak
 Peninsula herd. We also have current restrictions at 17(C) to

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encourage westward migration of the Mulchatna caribou herd in that particular area. We understand that there is animals coming around actually from the Kuskokwim drainage, but I think we need to be real careful here. Pete indicated to me yesterday that he observed what he thought to be Mulchatna caribou actually calving in that Togiak drainage area. So -- you know, which is real encouraging, but -- and I think just to let you know where we're coming from as an advisory committee what we're going to ask the State Board and possibly from the Federal Subsistence Board is giving the -- those managers on those respective lands basically EO authority when there is large numbers of Mulchatna caribou herd in there present, the authority to open it and close it because we all know caribou move back and forth. And we feel that's the most appropriate way to manage it, whether or not that those boards agree with us, it's kind of a different twist.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We'd be kind of shooting from the hip then if we did it here?

20

21 MR. HEYANO: Well, I don't know.

22

23 MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman. Thank you. What I can do when I go back to Togiak, I can have traditional council draft a letter to this emergency order and then go ahead and send it -- fax it to Helga here and then Helga can pass it on.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Yes, Robin.

29

30 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. I think that BBNA could play a major role here bringing all the parties together.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

34

35 MR. SAMUELSEN: The people that are affected on Nushagak Peninsula caribou herd, the Wildlife Kilbuck herd and also the managers of the Mulchatna caribou herd. And we could work in conjunction with the Federal Subsistence Board in developing what the Togiak needs are.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's right. We'll leave it like that. We have two more things that we need to address before we get out of here. And I'd like to have Robin (sic) come up and Pierce; have you dealt with the hunting and trapping preserve; you wanted to make testimony on the -- Sandy?

46

47 MR. RABINOWITCH: Not testimony but to provide you with information that you wanted on same day airborne.

49

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1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: There's been pieces given to that.
 2 And then Pierce did you want to address the red fish issue in
 3 Katmai National Park?

4

5 MR. PIERCE: I can, sure.

6

7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think it would be real good because
 8 we already, you know, legislation going in that's been
 9 introduced so that might be good. So any time any Council
 10 members need to go, go, but if you don't mind we certainly
 11 would like a little bit of information if we could. And we
 12 really apologize for you coming all the way out here and then
 13 giving you two minutes. Susan mentioned a little bit -- if you
 14 would give us your name, please, for the record.

15

16 MR. RABINOWITCH: Sandy Rabinowitch with the National
 17 Park Service. No offense taken, I've, quite frankly been
 18 enjoying listening very much. And I mean that very seriously.
 19 I will be very brief because we could probably spend an hour
 20 on this subject, an hour worth of follow-up questions or two
 21 hours, I imagine.

22

23 In your binder, Helga, has one of the handouts that I
 24 thought. She can tell you the location better than I can. And
 25 that handout is a copy of a Federal register notice so it looks
 26 like this, a lot of small print, make your eyes hurt from
 27 November 15th. And the second handout I'll give to you when
 28 I'm done, it's just a little something we typed up. The
 29 Federal register notice the Park Service published on November
 30 15th dealt with two items. One was a proposed final rule for
 31 same day -- limitation same day airborne hunting to limit that
 32 to 15 species and I won't rattle all those species out. That
 33 proposed rule, current status is we've held hearings on it.
 34 We've taken testimony and comments and actually this tracks all
 35 the way back to 1989. This issue was opened up by the Park
 36 Service in 1989. It's remained open, never was closed out all
 37 the way to today. And where it's at today is that the Park
 38 Service has written all that up and submitted it to the
 39 Assistant's Secretary's office. And we are awaiting that
 40 office in Washington to take action, to either publish this
 41 same day airborne prohibition or not, we don't know what
 42 they're going to do. The other part of the rule dealt with the
 43 subject of clarifying an existing regulation. This is what
 44 Susan was talking about a little bit earlier, clarifying and
 45 existing regulation that has been on the books since 1981 about
 46 when you can use or not use a firearm when you are trapping,
 47 only on Park Service lands, let me stress that. So -- and our
 48 proposal on that to the Assistant Secretary's office is that
 49 there is concern in different parts of the State, Anaktuvak

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Pass, Kotzebue and I know from talking with the Chairman that there's some concern here. We've already made the recommendation to extend the comment period and keep that an open subject. Again, we don't know if Washington will go with that recommendation but that is what our recommendation has been.

7

8 I think I'll stop right there.

9

10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions that you might have.

11

12 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

15

16 MR. HEYANO: So if I under- -- the same day airborne, we're just waiting for the Secretary of the Interior's signature on it; is that where it's at?

19

20 MR. RABINOWITCH: That's a correct way to characterize it, yes. It would limit same day airborne of

22

23 MR. HEYANO: Was that ever brought to this committee; do you know?

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Not to my knowledge, it wasn't. Because I sure didn't

28

29 MS. EAKON: I think I mailed you a copy of the Federal Register notice.

31

32 MR. RABINOWITCH: It's in the binder there.

33

34 MS. EAKON: Yes. But that was between meetings, so you haven't had an opportunity to

36

37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And I do want to add the deer, caribou, arctic fox, red fox, and coyote (indiscernible)

39

40 MR. RABINOWITCH: Those are all on

41

42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: 15.

43

44 MR. RABINOWITCH: Those are all on the list as are a few others. I've got that here if -- you know, that list here under my elbow. Most of those species are closed to same day airborne taking under a variety of State and Federal regulations. It's a very complicated puzzle to walk through and put together. Actually we've been working to try to come

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up with an easy picture, but it's not an easy picture.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You might want to do some public
4 hearings, especially in Nondalton, Levelock and (indiscernible)
5 on that and -- so we could be in contact with you if we could
6 and see if we could work something out. So thank you for your
7 time, we appreciate it. And we apologize for not really making
8 this, you know, something we could digest a little bit more.

9

10 Mr. Pierce, again I apologize for not giving you very
11 much time. But I think this red fish issue in the Katmai
12 National Park, it would be good to hear a couple of comments
13 and then tell you where we're at right now, not from this
14 committee, but what other organizations are doing.

15

16 MR. PIERCE: You bet.

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Um-hum. (Affirmative)

19

20 MR. PIERCE: Bill Pierce, Katmai National Park. On the
21 short term, Susan and I, after our meetings in the spring with
22 some of the locals, she followed up with the State and the
23 locals and the short term solution is still working. And we
24 continue to do that where we will work with them and the State
25 on red fish harvesting at the specific site. Long term, we
26 have been working with the Assistant Secretary's office in
27 coming up with a change in the policy to allow the taking of
28 red fish. It appears that that will work and that's the
29 direction we're continuing to work on. We also know that some
30 work's been done from the legislative side of the house and
31 certainly we would participate with you on anything there.

32

33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. I just wanted to mention to
34 this committee that Don Young has resubmitted that bill and I
35 think they're in recess right now. It may go up for public
36 hearing and most likely it will. And maybe between what you're
37 proposing and what he has proposed, it's the same bill as last
38 year where subsistence is not in that bill because it was going
39 to create some problems, maybe we could work out something
40 where neither resource is hurt and the Park Department is
41 somewhat satisfied with what we're doing. So we appreciate
42 that. It's still progressing on. And that's it?

43

44 MR. PIERCE: Right. And we just need to make sure we
45 communicate.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's good. Yeah, we appreciate
48 that. All right. Hey, we have one minute left.

49

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1 MS. EAKON: Place of next meeting and you're done.
2
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dillingham, I would imagine.
4
5 MR. SAMUELSEN: Leave it up to the chair.
6
7 MR. HEYANO: Leave it up to the call of the chair.
8
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll do that. And what time
10 would that be?
11
12 MR. SAMUELSEN: Leave it up to the chair.
13
14 MS. EAKON: Our window is October 1 to November 4.
15
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Okay, good.
17
18 MS. EAKON: All right.
19
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Let's make a motion to adjourn.
21
22 MR. SAMUELSEN: So moved.
23
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Second and we're done.
25
26 MR. LaPORTE: Second.
27
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you, Robin for helping
29 out.
30

31 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

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STATE OF ALASKA)

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