

1 BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME II

7
8 Naknek Assembly Chambers
9 Naknek, Alaska
10 February 21, 2006
11 8:50 o'clock a.m.
12

13
14 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

15
16 Randy Alvarez, Chair
17 Nanci Morris Lyon
18 Dan Dunaway
19 Virginia Aleck
20 Boris Kosbruk, Sr.
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23 Regional Council Coordinator, Clifford Edenshaw
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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(On record - 8:50 a.m.)

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CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Call the meeting back to order. Today is February 21st. It's about 10 to 9:00. We have five members present and one absent. Dan O'Hara is not here from yesterday. I would like to revisit Proposal 26, the one submitted by the Chignik Village Council to close Federal lands in Unit 9(E).

Yesterday we rejected closing the whole unit to non-qualified users, but I want to discuss having a buffer zone around the drainage for the Chignik and Perryville area and make a recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board if we can do that at this meeting to help those users down there. Is there a procedure for this, Cliff?

MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, as part of the actions you took yesterday, the Council rejected Proposal 26 and what you could do is there would be a motion from one of the Council Members to revisit the proposal and then we would go about the proper procedures in terms of discussing the amendment to the proposal if it is brought to the table.

MR. DUNAWAY: Point of order. Do we have a quorum to take an action now?

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes. We only need five members because we only have a board of nine.

MR. DUNAWAY: That's right. I forgot that. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess the procedure is somebody needs to make a motion to revisit Proposal 26.

MS. ALECK: I'd make a motion to revisit Proposal 26.

MR. KOSBRUK: I second it.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: There's been a motion and seconded to revisit Proposal 26. Is it possible to draw a buffer zone around the drainage for the Chignik area and Perryville for the subsistence hunters for moose. Do we have any Staff that can talk about that.

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. I'll give you
2 an example and perhaps Bill could provide some input, but
3 under our regulations, like in Unit 17(A), we used
4 drainages as a way to delineate a hunting area. Without
5 a closer, detailed map of the Chigniks and Perryville,
6 perhaps Ron or Bill could help the Council delineate
7 those areas in question.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That was my
10 recommendation, to make a drainage. That would be the
11 easiest way probably to draw a line, is use the drainage
12 that drains into the Chigniks and Perryville. I guess we
13 need to know if it would be affecting any non-subsistence
14 user and we need to discuss the Native allotment private
15 lands that are being leased out to hunters also. There
16 wouldn't be closure on that land, would it? What do we
17 need to do on that?

18
19 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council. If
20 I could ask Ron to come up and help with the map and
21 drainage and be consistent with Proposal 26, the proposal
22 requests that Federal lands be closed to non-subsistence
23 users. In that light, I would ask that Ron or someone
24 from the Alaska Peninsula Refuge, once those lines are
25 delineated in consistency with the proposal, that's what
26 the language would be, that the area be closed to non-
27 subsistence users unless there's -- I don't see how you
28 could.....

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci was concerned
31 that if we do ask for a closure of that drainage the
32 Native lands would still be open for non-subsistence
33 users.

34
35 MS. MORRIS LYON: Which are immediately
36 adjacent to the villages. So it's still not protecting
37 the villages, which is what we really want to do.

38
39 MR. EDENSHAW: But without having the
40 Refuge get up here and delineate where those drainages
41 are we really can't accurately state if those lands are
42 within corporation lands or Federal lands.

43
44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's our idea. We
45 would like to see a buffer zone if at all possible and
46 what we need to do.

47
48 MR. EDENSHAW: In regards to Nanci's
49 comments, if the Chignik Corporation lands have been
50 conveyed, then, yes, they would be under the jurisdiction

1 of the State.

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CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any comment.

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MS. ALECK: Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Go ahead.

MS. ALECK: I was wondering, with your comment, Dan, in mind, if we don't do anything soon we're going to end up like caribou because it took a long time to get the attention of anyone. It took a good 10 years and finally they realized we were having trouble with caribou. With moose, we live there, we know the changes, we see the changes and this is one of our main subsistence resources that are left in our area for our people and I think it's urgent. Thank you.

MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. Could I ask the Council if they could vote on their motion to revisit Proposal 26. There was a motion and a second. If the Council can vote on that and if it passes, then we could move on to the next step.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All in favor of revisiting Proposal 26 say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.

(One opposing vote)

CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried 4-1. We have Staff. Can you guys give us some input on that.

MR. LIND: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. My name is Orville Lind, ranger with the Fish and Wildlife Service here in King Salmon. In talking with

1 other Staff, just some ideas to throw around, I guess.
2 At this stage we realize there is a big concern about
3 subsistence down in the Chigniks area. I'm just thinking
4 it would be a real good start to look at developing a
5 small committee to work with the Board and also work with
6 Fish and Wildlife Service Staff and maybe some people in
7 our regional office in Anchorage and with the State to
8 develop a small committee to see where we need to begin
9 to address this issue. We need the proper tools. We
10 need to make sure we have good maps. Keep in mind that
11 there are guide areas in place and there are also private
12 lands in place. I think we need to take a real good look
13 and begin to develop ways to address this issue.
14

15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Ron.

16
17 MR. SQUIBB: Ron Squibb, U.S. Fish and
18 Wildlife Service, Alaska Peninsula Refuge. I certainly
19 agree with Orville. The complexity of this and number of
20 different entities that have stakes in this, certainly
21 the local communities, are very important, but there's
22 also pre-existing agreements we have with the guides,
23 this, that and the other. It's a complex thing. We
24 probably should, as Orville suggested, get the players
25 all together so this is taken care of and we go down the
26 right road and it includes everybody. If we come up with
27 something independently right now without contacting the
28 other affected entities, I think it would be a bumpy
29 road.
30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We had the original
32 proposal before us that closed the whole thing, so
33 everybody knows about it. What I suggested was just
34 close one little area right now. Like you say, there are
35 other things to consider, like corporation lands and
36 guide use areas.
37

38 MR. SQUIBB: Yes. Those things need to
39 be addressed. You could make a proposal general and just
40 referring to drainages if there was enough knowledge here
41 to define it because we don't have detailed maps or that
42 sort of material with us, but that would be another
43 option, of course.
44

45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

46
47 MS. MORRIS LYON: I tend to agree. I
48 think something needs to be done and it needs to be
49 addressed. Virginia, I would encourage you -- it sounded
50 to me like everybody was really pleased also with the

1 three animals that did come off the village corporation
2 lands from the guides down there. I think it needs to be
3 explored as well if that would not be another venue that
4 you might want to continue to include, then it needs to
5 be looked at. It's a great way to go ahead and get meat
6 for the villages as well. I just think the exploration
7 of which is the best avenue for everybody needs to be
8 done before something is done that actually hurts you
9 more so than helps you in the long run and that would be
10 my biggest fear in taking action on this right now.

11

12 MS. ALECK: I have a comment.

13

14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Go ahead.

15

16 MS. ALECK: It is a good idea, but when
17 we deal with meat that comes from guides, they don't save
18 all the parts that we traditionally save and use out of
19 an animal that are our delicacies. No matter which way
20 we look at this, we're taking a beating. We usually save
21 the rump and the ribs from a hunt. We don't leave them
22 in the field. We don't see them come into the village.
23 So there's wanton waste that's not being utilized out
24 there that we have no control over.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They probably cut all
27 the meat off the rump and the ribs and bring it in, but
28 that's not the way people like it. I have a question for
29 you, Virginia. It's your land, corporation land. I
30 suppose we would have to have your cooperation.

31

32 MS. ALECK: It could be done.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So maybe it would be
35 better to work on it.

36

37 MS. ALECK: With the committee that
38 Orville is suggesting.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Try to get something
41 done by next meeting.

42

43 MS. ALECK: As long as we don't wait too
44 long because right now we don't even know the real true
45 count of moose either in our area and I think that needs
46 to be looked at too before we talk about what we think is
47 down there. I need to see it on paper.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem, do you have
50 anything to comment on that.

1 MR. BUTLER: My name is Lem Butler. I
2 certainly agree you should embark slowly on this and get
3 the maps and resources necessary to make any decisions.
4 I also wanted to state for the record that this area does
5 not meet the requirements set up in ANILCA for a closure.
6 There's no indication of a population decline. The
7 harvest is so limited and the population structure is
8 such that there's absolutely no way the outside hunting
9 is having any affect on this population. There's been no
10 change in the local harvest according to reported records
11 and no change in their success, in fact. They have a
12 better success in this area than in many parts of the
13 state, believe it or not, with 33 percent success for
14 reporting locals. Again, just for the record, I don't
15 recommend closing this area, but approach it slowly if
16 you want to pursue this.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Reading some of the
19 paperwork last night, although you say the harvest might
20 not be in a decline, in my opinion it meets the criteria
21 because there isn't enough moose to meet all the needs
22 and the first need is the subsistence harvest. So, in my
23 opinion, it doesn't sound like there's enough moose for
24 everybody even though they might not be in decline. They
25 might be a stable population down there, but that's not
26 enough for everybody in my opinion.

27
28 MR. BUTLER: We could explore the numbers
29 more. I don't have them in front of me. I do know
30 there's been no change in the reported harvest since the
31 '90s when the last household survey was done. I'm sure
32 someone in the audience may have more of those numbers.
33 The subsistence season is quite liberal in comparison to
34 these non-resident seasons that we're talking about.
35 Again, with a limited moose hunt along these lines, spike
36 fork 50-inch antlers over a 10-day period, you just
37 aren't going to affect the moose population. It's not
38 going to have a detrimental effect. Imposing these
39 closures will not improve local harvest. You're not
40 going to see any population growth. It's not going to
41 put an extra moose in the freezer based on population
42 dynamics that we know about. I just don't see it as
43 benefitting anyone. In fact, it may be detrimental in
44 some cases where guides are bringing meat into the
45 communities.

46
47 If people are bringing meat in that isn't
48 complete, ribs are a required thing to be salvaged from
49 the meat as well. Let us know. We've got troopers that
50 fly up and down the Peninsula during the season and we'll

1 get them to that area. So definitely give us a call if
2 you encounter that.

3

4 MS. ALECK: I've seen it over the years.
5 They bring in the shoulders and the ham and that's about
6 it. You never see rumps or ribs. It's something the
7 local people utilize. We don't waste anything.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boris.

10

11 MR. KOSBRUK: I wanted to comment on the
12 moose. About three years ago, we talk about it in
13 Perryville, the local boys and men, the biggest problem
14 there is the wolves. One guy counted five dead moose
15 this winter hunting ptarmigan. Another boy said that's
16 nothing compared to what we find in other places right
17 there. We had quite a bit of moose around that country,
18 at one time we did. I flew out in a little airplane and
19 seen a lot of them. All of a sudden these wolves come
20 around and you go around in a skiff and you can count
21 them on the hillside. That's a problem right there.

22

23 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's something we
24 need to explore, too, and see what we can do about that.

25

26 MR. KOSBRUK: I know one time they
27 counted five dead moose and there was a lot of wolves,
28 over 100. They've seen those buggers and the elders,
29 too.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any more comment.

32 Dan.

33

34 MR. DUNAWAY: I was just thinking, with
35 that committee idea you have, I keep thinking of
36 Virginia's concerns. To explore some of the options that
37 could be imposed within corporation lands, like if the
38 terms of use on corporation lands could say you'll
39 surrender -- I don't know if there's some game laws that
40 might prevent you, but I would think you could say if
41 you're going to hunt on our lands, you've got to hire one
42 of the local folks to accompany you to salvage all the
43 parts we want. You could tell them the terms of how you
44 bring the meat out. I don't know if you could impose on
45 them that they have to provide you a certain portion of
46 the animal or not. I don't know what you could do there,
47 but you certainly could say you don't hunt on our lands
48 unless you hire one of our folks that live in camp and
49 salvage the meat. Possibly you could say part of the fee
50 is to allow one or two of the villagers to hunt out of

1 the guide camps. It might get them into territory that
2 would improve opportunities for additional moose.

3
4 MS. ALECK: That is already in place.
5 This guide is a local person and he knows to save all the
6 traditional parts and everything. But like I was saying
7 yesterday, three moose is not enough for us at the lake
8 there. We're just not getting them. It's not just the
9 trouble inside of corporation land. The moose is not
10 there where it used to be. Maybe it is predation and
11 we're overlooking it. We should examine all these
12 avenues to try to come up with a solution that's going to
13 save our meat source down there.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. When you say
18 three moose, is that for the whole community?

19
20 MS. ALECK: The guide.

21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No, that's what they
23 got off the corporation lands.

24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: But are you expecting the
26 guide to provide all the moose the village eats?

27
28 MS. ALECK: No. We've tried going out
29 there ourselves, my husband and I, and we went up towards
30 Black Lake along Chignik Lake to the lagoon and we're not
31 seeing no moose and we do a lot of looking and hunting
32 and subsisting. If they were there, we'd have seen them.

33
34
35 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we need to get a
36 survey of the area to see how much moose they estimate
37 down there because they haven't done that for a while,
38 four years from the sound of things. You probably have a
39 lot of bears down there, too.

40
41 MS. ALECK: We do have a lot of bears,
42 but then it seems like the moose and the bears were there
43 long before the wolves and we had an abundance of both.
44 We live up in Black Lake, we have a cabin up there.
45 There usually is a lot of moose up there. You don't even
46 see them up there anymore. For us not to see them is
47 unusual. They should have been there during rutting
48 season and off of rutting season. I know during the
49 rutting season they're all over, looking, the males.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's not when we
2 want them though.
3
4 MS. ALECK: No, that's not when we want
5 them. We don't get them during that time. But if
6 they're around, that's when you're going to see them.
7 We're not seeing them.
8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I suppose probably our
10 best avenue is to work on this for the next meeting.
11 Staff can work with Virginia and the corporation to see
12 what would really work and come before us. We all agree
13 there's a problem down there and we need aerial surveys.
14 That has to be done. We need an accurate number. Does
15 anybody have any more recommendations or comment on that.
16
17 MS. ALECK: I have a comment for you,
18 Lem. How soon do you think you guys are going to be able
19 to do that moose count? I would like to see that. I
20 want you guys to come down to look and tell us so you
21 guys can believe what we're saying. You know, we have a
22 problem.
23
24 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair, Members of the
25 Council. I'm actually considering coming down even with
26 non-traditional survey conditions just to have a look
27 around the area and see what I can see. This area does
28 prevent traditional surveys. We just don't get the snow
29 cover. We like to get reasonable detectability for the
30 moose. I'd suggest that as a part of this committee that
31 you come to an agreement what biological information will
32 be considered useful for making these decisions because,
33 again, it's not going to fall in the realm of normal
34 surveys that you may get from other areas during this
35 meeting.
36
37 Me and Ron, with Fish and Game and Fish
38 and Wildlife Service can discuss options and come up with
39 a strategy.
40
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: My opinion is that we
42 need a survey to see how many moose there are, what the
43 population is, and then figure out what is the
44 harvestable surplus and see if that's enough for
45 everybody. If it's just enough for the subsistence user
46 or enough to accommodate all the user groups. That's
47 what we don't know because there hasn't been a survey for
48 so long.
49
50 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. If we can get

1 the information in a statistically reasonable form, we
2 can do that. Again, this area has prevented those types
3 of surveys just due to the conditions down there. But
4 we'll do our best to come up with the numbers for you.
5 We can talk about different options. You really need to
6 get into the composition data if you want to model this
7 population, which means you have to do it when the moose
8 have antlers. So that's traditionally why we've been
9 restricted to November. It's really to get the
10 information we need to make these types of decisions.
11 We'd have to make assumptions about sex ratios if we did
12 a survey in March.

13

14 MS. MORRIS LYON: At least we'd have
15 numbers. I'd be willing to take assumptions.

16

17 MR. BUTLER: That's why I say if we can
18 come to some agreement on how we'll look at this thing,
19 we can do our best to provide what we can.

20

21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It sounds like you
22 need to take a couple surveys. One to determine the
23 ratio when they have the antlers on and another one when
24 there's snow on the ground to tell really what the
25 population is. That would give a lot better idea what's
26 out there. We would like the Staff to work with Virginia
27 and the Council to come up with a recommendation or
28 proposal at the next meeting. Dan.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: Should we make that as a
31 motion or a resolution? Would that be the most effective
32 way? I'll move what Randy says.

33

34 (Laughter)

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any second.

37

38

39 MS. ALECK: I'll second that.

40

41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Virginia seconds it.
42 Any more comment on it.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All in favor signify
47 by saying aye.

48

49 IN UNISON: Aye.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried 5-0.
6 Cliff, where are we?
7
8 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. We're on
9 number three, Warren Eastland. First and foremost, on
10 Page 78, this is information for the Council Members.
11 There was a review of rural determinations and at our
12 last meeting we discussed some of those and there really
13 wasn't much that affected this region, but it's
14 informational because the Board will address this issue
15 in the future.
16
17 Yesterday, Mr. Knauer went over the
18 closure review briefing and now Warren Eastland from the
19 Bureau of Indian Affairs is going to provide a
20 presentation to the Council on subsistence use amounts.
21
22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So we're going to go
23 into the subsistence use amounts now.
24
25 MR. EASTLAND: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
26 Members of the Council. My name is Warren Eastland. I'm
27 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I'm an Interagency
28 Staff Committee member. I'd like to give you a short
29 briefing on the subsistence use amounts protocol.
30
31 There are two terms, amounts necessary
32 for subsistence, which is used by the State, and the
33 subsistence use amounts, which is used by the Federal
34 program. These refer to the amounts of fish or wildlife
35 necessary for subsistence uses. These findings to date
36 have been developed by the Alaska Department of Fish and
37 Game, but if the Federal system should disagree with
38 them, the Federal system does have the right to develop
39 their own subsistence use amounts.
40
41 The purpose of this protocol is to
42 develop a process for considering the amounts that are
43 harvested for subsistence uses and have a quantifiable
44 amount to know whether or not the Federal system is
45 providing sufficient opportunity for subsistence uses.
46 This document is for guidance only and this protocol is
47 developed jointly with the Federal system and the State
48 of Alaska. These amounts are not a cap on the harvest.
49 These are a minimum limit, not a maximum limit.
50

1 Using these steps that are outlined in
2 the protocol, the Federal system will recognize and use
3 the amounts necessary for subsistence, those numbers, in
4 the development and implementation of subsistence harvest
5 regulations. The amounts necessary for subsistence or
6 the subsistence use amounts will be presented and
7 evaluated in proposal analyses as they're applicable or
8 appropriate.

9
10 In using the amounts necessary for
11 subsistence or the subsistence use amounts, the Federal
12 system will consider all recommendations of the Regional
13 Advisory Councils as well as additional harvest
14 information. I believe that covers the basics of this
15 protocol. I'm ready to answer any questions that you
16 might have.

17
18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Do you have harvest
19 amounts necessary for subsistence for the region?

20
21 MR. EASTLAND: At this stage of the game,
22 we use State development numbers, numbers that have been
23 developed by the State. For example, in Units 9(C) and
24 9(E) caribou, which is the Northern Peninsula Caribou
25 Herd, the amounts necessary for subsistence, the
26 population numbers are in the region of 1,200 to 1,900
27 and those were developed by the State. So for some fish
28 stocks, some wildlife stocks, the State has developed
29 numbers and we have those and will use those in the
30 future.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. Any other
33 questions for Warren.

34
35 MS. MORRIS LYON: Go ahead, Marianne.

36
37 MS. SEE: I wanted to offer a few
38 comments, but, Member Lyon, if you wanted to ask your
39 question first I can wait.

40
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: No, that's fine. Go
42 ahead. I had comments too.

43
44 MS. SEE: Okay. Well, as Warren
45 mentioned, this has been a joint process to develop -- we
46 have basically a committee set up of State and Federal
47 members to work on this.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: State your name.

50

1 MS. SEE: Oh, I'm sorry. For the record,
2 Marianne See with Department of Fish and Game. It's
3 taken a long time. We've had a few starts over the years
4 to try to get at this question. How does the Federal
5 program develop quantifiable information that's reliable
6 and helpful to the process of providing the priority,
7 just as the State has that same responsibility? Without
8 creating a cap, without creating a limitation, but with
9 creating a range, if you will, of information that
10 reflects the expected kind of harvest that is customary
11 and traditional for a particular resource. In the case
12 of wildlife, the population. In the case of fish, a
13 stock. So that's been something to really grapple with
14 for a long time.

15
16 We kind of had a major step forward in
17 that process about a year or so ago when the Federal
18 program agreed that it made sense to take the State's
19 work, which is called amount necessary for subsistence,
20 that's a regulatory term, and to look at that information
21 as sort of the first place to look for what would be a
22 reasonable expectation of the subsistence use of a fish
23 stock or wildlife population. From that, to look at
24 other information as it's available or can be available
25 through a study or other effort to try to make sure it's
26 really a representative piece of information about the
27 subsistence use of that resource.

28
29 So that was a good step forward we felt
30 because that information is useful. It has been done
31 based on studies. The Board of Fish and Board of Game
32 developed those ranges through a lot of review of
33 information and they are available for some areas of the
34 state, for some populations, and not for others.

35
36 That leads to another aspect of this,
37 which is through looking at these sources of information
38 we can see where we might have a hole. There might be a
39 need for research, some kind of collaborative work to go
40 out, get community harvest information and really make
41 sure that we understand what the customary and
42 traditional use represents. That is the priority in both
43 State and Federal law. That must be provided before
44 other uses are provided, assuming that you're starting
45 with a harvestable surplus. If you're not, if there's
46 not a harvestable surplus for all users, then you have to
47 look at the kinds of restrictions that might be
48 appropriate, such as closures to certain categories of
49 users or to all users if the resource is really in
50 trouble. So it's an important kind of management tool to

1 help look at making sure that the subsistence uses are
2 accurately described.

3

4 If we don't have sufficient data, that we
5 make sure that there's an effort made to fund the work to
6 get it or that information that might not have been
7 brought in but is in some manner available can be
8 developed through the efforts of councils, advisory
9 committees, other groups out there that may have access
10 to some local knowledge and can help bring that into the
11 picture.

12

13 So we think it's a really important
14 effort that both the State and Federal programs make sure
15 this information is available, that it is a point of
16 departure for these kinds of discussions. The one we
17 just had on Proposal 26. If we had much more specific
18 information about use in that area, that would be
19 important to look at. What is the subsistence use, the
20 customary and traditional use of that area, how well is
21 that being provided and if we don't have sufficient data,
22 what do we need to do to get that information on the use
23 portion of the equation as well as the population habitat
24 information that Lem and others were speaking to.

25

26 So it's really key that we have a way to
27 bring that information forward and really make sure that
28 the regulatory process gets to factor all that in and
29 that the users benefit from that consideration. So
30 that's just a little more background on that. Either of
31 us would be happy to answer questions about this effort.

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any questions Board
34 Members.

35

36 MS. MORRIS LYON: No, but I had comments
37 if I may. I had read through it. I really believe in
38 this and it's something I think has been necessary for a
39 long time, so I've been watching it very carefully. I
40 read through your document last night. I think the State
41 and the government need to be on the same page and
42 working down the same roads instead of crossing paths so
43 much because we're both interested in salvaging the best
44 we can for our resources. Along those lines, I think
45 it's necessary.

46

47 Some of the things that I read in here, I
48 just think it needs a little bit of basic work because in
49 some areas it says that we will be using the State ANS
50 stuff and not in other areas. Basically what I'm saying

1 is your document needs to be looked over a little bit
2 more carefully because it's conflicting in and of itself.
3 I read it because of my interest. But I think you guys
4 are really heading down the same path. As long as
5 everybody is trying to get on the same page, I think
6 that's a big step, but this one has some stumbling blocks
7 in it that are merely words, but it could lead somewhere
8 that goes down a wrong path.

9

10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I've got a question
11 here on Page 105. I was reading the amounts protocol.
12 There's a square with an F in it.

13

14 MR. EASTLAND: That's a typographical
15 gremlin that crept into the production of the book, sir.
16 I'm not sure how that happened, but I do apologize.

17

18 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I thought maybe I was
19 missing something. I had one underlined on 106, number
20 11. Just for comment, it says yes, under both State and
21 Federal law, subsistence uses are the highest priority
22 use of fish and wildlife resources. That tells me if
23 there's not enough moose in the Chignik area to go around
24 we need to have a closure or just uses for qualified
25 Federal subsistence user. It states right there we can
26 or we should do that. Marianne.

27

28 MS. SEE: Mr. Chair, thank you. That's
29 exactly the kind of situation for which this protocol
30 could be helpful. As I noted before when you get into a
31 question about what is the customary and traditional use
32 and what is the extent of that use, if you can pull
33 together all the relevant information about that to look
34 at the actual quantification of that, that's extremely
35 helpful to the process. You need to know in a regulatory
36 framework anyway what is that customary and traditional
37 use, what is it that the people there traditionally rely
38 upon. That is an extremely important part of this
39 equation. Otherwise there's no way to know that.

40

41 If you have that information and both the
42 State and Federal systems are using a similar approach to
43 this, then there's a more quantifiable way to say, yes,
44 we do have enough or no, we don't, or there's a question.
45 If there is a question, what do you need to resolve the
46 question. Is there another study needed, is there some
47 sort of community survey that's needed. Resources can be
48 brought to bear fairly quickly to help get that kind of
49 information if it's really key and if you don't know.

50

1 So that's one of the areas of this that
2 is very relevant to what's been discussed even this
3 morning. You've got to have that information, otherwise
4 how are you going to substantiate the need for the
5 closure. You have to have some basis other than
6 unquantifiable concern.

7
8 The State is very committed to sound
9 science and making sure the information is brought
10 forward. The Federal program is developing that same
11 approach, that there has to be some information that's
12 brought to that discussion, otherwise it's tough to make
13 a decision.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

16
17 MS. MORRIS LYON: I had one other
18 question mark that I have a question on on Page 108.
19 Almost halfway down, the fifth bullet down, where it says
20 the State and Federal programs, while maintaining
21 independent authorities, will work to minimize
22 differences regarding the application of ANS findings and
23 SUA to specific regulatory actions. Similarly, State and
24 Federal staff will work to minimize differences with
25 regard to assigning priorities for research addressing
26 harvest assessment to inform ANS findings. If necessary,
27 existing provisions for resolution or appeal will be
28 utilized.

29
30 What are those existing provisions? Do
31 we have them or do they have to be developed as well?

32
33 MS. SEE: I'll start and Warren can
34 correct me. There are administrative procedures, for
35 example, to deal with differences between the State and
36 Federal program. If the State disagrees with a
37 regulatory decision of the Federal Board, there's a type
38 of appeal called request for reconsideration that's then
39 filed by the State or anyone actually who disagrees with
40 the decision. So there are administrative steps that are
41 provided in both the State and Federal regulatory systems
42 so that actions can be appealed.

43
44 There's also less formal discussions that
45 can be done before a decision to try to resolve
46 differences, bring new information to light and so on.
47 So we already have a long history of bringing forward
48 differences and trying to resolve them in different
49 respects.

50

1 Warren, did you want to add to that?
2
3 MR. EASTLAND: No.
4
5 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody else. Is this
6 protocol final?
7
8 MR. EASTLAND: No, sir. This is still in
9 the draft stage. We're still working on it. The version
10 in your book is the draft that was current as of 12
11 December.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Marianne.
14
15 MS. SEE: Mr. Chair. If I could add to
16 that. One reason for this presentation today is to make
17 sure any questions about it really get on the table and
18 you get answers. We want to make sure the language is
19 clear and what it's trying to accomplish is clear so it
20 improves the whole process.
21
22 The main thing is that this is an
23 opportunity for all the Councils to sort of see our
24 progress on this, make sure if you want input that you
25 offer it now because we do want to proceed towards
26 tightening it up, making sure any corrections get into it
27 and preparing it for signature by the Board sometime in
28 the near future.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.
31
32 MS. MORRIS LYON: Thank you, Marianne. I
33 didn't want to take up the whole Board's time, but I
34 would appreciate it if during break I'll just point them
35 out. There's just a handful of instances where it says
36 the State's findings will be used instead of considered
37 and I think one or the other term needs to be put in
38 there so everybody is on the same page so we're either
39 going to use them or we're going to consider them and
40 then everybody who's looking at it because they're
41 conflicting. I'll be happy to show it to you.
42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: On Page 108, the
44 second dot down, the Federal program will not adopt ANS
45 findings into regulation. Because they're already in
46 State regulation, so that's what you're saying?
47
48 MS. SEE: Mr. Chair. Yes. When the
49 Federal program decided that there would not be a
50 separate body of regulation that had all these numbers in

1 it, that it would be more of using the information in a
2 process. Do you want to add to that at all?

3

4 MR. EASTLAND: Title VIII itself is
5 silent as to the subject of subsistence use amounts, so
6 the Federal system doesn't feel that it's appropriate to
7 actually incorporate them into actual regulations. They
8 will be used as tools to help analyze the proposals and
9 proposed actions and recognize when management actions
10 might be necessary.

11

12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, I understand.
13 There's no specific amounts. You're saying it's just
14 whatever it necessary because some families will be a lot
15 bigger than someone by himself. Marianne.

16

17 MS. SEE: If I could just elaborate on
18 the line you were proceeding along there. The numbers
19 the State uses are developed for a stock or a population.
20 So they're based on a lot of families, a lot of
21 information, from communities that are using those
22 particular stocks or populations. So it accommodates the
23 range of use, whether it's a small family, as you were
24 just using as an example, or a big family. The intent is
25 to look at the total use of that stock or population by
26 all those users and to look at the customary and
27 traditional portion of that use. Very specifically
28 that's what the ANS represents.

29

30 Again, it's a guideline, it's a tool, but
31 it's intended to encompass all that variability to what
32 you were just speaking. However, because it's already in
33 State regulation, it's already there to use. If there
34 are additional sources of information that Councils or
35 other sources bring in to consider, that is also fully
36 noted in the protocol that that information would be
37 brought forward.

38

39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thank you.
40 Are you two done then with the protocol?

41

42 MR. EASTLAND: Yes, sir.

43

44 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: No more questions.
45 All right. Thanks. Cliff, what is next.

46

47 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council
48 Members. We'll move on to Fisheries Resource Monitoring
49 Program. Steve Klein is going to provide the Council a
50 briefing. While he's coming up to the mike here, number

1 four and five on your agenda on Pages 111 and 112 are
2 informational. Certainly after Steve is done with his
3 presentation if the Council has any comments regarding
4 number four and five. It's just informational on the
5 Council's behalf.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was wondering why we
8 were skipping around that. Thanks for the information.
9 So we can go back after we get done with Fisheries
10 Resource Monitoring Program. You have the floor.

11
12 MR. KLEIN: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
13 Council Members. I'm Steve Klein. I'm the chief of
14 Fisheries Information Services in the Office of
15 Subsistence Management. There's two topics I wanted to
16 cover this morning. This is under topic 10, number six.
17 I have a short briefing on the status of the Fisheries
18 Resources Monitoring Program. Cliff is passing out a
19 handout on that. Secondly, I'll go over the Partners for
20 Fisheries Monitoring Program, which is the two major
21 programs of the FIS division.

22
23 Within the handout we've kind of
24 summarized what we've done with the monitoring program to
25 date. Just listing some of the discussions on moose and
26 caribou where you really have a lack of information.
27 With the fisheries monitoring program we've really tried
28 to go out and get that information for important
29 subsistence fisheries resources. Since 2000 we've funded
30 a total of 29 monitoring projects in the Southwest Region
31 and that totals about \$3 million worth of research in the
32 past six years in the Bristol Bay/Alaska Peninsula area.
33 Most of those studies have addressed salmon, but we've
34 also used the funding to look at other important
35 subsistence resources, like whitefish, Dolly Varden and
36 rainbow trout.

37
38 With the monitoring program, capacity
39 building is really a cornerstone of the program. We're
40 trying to work with tribal and rural organizations to
41 implement this research. It's not just a State or
42 Federal Agency conducting it. You've been very
43 successful here in the Bristol Bay region. Of the 29
44 studies that we funded, 16 have had tribal or rural
45 involvement in the projects, including co-investigators.
46 Bristol Bay Native Association is one of the primary
47 reasons for that integration. Under Ralph Anderson's
48 leadership in the Partners Program, which I'll be talking
49 about shortly, we've really developed capacity in this
50 region and I think we've had great success.

1 In the briefing about halfway down
2 there's a listing of the projects we've completed to
3 date, so there's a listing of 23 projects and you can see
4 the full range of what we've completed. There's reports
5 available for all these projects. They're posted on our
6 website. If there's any you're interested in, we'll get
7 you a copy of those reports. On Page 2, about two-third
8 of the way down is a listing of six projects that are
9 ongoing. There's summaries of those beginning on Page 3
10 and 4.

11
12 On December 1st we require a performance
13 report from all the researchers and based upon those
14 performance reports there's a summary of each of the
15 active projects there beginning on Page 3. Of the active
16 projects, one is looking at the run timing of Lake Clark
17 sockeye salmon compared to other Kvichak River
18 populations and using genetics. They're able to separate
19 out stocks. Based upon what they completed in 2004, they
20 looked at close to 1,700 sockeye salmon. They found that
21 Lake Clark sockeye salmon were detected on all but two
22 days. They're not really seeing a regular pattern of
23 entry for Lake Clark stocks in terms of whether they're
24 coming in early or late, but they've collected additional
25 samples in 2005. They'll do it again in 2006. Usually
26 you look at run timing over three years and we're hoping
27 we can discern some trends.

28
29 The next project is 04-454. This is
30 sharing, bartering and trade of subsistence resources in
31 the Bristol Bay area. This is an example of a
32 partnership between ADF&G and Bristol Bay Native
33 Association. They're conducting interviews in Nondalton,
34 Togiak, Dillingham, King Salmon, Naknek and South Naknek
35 to get subsistence amounts, processing and methods and
36 sources of fish for barter and customary trade.

37
38 We have very little information on
39 customary trade and this is an excellent project where
40 we're getting some results here. They've done 127
41 household surveys and I know Ted is in the audience to
42 speak to it or answer questions on that project. That's
43 a very good example of what we're trying to accomplish
44 with our monitoring program.

45
46 On Page 4, subsistence harvest database
47 update and report preparation. This is a statewide
48 project where it compiles subsistence harvest information
49 statewide and that's just a wealth of information that
50 Alaska Department of Fish and Game compiles. They've got

1 a report out summarizing 2003 and that's available for
2 all of you.

3
4 There's two other projects listed there
5 on Page 4. One is looking at Lake Clark sockeye salmon
6 escapement. Earlier I talked about a project where
7 they're using genetics to look at the different stocks
8 moving through the Kvichak. This is a project by the
9 Park Service and U.S. Geological Survey where they're
10 putting up towers and counting the sockeye salmon going
11 up the Newhalen. Last year they counted 445,000, which
12 is the second highest escapement since we began those
13 counts in 2000.

14
15 At the bottom of Page 4 is a summary of a
16 whitefish project that was just initiated this past year
17 with U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service and
18 Bristol Bay Native Association. This is another
19 cooperative project. We all know whitefish are very
20 important as a subsistence resource. We know very little
21 about it, kind of like Chignik moose. Here's a three-
22 year study that began last year where we're trying to
23 learn about humpback whitefish and make sure we can
24 conserve those populations for subsistence uses.

25
26 On Page 5 is the current project that's
27 ongoing. That's Perryville-Chignik coho and late-run
28 sockeye salmon aerial surveys. Mike Edwards is in the
29 audience for the Fish and Wildlife Service, but this is
30 where they're conducting aerial surveys to count coho
31 salmon and they're looking at 11 streams in the
32 Perryville area. They counted over 5,000 coho salmon in
33 2005 in those 11 rivers, which is a little lower than
34 what they've seen in the past.

35
36 So that's kind of a summary of the six
37 projects that are ongoing in the region. At your next
38 meeting in the fall, on those projects many of them we'll
39 have updates, so we'll bring in the researchers to give
40 you details of the progress on the projects.

41
42 I also wanted to say for 2007, largely as
43 a result of the strategic planning effort you all
44 accomplished working with your State and Federal and
45 Tribal partners, we developed a strategic plan for the
46 Bristol Bay Chignik region on what really are the
47 priorities for research for fisheries monitoring in the
48 region. For 2007 we received about 16 proposals just for
49 the Bristol Bay area, which is about two or three times
50 what we normally got. So I think that strategic planning

1 effort was very worthwhile to guide the researchers out
2 there on what proposals are really important.

3
4 Actually Steve Fried, who is a biologist
5 that would probably normally be up here talking to you
6 and Amy Craver, the anthropologist within my division,
7 they're busy reviewing those proposals and developing a
8 monitoring plan for 2007, which we'll bring to you at
9 your next meeting.

10
11 That's kind of a short summary of the
12 monitoring program. I wanted to briefly cover the
13 Partners Program. I don't have a handout for that. For
14 the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program, this is a
15 program we began in 2002 and we're using the expertise of
16 the State and Federal Agencies to conduct monitoring, but
17 we also made a firm commitment to work with organizations
18 like Bristol Bay Native Association, village entities,
19 rural organizations to also do monitoring and research.

20
21 One of the primary ways we're doing that
22 is with Partners for Fisheries monitoring program and
23 we've provided funding to hire fish biologists and
24 anthropologists. BBNA has two of those positions. State
25 wide we have eight of them. Those biologists and
26 anthropologists are working on 27 monitoring projects
27 statewide. They had a total of 25 interns working for
28 them, so about an average of three interns per partner,
29 so it's great the accomplishments they're having with the
30 program.

31
32 Bristol Bay Native Association is really
33 one of our shining stars and rather than me talk I wanted
34 to bring Kyle and Robbin up and let them tell you some of
35 their accomplishments and the work they have going on.
36 But before I leave I'd be pleased to answer any
37 questions.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boris.

40
41 MR. KOSBRUK: Where are your offices at?

42
43 MR. KLEIN: Our office is in Anchorage in
44 the Office of Subsistence Management.

45
46 MR. KOSBRUK: Federal?

47
48 MR. KLEIN: Yes.

49
50 MR. KOSBRUK: I see some surveys done

1 here. I don't see any numbers.
2
3 MR. KLEIN: You're talking about on Page
4 5, the aerial survey project? The numbers for 2005 are
5 reported on there. They counted a total of 5,599 coho
6 salmon. This was during the second survey in late
7 October.
8
9 MR. KOSBRUK: What area was that?
10
11 MR. KLEIN: That's 11 Rivers that they're
12 looking at.
13
14 MR. KOSBRUK: Oh, that's the total.
15
16 MR. KLEIN: That's the total. We have
17 Mike Edwards, who is the investigator for that, and he
18 can give you the full details of those numbers, I
19 suspect.
20
21 MR. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, Council
22 Members. Mike Edwards, fisheries biologist with the King
23 Salmon Field Office. If you'd like, Boris, I can meet
24 with you after break and give you the breakdown per creek
25 or if we want to read them into the record right now.
26
27 MR. KOSBRUK: That's exactly what I'm
28 after.
29
30 MR. EDWARDS: Okay. I can bore everyone
31 with stream names and actual counts or I can meet with
32 Boris individually.
33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You can meet with
35 Boris.
36
37 MS. ALECK: I would like that
38 information.
39
40 MR. EDWARDS: I've got the table here of
41 the actual streams that are flown. They're the same ones
42 we've been flying for the last three years.
43
44 MR. KOSBRUK: When is the last time you
45 flew it? This fall?
46
47 MR. EDWARDS: This fall, yes.
48
49 MR. KOSBRUK: Thank you.
50

1 MR. EDWARDS: Like Steve said, the
2 numbers were down a little but we didn't get to fly as
3 early this year as we like to. We ran into weather
4 problems and helicopter problems. We didn't get in as
5 early in September as we wanted to. We think that's a
6 little explanation of why the counts were down a little.
7 They're not alarming. We're not overly concerned.
8
9 MR. KOSBRUK: First time I've seen a
10 return like that in 10 years.
11
12 MR. EDWARDS: That's wonderful. That's
13 good to hear.
14
15 MS. ALECK: Chignik Lake it's just the
16 opposite. Our subsistence salmon in Clarks River we ran
17 out in early December where they usually last up until
18 February. It's listed as a non-subsistence use area
19 right now on the regs but we have traditionally used fish
20 out of that area ever since the village existed.
21
22 MR. EDWARDS: We do survey that as part
23 of the coho flight since we're already in the
24 neighborhood flying into Perryville. So we are doing the
25 counts in the fall in the Clark River after the Chignik
26 weir is pulled.
27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Mike. You
29 can meet with Boris and Virginia at a break. I've got a
30 question for you, Steve. On estimating the run timing
31 for the Lake Clark salmon, how many years did you say
32 that's been going on? I didn't get a chance to read your
33 report here. I can't listen and read at the same time.
34 You say also there really wasn't an abundance at a
35 certain time, it sort of trickled through the whole time
36 for the Lake Clark area or how did you say that was
37 working? How many more years is that going to happen?
38
39 MR. KLEIN: The project was initiated in
40 2004, so they collected the 1,700 genetic samples in
41 2004. They grabbed additional samples in 2005 and
42 they'll get samples again in 2006. Based upon the 2004,
43 it didn't really show any distinct trends for Lake Clark,
44 but they're still developing the genetic differentiation
45 and baseline. It's improving and they could see a trend
46 by further analyzing the information and having three
47 years instead of one year should help. One year has been
48 completed, including the analysis, another year of
49 analysis on the 2005 and 2006 is yet to be collected. So
50 it's a three-year project. I think you need to see the

1 results of all three years to tease out any trends in any
2 particular stocks.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. You can
5 send Cliff or send me a copy of that report. Anybody
6 else have any questions. Dan.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. For Steve and
9 Mike, there on 05-402, Page 4, Lake Clark sockeye salmon
10 escapement, in my career I wasn't real well versed in
11 dealing with sex ratios in commercial salmon, but 58
12 percent males, 42 percent females, it seems like usually
13 we're looking for a 50. For Steve, have you ever
14 discussed that with Carol Ann? And off the top of his
15 head what Mike might have to say about it.

16

17 MR. KLEIN: With the males, you're
18 getting jacks. That's in the mix, too. You really need
19 to look at it by age, but just overall -- I mean under 60
20 percent one way or the other I wouldn't be alarmed by
21 that. Actually, in some chinook salmon stocks sometimes
22 we see only 20 percent female in like some of the
23 Kuskokwim or Yukon stocks. When you see numbers like
24 that, that's troubling, but 58/42 I wouldn't be too
25 alarmed by that. I can consult with Steve Frye and we
26 can see if that is a concern to the managers there.

27

28 MR. EDWARDS: Mike Edwards again with the
29 King Salmon Fisheries office. Dan, I would agree with
30 Steve. On the outside, not being intimate with the
31 sampling, maybe it's a little bit of a gear bias. Since
32 this was specifically subsistence harvest, maybe mesh
33 size had something to affect that, but a 58/42 percent is
34 not a red flag. My point of view, maybe it's a sampling
35 effect, maybe it's timing of fish when they were actually
36 fishing. This isn't an overall composition of the entire
37 run. It's just a snapshot of what the subsistence
38 harvest was. There's too many variables to say whether
39 it's something that's a problem, but I wouldn't be too
40 concerned with it.

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: Thanks, Mike. It helps to
43 know some of the other confounding factors there. I've
44 been amazed in some other places how closely at 50/50 it
45 can hover. I didn't see a red flag, but if it did seem
46 to be wandering off in a weird direction is there
47 something there. Okay. Well, thank you very much.

48

49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Questions. Okay. I
50 guess we'll have Robbin and Kyle report on the monitoring

1 program.

2

3

4 MS. LaVINE: Good morning, Mr. Chair and
5 Members of the Council. For the record, my name is
6 Robbin LaVine and I'm the subsistence fisheries social
7 scientist for the Bristol Bay Native Association. I also
8 wanted to thank Steve Klein and the Staff for the
9 wonderfully succinct overview of the ongoing projects,
10 many of which we are partners on. The ones that I am
11 responsible for today to talk to you about briefly are,
12 one, the Togiak tech project. Actually, it was not
13 mentioned. This is something I'm partnering with the
14 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge on. We are in the final
15 stages of the project and currently completing the rough
16 draft by the end of this month. That covers the
17 traditional ecological knowledge of local elders in the
18 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge on all subsistence-caught
19 fish and change over time in regards to both subsistence
20 practices and the local habitat.

20

21

22 I'm also partnering with the Alaska
23 Department of Fish and Game on the customary trade
24 project. You'll notice there is a write-up on that
25 project on Page 3 of the handout that Steve gave you. I
26 did want to bring to your attention at the very bottom of
27 Page 3 the target number of households to be surveyed was
28 218, but only 127 household surveys were completed.
29 Actually that's not a target number. That's the most we
30 would allow ourselves. Generally, in the process of
31 conducting field work, there are folks that don't want
32 to participate or who feel their experience is not
33 relevant to the survey, so that allows for that. We are
34 going to be starting the rough draft final report writing
35 stage of this project next month.

35

36

37 I also did want to mention as BBNA was a
38 partner on the one cancelled project 05-452 and that's a
39 non-salmon fish harvest and traditional knowledge in
40 Togiak, Manokotak and Twin Hills project. This project
41 was recently cancelled due to budget cuts on very short
42 notice and we wanted to say we're very sorry for the
43 inconveniences. There was a strong community support
44 from Togiak, Manokotak and Twin Hills. We have been
45 assured it will have very strong consideration and we
46 will be allowed to resubmit this project for the 2007
47 fiscal year. We are definitely looking forward to
48 continuing our future partnerships with both the State
49 and the Federal agencies on this and the local community
50 councils.

50

1 Finally, I did want to mention briefly
2 that the BBNA's social science intern is either a
3 principal investigator or co-PI for the projects we have
4 submitted for fiscal year 2007. If you have any
5 questions, I'm open.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. Any
8 questions for Robbin.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Seeing none.

13
14 MR. BELLEQUE: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
15 Council Members. My name is Kyle Belleque, the
16 subsistence fisheries biologist for the Bristol Bay
17 Native Association. The one project that I'm associated
18 with, the Lake Clark whitefish project, you've already
19 got an overview of so I won't spend too much time on
20 that, but I would like to highlight a few other things
21 that I'm specifically working on that would be of
22 interest to the Council.

23
24 On proposals, Robbin has her position
25 tied to four, I have my position tied to six, so that
26 would be 16 proposals submitted in the Bristol Bay
27 region. BBNA has their hands in 10 of them at various
28 degrees, so our involvement is growing and we're actively
29 pursuing our involvement in the projects of the regions.

30
31
32 Also the internships that we're so proud
33 of and have been doing so well, those are continuing on.
34 We've got wonderful experiences ready for the interns
35 this year and the hiring process has begun on those.

36
37 I also wanted to discuss and be available
38 to questions from the Council regarding an Alaska
39 Peninsula subsistence summit that we're organizing and is
40 currently scheduled for March 6, 7 and 8 and I handed out
41 agendas and objectives to the Council and I have extra
42 copies. I can briefly discuss that.

43
44 Back when Ralph Anderson was still the
45 natural resource director he was contacted with concerns
46 regarding a number of subsistence resources in the
47 Perryville-Chignik area and there was a request made that
48 BBNA organize a summit regarding those resources. It
49 then evolved into involving all Peninsula communities
50 that there was a need to have a summit that was led by

1 the communities where they could control the tempo of the
2 summit. So BBNA has been organizing that. It has been
3 scheduled and rescheduled a few times.

4
5 Most recently we held an audioconference
6 and we had five communities represented and they chose to
7 hold the summit on the dates mentioned in Port Heiden.
8 State and Federal agencies have also been invited to be
9 there to share information and participate in
10 conversation and hopefully it will be a well-attended and
11 successful summit with information coming before this
12 Council from that summit. Mr. Chair.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was going to ask you
15 if this was the one that was scheduled for January. You
16 said the next one you're going to try to have it March 6
17 through the 8th.

18
19 MR. BELLEQUE: Correct.

20
21 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Any comments or
22 questions.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you two. Kyle,
27 can I get a copy of that whitefish report you've done so
28 far. Let's recess for a while.

29
30 (Off record)

31
32 (On record)

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Call the meeting back
35 to order. We are on agency reports, Alaska
36 Peninsula/Becharof National Wildlife Refuge.

37
38 MR. SQUIBB: Ron Squibb with the U.S.
39 Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Peninsula and Becharof
40 Refuges. This is our agency report. It's on Page 114 in
41 your books. Just a bit on staff, Justin Gude, who was at
42 the last RAC meeting, he and his wife decided to leave us
43 and went back to Montana, so he won't be working with us
44 anymore. He was a very good hand and we'll miss him.

45
46 We worked with Fish and Game in the fall
47 composition counts of the Northern Alaska Peninsula
48 Caribou Herd. Lem put that in his report, so he has the
49 details on that. Going on down our report, we're
50 continuing using the satellite telemetry to monitor the

1 caribou herd and we've incorporated that into the study
2 of calf survival and productivity of the herd that we
3 reported last time. Right now, within that study, we
4 have 52 cows that are collared with combination VHF
5 beacon and in addition they have a UHF transmitter that
6 transmits to satellites overhead that gives us weekly
7 locations of the animals. So it's allowing us to monitor
8 them and it makes it quicker for us to find them.

9
10 Right now with those 52 collared cows
11 there's been some mortality, but the plan is to continue
12 and we'll monitor those animals and be able to recapture
13 them because they'll be easier to find and also we'll be
14 monitoring their calf productivity in cooperation with
15 the ADF&G on this project.

16
17 You will remember in the previous reports
18 we talked about documenting last spring fairly good
19 parasite loads and very poor calf survival on the caribou
20 in the herd during the calving period. Justin and Lem
21 and the refuge, we put together a program where we're
22 trying to look at the impact of the parasites on caribou
23 productivity. To do that we have captured and given an
24 anti-parasite drug to a portion of these 52 cows and
25 we'll follow their reproductive success and the survival
26 of their calves as well as the collared animals that
27 didn't get treatment and we'll have a comparative study
28 there to see how much of the poor reproduction and poor
29 survival is tied to the parasite load.

30
31 Of course, it's an experiment with wild
32 animals. Hopefully everything will work out and we'll
33 have a sufficient sample size to have a good report on
34 those effects in the future.

35
36 I'll move on if there's no questions to
37 our moose abundance survey. We've been working on this.
38 This winter is the third winter we've been collecting
39 data on this. Again, this is a study where we're trying
40 to get a density estimate, how many moose per square mile
41 and extrapolate that to how many moose within a given
42 area. As I reported last fall, we surveyed moose habitat
43 from about Brooks Lake down towards the coast and then we
44 worked all the way to about Aniakchak, but we're only in
45 the Bristol Bay drainages so far. That estimate for that
46 area was about 1,600 to 1,700 animals.

47
48 Any question on the moose abundance?

49
50 MS. ALECK: I have a question for you,

1 Ron. Talking about parasites, could this affect moose,
2 too?

3

4 MR. SQUIBB: It could. We have no data
5 on that, but I don't know if that would be a factor or
6 not. I was about to get to the trend surveys. We have
7 for the first time in several years a very good calf
8 recruitment among the moose herd in the areas we sampled
9 this year. That would make me think there wasn't an
10 effect there, but I don't know. Lem, do you have any
11 thoughts on that.

12

13 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair, Members of the
14 Council. Again, my name is Lem Butler. Several of the
15 parasites that we're seeing with the caribou can infect
16 moose as well. Like Ron is saying, we really haven't
17 seen anything in the moose population that indicates
18 that. I think a lot of the caribou problem is in part
19 due to the poor nutritional condition the caribou are in.
20 We see chronically weak immune systems, loss of muscle,
21 muscle atrophy in the caribou we're dealing with, which
22 is the complete opposite with the moose we capture, which
23 often have a lot of fat, they have very big calves and
24 they calve quite frequently. There doesn't seem to be a
25 problem with the moose.

26

27 So I'd concur with Ron that even though
28 the moose are susceptible to many of these parasites,
29 they don't seem to be affected. The caribou life
30 strategy is a bit different. They'll aggregate and, of
31 course, that will allow for easier transference of
32 disease, whereas moose tend to be more isolated for a
33 majority of the year.

34

35 MR. SQUIBB: Thanks, Lem. And to add to
36 that a little bit, you may recall we had Corey Adler
37 working on a moose habitat project a few years ago on the
38 eastern side of Ugashik Lakes and a little bit into the
39 Dog Salmon Drainage and he looked at the range quality
40 and I helped on that and Orville helped in the field and
41 you just don't see really, really heavy browse use. In
42 other words, for the moose, the range hasn't been
43 overutilized. Consequently, as Lem said, it's the immune
44 system that's able to fend off parasites. In the case of
45 the moose population, they're in very good habitat as far
46 as we've been able to document. So if they're in good
47 habitat, they're eating high-quality forage, then their
48 immune systems are going to be in a lot better shape to
49 fend off any parasites. In contrast, the caribou herd
50 appears, although we don't have direct habitat data, it

1 appears to fall in the classic rise up to peak, maintain
2 peak for a while and then go down. It's just the normal
3 cycle. During that period of time they've eaten the best
4 quality forage, so they're not on as high nutritional
5 plane as the moose are, if you will.

6

7 Hope that helps. Do you have any
8 additional questions?

9

10 Okay. We were able to do a few trend
11 areas this year. We did a partial of the park border
12 area and we did Blue Mountain, which is in the Pumice
13 Creek and Old Creek Area, and the Dog Salmon River
14 drainage. We got composition on 155 moose and the
15 composition had 25 bulls per 100 cows and 24 calves per
16 100 cows. That's the highest we've ever gotten in terms
17 of calf composition that I can recall in the years I've
18 been here.

19

20 Another study we have ongoing in
21 cooperation with the University of Alaska Fairbanks, the
22 Cooperative Research Unit there, and ADF&G is a project
23 where they've captured 30 moose calves and one of the
24 objectives is to use the moose calves as a direct monitor
25 of habitat quality. They've been captured and weighed
26 and they'll be following these animals and see what
27 weight gain they get over winter. That will be a good
28 indicator of habitat quality.

29

30 In addition, we'll take advantage of all
31 opportunities to get all the data we can on any project
32 and we'll also get information on the cow survival, the
33 calf production of those cows, as well as the survival of
34 their calves. So it's a good project that we're in the
35 middle of right now.

36

37 Moving down the report, our Federal
38 subsistence seasons were the same as in previous years.
39 We've already discussed the Big Creek moose hunt. We'll
40 note in the two tables at the back of the report that
41 there's a moose harvest table which gives you numbers of
42 harvest by air taxi clients who hunted moose and by
43 guided clients who hunted moose and that's a table to
44 give you comparative numbers. In general, they're taking
45 somewhere in the 40's in terms of bulls. Any questions
46 on that table?

47

48 Okay. Similarly, the next table is the
49 bear harvest. The numbers bounce a little bit between
50 spring and fall hunts, but you're looking at 60's in the

1 fall hunt more or less and then 70's or so in the spring
2 hunt on harvest by guided hunters and air taxi clients we
3 get records from.

4
5 Also, not in the report I have a summary
6 for our wolf card reporting. I know a lot of you are
7 aware of this. We get reports from air taxi operators,
8 from PenAir pilots and other folks in the field and we
9 appreciate getting these reports in on where wolves are
10 sighted or other information like that. I've got this
11 and I'll pass it around. It's a brief summary of the
12 four years we've been working on this. It's good
13 information but you have to think of the sampling. The
14 average number of wolves per sighting seems to not change
15 a whole lot. In 2003 we did see a big jump, but I think
16 this is just a reflection of more people interested.
17 That was the first full year we got it going. So if we
18 can keep it going we can get some information on wolves.
19 It's not going to be a clean estimate on numbers, but it
20 gives you an idea of how frequently they're being seen.

21
22 In addition, we're hoping this fall as
23 sort of a trial project to see how feasible it would be
24 to get some collars on wolves and get more direct
25 information on them and working closer to King Salmon.
26 We've got I think four collars ordered for wolves to
27 monitor and just get a better idea of movements. Like I
28 said, it's a trial and we're hoping it will be successful
29 and something we can make happen. We've done a lot of
30 work capturing moose and caribou but this is going to be
31 a new thing for our staff to work on, so hopefully we'll
32 be successful on that.

33
34 That's basically the end of my report.
35 Any questions or comments.

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yes, I do. Looking at
38 the handout here on the wolf sightings reported, I see
39 it's gone down from 2003. I think 2003 probably had a
40 lot of people that were actively turning in cards. Even
41 I did it, but I haven't done it since then. So it just
42 shows you I don't think the population has gone down,
43 it's the reporting that looks like it's gone down quite a
44 bit.

45
46 MR. SQUIBB: I apologize. I meant not to
47 say that. I was trying to convey that, I agree
48 completely, it's not a population index directly.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was going to comment

1 on caribou, but I wanted to wait until you got your
2 report done. What plans do you have for North Peninsula
3 Caribou after you've done the inoculation of some of the
4 cows for parasites? Is there anything else you guys are
5 planning on doing?

6
7 MR. SQUIBB: We'll continue with that
8 study. Last year we looked at the calf survival and calf
9 production among the cows. That was last done before
10 last spring for the Northern Peninsula Herd. That was
11 1998 was the last time that was done, so we were going to
12 basically do a repeat. We wanted to see what the calf
13 survival was. One of the things that Justin and Lem did
14 to give us more information was bring the State
15 veterinarian, Kimberly Beckman, down to work with us. So
16 we had a veterinarian there to look at those calves that
17 died and evaluate their health, as well as a few animals
18 that looked like they weren't in very good shape, adults
19 or yearlings, were also taken.

20
21 We learned something we didn't learn much
22 of in the '98 study. They knew there was lung work but
23 they didn't do the degree of analysis that Kimberly did
24 this last spring. So that gave us more information about
25 the predators and the thoughts went from there to come up
26 with the idea of trying to inoculate some of the animals
27 to knock down their parasite load. When they come into
28 the calving period, we'll be looking at them and we'll
29 compare the success of their calves. Unfortunately it's
30 not a huge sample size, about 50 altogether. So we'll
31 look at that and then next year we'll evaluate the
32 collared cows again and see how it carries over.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Those calves you guys
35 tagged last year, was it 41 and like 39 of them died.

36
37 MR. SQUIBB: Yes.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What percentage was
40 that from predation and how many from parasites?

41
42 MR. SQUIBB: I don't have that off the
43 top of my head. Maybe Lem knows.

44
45 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It was more from
46 predation, wasn't it?

47
48 MS. ALECK: I think I have the report.

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

1 Council. The way these studies work, you really can't
2 tell the cause of death unless you get on the calves
3 right away. We only do that for the first two weeks of
4 life. We lost all but 40 percent of the calves the first
5 two weeks. Those deaths were attributed to bears and
6 wolves, about 50/50, with only one drowning, which
7 happens as well out there. After that point we continued
8 to lose calves. Of those calves that made it through the
9 first two weeks of life only 20 percent made it to the
10 fall.

11
12 We don't know exactly what killed them.
13 It's tough to say. One of the things that you get with
14 disease and nutritional stresses on calves is that it may
15 just make them less able to escape a bear, so you can
16 have disease effects that increase the predation rates.
17 It's kind of a tough question to sort out at some point.

18
19
20 Compared to other herds, normally you
21 lose about 50 percent of your calves during the first two
22 weeks of life. We lost 60 percent, so there was a higher
23 rate of predation but it wasn't abnormally high in
24 comparison. What was abnormal was after the first two
25 weeks of life when normally calf survival would go up to
26 80 percent, ours fell to 20 percent, so that's alarming.
27 We're going to look into that. We're going to have a vet
28 and vet technician to try to investigate as much of this
29 death as possible. It's possible we'll find some
30 complication associated with disease. Several did have
31 disease even at three days of age. For the most part
32 they were healthy in appearance, but mostly lower
33 weights, which is probably due to the poor nutritional
34 status of the cow.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That disease, will
37 that eventually kill them or can they get over that?

38
39 MR. BUTLER: It's going to vary with the
40 disease and that's part of the question that we're trying
41 to answer with this parasite study we're embarking on.
42 Most of these are very common in other caribou all over
43 the state of Alaska have. What's abnormal is the
44 concentration, the parasite load in general is strikingly
45 higher than our vet has seen in any other herd. So it
46 may be the sheer accumulative effect of all these
47 diseases.

48
49 One or two of the diseases in and of
50 themselves has been linked to population declines in

1 reindeer in Canada and Europe and it's possible that
2 independently things like this stomach worm ostertagia
3 that you may have heard about can have an effect on the
4 caribou.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It makes me wonder.
7 They are weak from the disease, but a lot of them are
8 dying from the predation because there's an overabundance
9 of wolves and bears. If we had a management plan, a lot
10 more of these calves would survive even though they were
11 sick because they wouldn't have the abundance of
12 predators out looking for them. I think that's something
13 we need to work on. Where else do we have to go? We
14 can't hunt them anymore. It's a good plan to study the
15 wolves. The problem now is predation and we need a
16 management plan for predators. Dan.

17
18 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Ron, I was looking
19 at this moose harvest data and thinking about our
20 concerns in Chignik.

21
22 MR. SQUIBB: You're talking about the
23 table?

24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, the table on Page
26 117. I'm sorry. I'm sometimes slow to read them and
27 digest them, but I see here that we had an average of
28 guided hunters in 2001 through 2003 of 12 and then it
29 dropped down to 7 and 6 in 2004 and 2005. I'm just
30 curious that you've got half as many guided hunters. Is
31 that a result of some of these changing concession area
32 or less guides want to operate down there?

33
34 MR. SQUIBB: I have no knowledge of this.
35 Again, it could also be success rate as well.

36
37 MR. DUNAWAY: Success rate looks like
38 it's held fairly steady. There's like one less moose
39 taken than guided hunters out there across the board.
40 That's why at first I thought there was a real drop in
41 just harvest and then I saw there was less guides too. I
42 was curious if you knew why.

43
44 MR. SQUIBB: I have no idea why. These
45 are numbers from our law enforcement officer for this
46 report, so I couldn't tell you that.

47
48 MR. ALECK: If the guides aren't getting
49 the moose and we aren't getting the moose in the
50 surrounding area, it seems like that should send the

1 message we are in trouble down there.

2

3 MR. SQUIBB: Again, these data are what
4 success those hunters had. The number of clients can
5 vary from year to year. Success of the clients can vary
6 from year to year. I don't think this would be an index
7 of moose abundance. It's an index of effort. Some
8 hunters are more aggressive. Some hunters may be less
9 aggressive, may be older, so they may not be harvesting
10 as much. This graph says to me it hasn't changed much in
11 terms of harvest.

12

13 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair. I'm sorry, I
14 was looking at the Chignik Unit for my discussion.

15

16 MR. SQUIBB: Oh, okay. I didn't follow
17 you on that.

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm sorry. I missed
20 that part. You've got 12 hunters, 7 hunters, 6 hunters
21 and 11, 6 and 6 moose. For a minute I thought I was
22 seeing a little reduction.

23

24 MR. SQUIBB: I was looking at the overall
25 picture of how many moose are being taken overall. It
26 may be if we studied the Chignik Unit we'd see a pattern
27 there.

28

29 MR. DUNAWAY: But if you started awarding
30 some concessions based on guides who agreed to no longer
31 take moose near Chignik, you could have just had a
32 voluntary reduction there or something. I'm sorry, I
33 wasn't clear enough in the beginning.

34

35 MR. BUTLER: I know one guide in that
36 area is looking at selling his business. I'm not sure if
37 that reflects a decline in his activity. I don't think
38 there were any changes on the governmental level that
39 would have altered the number of moose hunters going into
40 that area.

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: Anybody else.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That concludes your
47 report then?

48

49 MR. SQUIBB: Yes.

50

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks. Okay. One
2 thing we neglected to state when we brought back Proposal
3 26 and discussed it, we just wanted to state that we are
4 still opposed to the original proposal. We just would
5 like to generate another one if at all possible for
6 information for the next meeting. For the record, we are
7 still opposed to the original proposal. Number E on
8 Agency reports.

9
10 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
11 Council Members. My name is Andy Aderman. I'm a
12 wildlife biologist with the Togiak Refuge over in
13 Dillingham. Within your books there's an information
14 bulletin that starts on Page 119. I'm going to jump to
15 Page 120 and begin with Mulchatna caribou.

16
17 About the time of your last meeting we
18 were working with Fish and Game in Dillingham and Fish
19 and Game and the Refuge up in Bethel doing some
20 composition work on the Mulchatna Caribou Herd. What we
21 found was not encouraging. Some of the lowest bull:cow
22 ratios and calf ratios ever documented since monitoring
23 began.

24
25 Along this line I might bring it to the
26 Council's attention but this herd has experienced a
27 significant decline. I'm aware of a proposal to the
28 Board of Game in the Interior Region that proposes
29 changes to non-resident hunting and resident hunting in
30 Units 19 and 17. Whether or not the Board of Game will
31 take up Unit 17, because it's outside the Interior area,
32 I'm not sure. At the same time I believe the State is
33 making a request to the Board to deal with the Mulchatna
34 herd as a whole.

35
36 Understand that it encompasses three
37 different management regions within Fish and Game. Also
38 three different Regional Council areas. Yet to be
39 determined what the Board does with it at their March
40 meeting. If they do take it up, maybe some special
41 actions at this Council and the other Councils may want
42 to consider on the Federal side. I would predict at a
43 minimum you'll see something by next fall in the way of a
44 Federal proposal. What those will be I'm not sure.
45 That's all I had on Mulchatna caribou.

46
47 The Nushagak Peninsula caribou we also
48 conducted some composition surveys about that same time.
49 The ratio of bulls and calves per 100 cows has been
50 pretty consistent over the past three or four years, in

1 the lower to mid 30's for both of those. We haven't had
2 very good snow conditions on the Peninsula. I haven't
3 heard of any caribou being reported yet during the winter
4 hunt. I typically do a winter transect count to try and
5 estimate that population, but that's dependent on
6 sufficient snow cover and that hasn't occurred to this
7 date.

8

9 Moving on to moose. Calf survival is
10 pretty consistent with the past six or seven years, just
11 under half of the calves born last spring were still
12 alive in November. That same percentage held true for
13 last month, about 47 percent of the calves born were
14 still alive in mid January, which is pretty good.

15

16 We had a winter moose hunt in the Togiak
17 drainage and then an area of Western 17(C) around
18 Manokotak. That area was added on to that hunt this
19 year. Information is still coming in on how many moose
20 were taken. I think the overall harvest will be pretty
21 low. There was snow, but it was pretty rough, tough to
22 get around.

23

24 The last thing I'd like to report on is
25 the brown bear. I guess just an update to that. We have
26 a preliminary analysis on the work we did in 2003 and
27 2004 and this was a baseline effort to try to determine
28 how many brown bears we had on the Togiak Refuge. That
29 estimate is 30 to 35 brown bears per 1,000 square
30 kilometers, which I believe equates to between 600 and
31 700 bears on the Togiak Refuge. That's a fairly low
32 density when you compare areas like Alaska Peninsula or
33 Kodiak Island where bears are more numerous.

34

35 That's all I had. If there's any
36 questions, I'll try to answer them.

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, Andy. Are you
39 guys in support of the State's proposals to shorten the
40 season for Mulchatna caribou and lessen the bag limit?
41 Also the land and shoot in 9(B) and 17(C), I think it is.

42

43 MR. ADERMAN: Yes. We met by
44 teleconference, I believe it was in December, and it
45 included basically all these people that I mentioned from
46 Bethel, Dillingham. Lem was online and Park Service was
47 online. We discussed a number of options. Among those
48 was elimination of same day airborne for Unit 17(B) and
49 parts of 9. Bag limit reduction probably down to three.
50 Shortening the season on the tail end and I believe there

1 was a recommendation to eliminate that part of the season
2 in April. We were pretty much in consensus with those
3 types of recommendations. Whether or not they'll be
4 realized or not we'll have to see.

5
6 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Did you guys discuss
7 the area 9(C) north of the Peninsula Highway and west of
8 King Salmon Creek for closure and also making a Tier II
9 for Mulchatna caribou?

10
11 MR. ADERMAN: I don't believe there was
12 that discussion. Lem might recall.

13
14 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Lem, can you report on
15 those proposals at the Board of Game that they're going
16 to discuss in March.

17
18 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair, Members of the
19 Council. Again, my name is Lem Butler. Just to answer
20 that last question, no, we didn't discuss what is
21 currently a registration area for Mulchatna caribou and a
22 Tier II area for Northern Alaska Peninsula caribou. The
23 State intends to continue to not issue Tier II permits.
24 We will issue a registration permit for a limited number
25 of caribou when the Mulchatna are in the area, but it
26 will be under the registration hunt basis, not the Tier
27 II system.

28
29 As you mentioned already, the proposal
30 will go before the Board during this current cycle for
31 Region 3 Mulchatna proposal changing Unit 19 regulations.
32 We're going to request the Board expand that to consider
33 all sub-units that the Mulchatna Herd ranges through.
34 Again, we will be asking for them to eliminate the same
35 day airborne option, adjust the bag limit and reduce the
36 caribou season.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So the State isn't
39 going to ask the Board to do a Tier II on 9(C) north of
40 the highway and west of King Salmon Creek, so it will
41 remain a registration hunt?

42
43 MR. BUTLER: That's correct. Tier II's
44 tend to be cumbersome. With the registration permit we
45 have a lot of flexibility with what we can do with that
46 hunt as it is. That's for the local community.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Yeah, I'm not in favor
49 of a Tier II in that area especially when those are
50 dealing with Mulchatna caribou. Any comments. Nanci.

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: I heard you, Andy,
2 saying that -- I guess you really didn't say it, but you
3 alluded to the fact that you'd like to see us take some
4 action on that as well.
5
6 MR. ADERMAN: I'm just bringing it to
7 your attention. If the Board of Game does take this up
8 and reduces the resident bag limit that would affect
9 people in this area off of Federal lands, maybe we'd want
10 to consider that under the Federal regs. There is some
11 value in having consistent harvest limits between State
12 and Federal, but I leave that to the Council to decide.
13
14 MS. MORRIS LYON: Right. If I could
15 follow up, Mr. Chair, with another question. We still
16 have safety backfalls if we continue to see the drastic
17 decreases that we're seeing. You still have emergency
18 order authority, right, so if we didn't take action you
19 would still have steps to take, you and Lem combined, on
20 the situation.
21 MR. BUTLER: On the State level, the area
22 biologist can shut seasons down by emergency order. I
23 believe for your process it's brought up as a special
24 action.
25
26 MS. MORRIS LYON: I just wanted to make
27 sure. It looks to me like we've got a pretty severe
28 trend going on here and if it continues, obviously, we're
29 going to want to take some steps. But I just wanted to
30 know that you had enough tools in your bag that we
31 weren't binding your hands if we didn't take any action
32 since that's for fall.
33
34 MR. ADERMAN: Again, on the Federal side,
35 for most of the area it probably would require a special
36 action, but we'll work closely with the State over in our
37 area if he makes a call it needs to be closed off. We
38 don't want to circumvent the Council and talking with
39 you, saying here, this is what's going on. We want to
40 get involved with it at a higher level and go from there.
41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thanks. Cliff.
43
44 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. Lem, if the
45 Board of Game didn't address the Mulchatna into Unit 17
46 and stuff, when would they address the Bristol Bay region
47 again in the future.
48
49 MR. BUTLER: Mr. Chair. The next meeting
50 for this area, which you could submit proposals for Unit

1 9 and 17, will be the March 2007 meeting. Proposals will
2 be due in December of this year for that meeting. As
3 Andy alluded to, since the Mulchatna Herd ranges through
4 three of our regions, it would take three different Board
5 cycles to try to get the changes to pass in each of the
6 areas if we were to do it under that strategy. My
7 suspicion is the Board will address this as a unit and
8 we'll have to see what they decide to do at that point.
9 I think they are sympathetic to the regional dilemma.

10

11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Just for information,
12 the Lake Iliamna Advisory Committee had a meeting earlier
13 this month and we didn't support shortening the season
14 and we didn't support lessening the bag limit to three
15 and eliminating the land and shoot. We wanted to keep
16 the seasons because some of the people up at the lake
17 said they normally hunted caribou the end of July and
18 early August when they were available right there, so we
19 didn't recommend shortening the season.

20

21 Just another bit of information. When I
22 first moved in the '80s, the Mulchatna caribou were only
23 about 220,000 and the bag limit was four. There are more
24 people now, but they still depended on it. Right now at
25 85,000 everybody thinks that isn't much caribou. It went
26 down from 200,000 but it's still a bunch of caribou. At
27 200,000 everybody knew, the departments were saying they
28 were going to crash, there's too many caribou. And 85,
29 in my opinion, is not a small number of caribou. Unless
30 they go way up north and never come back again. Their
31 range is getting so far that we don't see a lot of them
32 come back again, but who knows what's going to happen to
33 them. I suppose we can always adjust the limits again,
34 but I hesitate to make it too restrictive when that's
35 still a lot of caribou. Those are some comments of what
36 our committee had supported. Virginia.

37

38 MS. ALECK: Mr. Chairman. I was looking
39 at the figures and that figure is really drastic. It's a
40 drastic decline and it makes me kind of wonder if they're
41 going to end up like us down there where we can't have
42 any caribou hunts. It looks like a lot of male caribou
43 is what is missing here. It seems like on the lower end
44 the subsistence users always suffers at the end when we
45 have no resources left. Are these diseased? Did you
46 guys do studies on them or do you guys know why such a
47 drastic decline?

48

49 MR. ADERMAN: We have some information
50 and the basic thing is not enough calves are surviving to

1 replace the adults that are dying. That's true with any
2 population. We have looked in the past at disease, the
3 lung worm issue. That was a number of years ago. I
4 believe it was a small sample, maybe 10 animals, and I
5 think six had evidence of lung worm disease.

6
7 There is a project in the works, I'm not
8 going to say it's going to happen, but it would be
9 similar to what was done last year with Northern
10 Peninsula Caribou Herd and looking at the amount of
11 parasites. If it happens, it would piggy-back onto the
12 same project. When the veterinarian is here, we'll try
13 to collect a number of Mulchatna caribou and have some of
14 the same things being looked at with them to see if, in
15 fact, they are having some of the same problems.

16
17 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Andy, did you mention
18 you wanted us to comment on those proposals.

19
20 MR. ADERMAN: I guess I was just bringing
21 it to your attention. It's within your purview to
22 comment on Board of Game proposals. It's something
23 that's coming. How soon it's going to come, I don't
24 know. I'm just making Council aware of it.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, you guys.

27
28 MR. DUNAWAY: Virginia, it's kind of a
29 side note. I attended part of the Advisory Committee
30 meeting there in Dillingham and folks are concerned. The
31 difference there, one thing, the caribou can go up past
32 Bethel, over to Quinahok and up past Lime Village. They
33 go all over. A lot bigger area to go. Folks are
34 watching it real close. They don't want the same thing
35 to happen that's happening to you.

36
37 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. We're on item G
38 in Agency reports, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.

39
40
41 MS. McBERNY: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
42 Council Members. My name is Mary McBerny and I'm the
43 subsistence manager for Lake Clark National Park. I
44 would like to introduce you to our subsistence
45 coordinator for Lake Clark National Park, Michelle
46 Ravenmoon.

47
48 I just had a couple of items that I
49 wanted to highlight for you and then I'll turn the
50 microphone over to Michelle. First of all, I think that

1 I mentioned yesterday when you reviewed and considered
2 the 9(B) sheep proposal that the Lake Clark SRC is
3 looking toward moving towards more permitted hunts for
4 the larger game animals and this is something that is
5 being examined as a way of limiting the number of people
6 that might potentially go into the park and compete with
7 long-time subsistence users. As you are well aware,
8 there is a great deal of speculation about mine
9 development in that area and along with that there is the
10 possibility of influx of new people moving into the
11 resident zone communities. I think you can expect over
12 the next year or two to probably see a couple more of
13 these permit-type proposals come before you for moose and
14 caribou.

15
16 The other thing I wanted to mention to
17 you is that Lake Clark National Park has an interesting
18 project that we're undertaking. It's a partnership with
19 the Department of Natural Resources and the Office of
20 Boating Safety. One of the things that we're bringing to
21 the region is going to be a program that DNR offers to
22 train high school students on providing boating safety
23 and water safety education for younger children in their
24 schools.

25
26 We're going to try a pilot in Nondalton
27 in a couple weeks where we bring the program to them and
28 have the high school students trained by the boating
29 safety coordinator and then the coordinator and those
30 students from Nondalton will be going to the AA meet in
31 Iliamna and then further training high school students
32 from all over the Lake and Pen school district, so that
33 they can go back to their schools and teach water safety
34 courses to the younger students in their schools.

35
36 The hope is that this might be a way that
37 we might be able to get more water safety awareness out
38 there in the communities, especially in the young people,
39 and perhaps get a Kids Don't Float Program kind of
40 reactivated in a lot of the villages as well. So
41 hopefully by the fall we'll be able to report to you how
42 that went.

43
44 With that I'd like to introduce again
45 Michelle Ravenmoon and she will provide you with an
46 update on her activities in Lake Clark.

47
48 MS. RAVENMOON: (In Native) My name is
49 Michelle Ravenmoon and I'm Dana'ina Athabaskan and I'm
50 half white and I was raised on Lake Iliamna and now I

1 live in Port Alsworth. The reason why I introduced
2 myself in my Native language is I want to share with you
3 and demonstrate the role I play at Lake Clark National
4 Park as a subsistence coordinator.

5
6 I'm working on a Native place names
7 project and Andrew Balluta is my mentor and he's helping
8 me develop a digital map. He's providing me with names
9 and teaching me how to say them and we're making a
10 digital map that we'll have in the visitor's center at
11 the Lake Clark National Park this summer.

12
13 I'm also working with our historian, John
14 Branson, in providing a trail hike. It's a three-day
15 trip, 20-mile hike, and this is to help the local
16 students become more acquainted with the park and we
17 would be providing it for the resident zone community
18 high school students and we'd be teaching them the place
19 names within the park. The place names are very
20 important because they tell a story of where we
21 traditionally hunted, where we traditionally fished and
22 there's stories that go with each place name. So that's
23 one of my projects.

24
25 I also wanted to mention that the Park
26 Service is very supportive of my cultural ties and my
27 community ties to the villages on Lake Clark as well in
28 the Lake Iliamna area. I teach a Dana'ina language class
29 in Kenai for the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

30
31 I'm just going to go over a couple more
32 projects I'm doing. I'm also rewriting and updating the
33 subsistence uses guide. It hasn't been updated since
34 2001. I also wanted to let you know that we issued eight
35 bear permits and eight sheep permits this past fall. We
36 just had our SRC meeting on February 16th. And I've just
37 submitted a subsistence traditional ecological knowledge
38 proposal on whitefish, zeroing in on the communities of
39 Nondalton and Lime Village. Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Michelle
42 and Mary. Anybody have any questions or comments.

43
44 MS. MORRIS LYON: Any success reported
45 back from any of the permits on the hunts?

46
47 MS. RAVENMOON: No success that we know
48 of.

49
50 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Thank you two.

1 MS. McBERNY: For the Aniakchak report,
2 Troy Hammond will be joining me.

3
4 MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.
5 Before Troy gets on, could you ask Mary to clarify. At
6 our last meeting we made the recommendation that you
7 serve on the Lake Clark SRC and then I heard conflicting
8 reports back in Anchorage. The Council made a motion to
9 appoint Randy to the SRC and then there was no official
10 word from the Park Service if he was eligible or not and
11 we heard that he was, or at least I did in the office.
12 So I'd just like clarification so that as part of the
13 Council's correspondence Randy can submit a letter of
14 resignation or something from the Council if he's not
15 eligible.

16
17 MS. McBERNY: Unfortunately I was unable
18 to attend that meeting or else I would have set them
19 straight. I apologize for the conflicting information
20 you received, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to draw your
21 attention to the fact that Section 808 basically lays out
22 the membership for the SRC's and it states that the
23 Regional Advisory Council, which has jurisdiction within
24 the area, shall appoint three members to the commission,
25 each of whom is a member of either the Regional Advisory
26 Council or a local advisory committee within the region
27 and also engages in subsistence uses within the Park or
28 Park Monument.

29
30 I believe the confusion may have arisen
31 from that last statement, also engages in subsistence
32 uses within the Park or Park Monument. Partly because to
33 engage in subsistence uses within Lake Clark National
34 Park you have to be a resident of one of the resident
35 zoned communities, either Pedro Bay, Port Alsworth,
36 Nondalton, Newhalen, Iliamna or Lime Village. So it was
37 due to your residency, Mr. Chair, that you were unable to
38 qualify. However, you did qualify on the other half by
39 being a member of this body and also being a member of
40 the Fish and Game Advisory Committee. So there, I
41 believe, is where the confusion may have arisen.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So I didn't meet all
44 the qualifications.

45
46 MS. McBERNY: You were halfway there.
47 The SRC did take another look at this and took a look at
48 Thomas Hedlund's qualifications. He is clearly qualified
49 for membership on the SRC, which is why his name was
50 advanced to you.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you. That takes
2 care of that then, Mr. Edenshaw. Down to item H, Agency
3 reports.

4
5 MR. HAMMOND: Mr. Chair, Members of the
6 Council. My name is Troy Hammond and I'm the natural
7 resource manager for Katmai, Aniakchak and the Alagnak
8 Wild River. One thing I should point out is that Mary
9 works as our subsistence manager as well, so I'm sure
10 it's going to continue to be confusing. Aside from some
11 shared staff responsibilities, Lake Clark and Katmai have
12 been administratively separated. So Katmai, which is
13 under G, actually should be part of H, along with
14 Aniakchak and Alagnak. Mary is up here to keep me
15 straight in case I don't have something right.

16
17 I was looking at the minutes of the last
18 meeting and I wanted to make sure I clarified a couple
19 things that I see in here and give you updates. One
20 update that has been requested consistently is
21 information about the ATV customary and traditional use
22 determination for Katmai Preserve. I spoke with Steve
23 Frye last week to ask him, our new superintendent.
24 Again, he's gone. He's in Portland this week. After the
25 fall meeting I talked with Steve about this. He talked
26 to the regional director and last week what he told me
27 was he doesn't have any new information on the status of
28 this study.

29
30 The region is trying to proceed pretty
31 carefully on all of these. Denali has issued a final
32 determination on the customary and traditional use of
33 ATV's in their area. It's the first one. I think
34 they're moving slowly partly to see how that process
35 goes. So I apologize that I don't have any new
36 information on this, but hopefully we are making progress
37 Alaska-wide on this issue and hopefully I don't have to
38 come back and tell you I don't know anything in the fall.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So, Troy, until the
41 issue is resolved or they make a determination, it's
42 still allowed. It's being done.

43
44 MR. HAMMOND: It is being done. The
45 reality is that until it is allowed by regulation it is
46 illegal. As far as whether or not tickets are going to
47 be written, that's a different question that I can't and
48 won't claim to try to answer because I know how these
49 things work at a local and political level. But as far
50 as what's on the books, until there's a customary and

1 traditional determination, it isn't legal. I understand
2 that that isn't necessarily reflective of what's
3 happening and I'm not even going to try to speak for the
4 superintendent on whether he would do anything, but I
5 assume not.

6
7 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: That's about as far as
8 you can go on that.

9
10 MR. HAMMOND: I think so. One of the
11 other things I mentioned last time that we had been doing
12 a bear survey in conjunction with the State and with Lake
13 Clark throughout 9(A) and 9(C). I told you that we would
14 get you the draft report. We don't have a draft report
15 yet. I have heard draft numbers. They're remarkably
16 consistent with Dick Sellers' estimate from the mid '90s.
17 Different method but very, very similar in the 1,700-
18 2,000 range as an estimate for all of Katmai and
19 actually, I think, for all of 9(C) in terms of bear
20 numbers, which is a pretty hefty bear population no
21 matter how you look at it. Again, when we get a draft
22 report, I'll make sure the Council has access to that.

23
24 The other one that I wanted to mention,
25 since it's in the minutes, as I was asked about four-
26 wheeler access by a person up in Sugar Loaf area and what
27 I said at the time and I'll repeat it again is that we're
28 aware of it. A person asked for an access right via
29 ANILCA and that was denied because the primary finding
30 was that access in that area historically and currently
31 for almost anybody that uses any of the private lands on
32 that river corridor has been by snowmachine in the winter
33 and by boat in the summer and that access still exists.
34 So overland access wasn't deemed necessary or reasonable.
35 So the request for access was denied.

36
37 I think it was Member O'Hara asked about
38 whether the Park was aware that these exist and it's in
39 violation and the answer is we have been made aware of
40 that and it says in here is that we're aware of what the
41 individual is doing and can cite the person. What I
42 wanted to clarify, which is what I said at the time, is
43 we would be willing to make a case. We haven't observed
44 these ourselves and we have never had a witness willing
45 to sign a witness statement. So anybody who observes
46 this and is willing to actually come and give us a report
47 that we can take to court, we can do something. Barring
48 that or barring us circling overhead and happening to be
49 there, we don't have a case right now. We're willing to
50 make one, but it's not on the books.

1 Frankly, I haven't heard in the last year
2 or two whether that use is continuing or not since we
3 denied the request. The condition still remains we are
4 willing to make a case on any use of that sort if we can
5 get a case together.

6
7 I think that is all that I know that I
8 wanted to bring up and I'd be happy to answer questions
9 or refer them to Mary.

10
11 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I brought that to your
12 attention because, you know, flying back and forth all
13 the time I see that and the trail was pretty worn but it
14 doesn't look like it's getting a lot of use since last
15 year and I haven't seen a four-wheeler on it.

16
17 MR. HAMMOND: Well, we appreciate you and
18 anybody else who's flying just keeping your eyes out
19 because, as everybody is aware, we only have so many
20 airplanes and so much pilot time. We're certainly
21 limited in our ability to effectively patrol sort of
22 sporadic use. If we can get reports, that's helpful.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks. Dan, you
25 wanted to make a comment.

26
27 MR. DUNAWAY: I was hoping it would be a
28 little enlightening. I found it for myself. I was
29 surfing around on the internet and found a flyfishing
30 forum and I was really surprised to find two topics and
31 one of them hot and going on ANWR. Wisconsin flyfishing
32 forum has pages of discussion about ANWR. But there was
33 also one recently, and I didn't read it as thoroughly,
34 about motorized vehicle use in National Parks.

35
36 At times I had been a little frustrated
37 knowing that folks in Kakhonak and Igiugig would like to
38 have more access. I've spent some time in Igiugig and
39 hear their concerns there and wondering why the Park
40 Service couldn't move a little better on it. All of a
41 sudden it dawned on me this is a national issue and it
42 creates huge polarity, so I had a better perspective of
43 what the Park Service is doing nationally. It's not just
44 a quiet little spot up here in Alaska they're dealing
45 with. There's people nationwide looking at what's going
46 on at any corner of the nation and worried about what
47 precedent that will set for their neighborhood park or
48 whatever so to speak.

49
50 I didn't follow the thread very carefully

1 on ORV's, but I thought, man, Wisconsin, 200 posts. So I
2 thought I'd bring it to your folks' attention. I'm a
3 little more sympathetic to the quandary that the Park
4 Service is in trying to accommodate local concerns.

5
6 MR. HAMMOND: Mr. Chair, Members of the
7 Council. There is actually a national lawsuit that has
8 been filed against the Park Service at a nationwide level
9 for allowing ATV's that hasn't been legally authorized.
10 Strangely enough, that suit doesn't name any of the
11 Alaska parks, but we are included in that it's a national
12 suit. The fact that ANILCA has at least the opportunity
13 for customary and traditional determination may mean that
14 they're just not going to address Alaska in the suit
15 because it's an additional complication.

16
17 At present, the fact that we don't pursue
18 violations or violation notices in places where there is
19 a pattern of use, whether it's customary and traditional
20 or not, makes us very vulnerable and, at the same time,
21 trying to come to an understanding of what constitutes
22 C&T. It's such a huge political topic. Dan is
23 completely right. We are treading very carefully
24 probably because anything we do is going to set precedent
25 for our entire state not just here and that's why Denali
26 gets to be the flag-bearer because they've got more
27 people and more senators pounding on their door on a
28 regular basis than we do, at least on that issue. So
29 we're chicken. We're still going there but we're not
30 going fast.

31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anything else. Thank
33 you. We've got a couple more items. Let's take a short
34 recess. I think instead of taking lunch we'll just
35 finish up what we've got and that way we won't have to
36 come back. Let's take a short break.

37
38 (Off record)

39
40 (On record)

41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Next is Ted Krieg and
43 then we're going to have item J as soon as Ted gets done.

44
45 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg with Subsistence
46 Division at Fish and Game out of Dillingham. Mr.
47 Chairman and Council Members. I guess I wanted to start
48 out following the Park Service. There were a few things
49 that I talked about yesterday that I wanted to clarify.
50 The surveys that we did last year, the baseline

1 subsistence harvest surveys up in Iliamna Lake, Lake
2 Clark, the Lake Clark communities, the Park Service, in
3 particular Mary McBerny who came up with the funding to
4 conduct the surveys in Nondalton and Port Alsworth, so I
5 just wanted to make sure that was clear. The other
6 funding came through Steven Brond and Associates in their
7 work with Northern Dynasty.

8
9 I mentioned yesterday there's a
10 subsistence permit system and then there's the household
11 subsistence harvest surveys. The main one that most of
12 you are familiar with, subsistence salmon permits, and
13 that depends on people picking up the permits and then
14 returning their completed permits where they can put down
15 daily harvest, locations of harvest. That's the one
16 part. We have a follow up on those permits. If people
17 don't return them, we send out a couple reminder letters
18 and then we actually call people also. So we usually get
19 a pretty good return. Because it's an individual thing,
20 we don't have a community review for the subsistence
21 salmon permits.

22
23 The household subsistence harvest
24 surveys, this is something that's standard, not new. We
25 need the support of the community before we start the
26 project. We hire local people and the community has a
27 chance to review the draft of the results before we
28 release it. If there's questions about it, the community
29 can bring it up at that time and then we'll try to work
30 it out so we have accurate data.

31
32 To add one other layer, one of the things
33 I did refer to, is the wildlife conservation permits.
34 You're all familiar with those. You have to pick them up
35 for moose and caribou. I said we always encourage people
36 to pick those permits up, which you have to have a
37 hunting license to do that, record your harvest and turn
38 them in. That's the only way you're going to have
39 harvests for your community documented every year. So we
40 always encourage people to do that because it's the law,
41 too.

42
43 It's come up a little bit, Robbin LeVine
44 at BBNA we've worked closely with. There's been a number
45 of projects that we've worked on as cooperators with
46 them. The customary trade and barter of subsistence fish
47 is the one that Robbin mentioned that we're in the
48 process of working on right now. Then a couple of other
49 projects that are ongoing right now. Migratory bird
50 subsistence harvest surveys, that's a survey that was

1 conducted by BBNA and it's been an ongoing thing. But
2 Subsistence Division involvement in that is when BBNA has
3 completed, the surveys come to us and I'm the
4 clearinghouse in Dillingham with BBNA and I'll send them
5 in to our data management people in Anchorage and they
6 compile the data from those surveys.

7
8 The other survey that's going on, this
9 one doesn't include BBNA, but marine mammal surveys.
10 Molly, who I work with, has been setting up people to
11 work in the communities to document marine mammal
12 harvests. Those are for seals and sea lions.

13
14 Then just to repeat myself again about
15 the baseline subsistence harvest surveys that we're
16 coordinating through Steven Brond and Associates. We did
17 five communities last year. We're working on seven
18 communities this year, Kakhonak, Igiugig, Levelock,
19 Koliganek, New Stuyahok, Ekwok and Portage Creek. We
20 just started doing those surveys in New Stuyahok.
21 Levelock has given us permission to start there. There's
22 a meeting in Koliganek coming up scheduled for Friday.
23 The other communities we still need to do some contacts
24 with them and seeing where they're at on participating in
25 the surveys.

26
27 I think I covered everything. If you
28 have any questions, I'll try to answer them.

29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boris.

31
32 MR. KOSBRUK: I'm glad to hear you're
33 taking the survey reports on subsistence. How is that
34 guy doing in Anchorage?

35
36 MR. KRIEG: Jim Fall?

37
38 MR. KOSBRUK: Yes, Jim Fall.

39
40 MR. KRIEG: Jim Fall is my boss in
41 Anchorage.

42
43 MR. KOSBRUK: He's your boss. Boy, he
44 gave some phony reports out, I'll tell you. You, too.
45 I've got to corner you someplace.

46
47 (Laughter)

48
49 MR. KOSBRUK: That was a good report
50 though.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When does the
2 subsistence salmon harvest report come out for 2005? Is
3 that out already?

4
5 MR. KRIEG: No. We're still going
6 through our contact process for those. We give people
7 maybe too much leeway. Some people return their permits
8 right away. If they don't return them by about January
9 we start sending out reminder letters and we do at least
10 two of those and then phone calls in between to try and
11 get people's harvests. We're still completing contacting
12 some of the villages. If we stick with it, we can get
13 better than a 90 percent return from those permits.

14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks, Ted. We're
16 down to Northern Dynasty people.

17
18 MR. ANGASAN: I will introduce Ella.
19 This is Ella Ede, who is the project manager for Northern
20 Dynasty. I'm the outreach contractor. What I do for
21 Northern Dynasty is to travel around to the communities
22 and reach all the stakeholders who, in Northern Dynasty's
23 definition, is all of those organizations, people,
24 entities that could be impacted by Northern Dynasty. So
25 the job we have is go out and meet with every
26 organization that's ever been in Bristol Bay. We've had
27 309 community meetings, organizational meetings and a
28 number of other meetings.

29
30 One of the things we learn along the way
31 when we meet with the communities is listen very closely
32 about some of the concerns they have and Northern Dynasty
33 then reacts to those concerns in this process that
34 they're doing, do the data gathering to see if they can
35 extract a mineral without harm to the environment. One
36 example I have is that in March we were in Pedro Bay and
37 Northern Dynasty had proposed a road running right off
38 the end of the runway in Pedro Bay over to the deep water
39 port on the Pacific side. The community was very
40 concerned about the dust and the noise and everything
41 else that goes with traffic running right off the edge of
42 the runway. So from that meeting Northern Dynasty went
43 back and their engineers came up with a new design that
44 would put in a slurry pipeline rather than hauling the
45 concentrate out by trucks.

46
47 Those are the kinds of things we deal
48 with, recognizing that they're still gathering
49 information. Ella is here to talk about where they're at
50 in this process. So, Ella.

1 MS. EDE: Mr. Chairman and Members of the
2 Committee, I appreciate your time today. I always have a
3 lot to say. This is a very big project. I'll move as
4 quickly as I can through the PowerPoint because I really
5 wasn't clear how much time you wanted me to spend and
6 I'll be happy to answer any questions. I did also hand
7 out three sheets of paper. They're not the same as the
8 PowerPoint. They're actually just more detail on some of
9 what I'm going to cover.

10
11 I'm going to give you a broad project
12 overview on the environmental, a little bit on the
13 engineering and where we are in the process, as Trefon
14 mentioned, and cover some of the environmental baseline
15 studies we're doing as well as workforce development,
16 community relations.

17
18 I think everyone here knows where the
19 Pebble Project is, but just in case you don't it's on
20 this map, a dot about 19 miles northwest of the town of
21 Iliamna. We're looking at a deposit of gold, copper and
22 molybdenum, which usually requires an open pit mine.
23 I'll show you some pictures and initial estimates through
24 2004. A projected mine life of 30 to 40 years with
25 approximately 2,000 full-time jobs during construction
26 for two years and then about 1,000 full-time jobs during
27 the life of the mine.

28
29 This is a cross-section of our 2004 drill
30 results. What this shows is each of these lines is where
31 we've drilled a bore hole and then done analysis of how
32 much mineralization is in each of those holes. In red,
33 to the left of the line, is the grade of copper in that
34 hole and the green color to the right is the grade of
35 gold. What we found is these lines indicate our pit
36 outline, that's an open pit, you'll see there's a
37 concentrated area with very little what we call
38 overburden. So our initial plan was to develop the open
39 pit starting here. In late 2004 we did find some holes
40 with increased grades of gold and copper in what we call
41 the E zone and I'll get into that a little bit later.
42 Before we found the E zone, our plans were to develop the
43 project and feasibility study based on this deposit here
44 in the west.

45
46 This is just another picture of that
47 indicating the red being more concentrated, grays are
48 gold and copper and molybdenum and you see a
49 concentration here. But then, as we did drilling at
50 depth in the east we did find anywhere up to three times

1 greater grades, so we did spend some time drilling in the
2 east in '05 and I'll talk a little bit about that.

3
4 Based on our '04 drilling, these were our
5 numbers and I won't read all this but a significant
6 resource of gold, copper and molybdenum. There are two
7 types of measurements that are required by the Security
8 and Exchange Commission that we report these separately.
9 Measured and indicated just means that more holes were
10 drilled and that's an increased confidence in the level
11 of mineralization and inferred means this is more sure
12 numbers than these. So, a significant resource and
13 enough for the company to want to invest in development
14 of this project.

15
16 To give you an idea of the facilities
17 that would exist at a mine like this, this is a schematic
18 of an open pit. It is where the rock is dug up and then
19 hauled and then crushed in a mill and through a crush,
20 grind, float process then separated the tailings or waste
21 from the concentrate and then, as Trefon mentioned, the
22 concentrate is sent to a deep water port through a slurry
23 pipeline and that's a buried pipeline that would follow
24 the road corridor.

25
26 So at the mine itself we'd have an open
27 pit, a pit room crusher, conveyor, storage buildings, a
28 mill, a slurry pipeline, the tailings facility, which is
29 where the waste is stored, out offices and housing.

30
31 I do want to point out that as far as
32 housing goes, I know Ms. McBerny earlier mentioned the
33 concern about the influx of people with a project of this
34 size and that's something the company is very sensitive
35 and listening to the communities that live near the
36 project area and we have not made any assumptions about
37 community development. We are working with the
38 communities to determine whether they're interested in
39 community development. At this point our base case is
40 100 percent remote camp at the mine site and all workers
41 would be flown in and out aside from those that live in
42 the nearby communities.

43
44 This is just a schematic with the road
45 coming in, the pit, the mill is here and this is our more
46 recent what we call mine development concept 25, which is
47 the tailings facility. We do need a road to bring
48 supplies in primarily and then also that slurry pipeline
49 going to a deep water port, so this is about a 100-mile
50 corridor. It's a little hard to see on here, but as

1 Trefon mentioned it does come close to Pedro Bay, follows
2 an existing road from Williamsport to Pile Bay here to a
3 deep water port site, which we call Port Site 1.

4
5 Power is something that's an
6 infrastructure challenge for the project. We need
7 upwards of 250 megawatts of power to operate the mine, so
8 we are looking at tying into the railbelt grid and Homer
9 Electric Association is doing a study for us on options
10 for that. I believe their preferred option is a
11 submarine cable to tie into the railbelt and it's the
12 northern route here that's preferred. Then there would
13 be overland transmission here, a shorter submarine cable
14 here and then a transmission line that would follow the
15 road corridor.

16
17 Just to summarize our expenditures
18 through 2005 on environmental and community relations, we
19 spend a lot of money doing studies and working with
20 stakeholders and I won't read all of them but through the
21 end of '05 we'd spent about \$27.2 million on
22 environmental and community relations and our total
23 budget, which includes drilling and environmental, was
24 \$68 million spent through 2005.

25
26 I won't read all the environmental
27 studies we're doing, but they are quite extensive and I'm
28 more than happy to go into detail in any areas you're
29 interested in. I'm going to show some slides of various
30 studies we're doing. What I'd recommend is that you can
31 let us know if there's a specific area you're interested
32 in having more detail on, say fish resources, and we
33 could have our fish biologist come in and give a
34 presentation or Steve Brond on subsistence.

35
36 This is just a picture, you can't really
37 read it, but it's our org chart. It's just to indicate
38 the size of our team. We have about 45 different
39 consulting firms doing environmental studies. It is a
40 large team and I call it herding cats. I have a lot of
41 cats to herd.

42
43 This map is the project just in the mind
44 area to give you an indication of the amount of data
45 being collected. This is the pit and as you're probably
46 familiar we are in the headwaters of three major
47 drainages. All of those dots and symbols represent
48 places where data were collected in 2004 and 2005. All
49 the black dots are where the wetlands scientist collected
50 data to be able to digitally map the area for wetlands.

1 So a significant amount of work is being done to collect
2 the baseline data, which we need the information to apply
3 for all of our State and Federal permits, but also for
4 the purposes of long-term monitoring. If the mine does
5 get developed, we need to have the data to help us
6 determine where to select long-term monitoring sites.

7
8 Surface water stations. We have
9 continuous gauging stations and instantaneous
10 measurements. We have 32 different stations where data
11 are being collected. Again, I'm just focusing in on the
12 mine area right here. We are also doing studies along
13 the road corridor and the port site. Water quality
14 stations, that's where we're collecting the water and
15 having it analyzed in the laboratory to determine all the
16 different elements and get the background information.

17
18 Just more information. Again, I don't
19 want to read through all this. It's a lot of detail, but
20 just to give you an idea of how much data is being
21 collected in the area, doing sampling as well, and that's
22 important for the groundwater team and the engineers to
23 understand where the water is coming from underground as
24 well as sediments.

25
26 Snow surveys are being done. It's
27 important to understand the levels of snow and how the
28 snow melt and potential runoff would affect.

29
30 Wetlands is important because any impact
31 to wetlands a Federal Section 404 Corps of Engineers
32 permit is required. 127,000 acres total were surveyed.
33 Not all of those are wetlands. That's the total we
34 surveyed. Our wetlands scientists right now are working
35 on the digital maps to determine exactly where wetlands
36 exist and when we propose our project we will be able to
37 assess exactly how many acres would be impacted.

38
39 Macro invertebrates. For those who
40 aren't familiar with the term are little tiny bugs
41 without backbones visible through a microscope. Our
42 scientists ID all of those and those are important.
43 They're part of the intake of fish but also a useful tool
44 in long-term monitoring as well. A study is being done
45 of Lake Iliamna waters of plankton and sediments as well
46 as mussels being studied and that was started in 2005 and
47 is continuing this year.

48
49 Terrestrial mammals and marine wildlife.
50 Every type of bird and mammal are being studied in the

1 mine site and along the road corridor. Air quality and
2 meteorology, we have two MET stations at the mine site
3 collecting data and one MET station at the port site and
4 those will be important for permit applications and also
5 for the engineers to understand the conditions.

6
7 A little bit of information on the
8 aquatic resource studies. Dr. (indiscernible) is our
9 senior biologist and could give you an entire, very
10 detailed presentation on all this, so I'm just going to
11 run through some information. These little dots are
12 where aquatic studies are being done in the project area.

13
14 This is something interesting our
15 scientists did this year. It's called a geo-referencing
16 video. What they do is they take a USGS map and then
17 they have a helicopter come in and track the coordinates
18 and as the helicopter is flying they're videotaping the
19 entire stream. So where you see these lines is where
20 they did this geo-referencing video and you can go back
21 later and review the video and look at habitat and other
22 information and it's tied directly to the coordinates.

23
24 On and off channel snorkel surveys are
25 being done. This is all part of the fish resource
26 studies in addition to electro-fishing. Fish tissue
27 sampling. This is being done to document trace elements.
28 We are also looking at methyl mercury just to document
29 what's coming in. Northern pike is one of the primary
30 fish sampled because they eat a lot of the salmon, but
31 they are being analyzed for a whole suite of metals.

32
33 Salmon spawning surveys are being
34 conducted in the north fork, south fork and Upper
35 Talarik. This map shows all the sockeye spawning
36 locations. Something interesting to note is these are
37 all the spawning locations of sockeye and you'll notice
38 right in here they really don't spawn, so our scientists
39 went out to understand better why that is and what they
40 found was a section of the south fork that goes dry in
41 the summer and in the winter, this is from 2004, so this
42 was an indication why the fish didn't go farther, but
43 that area is very important to protect because the water
44 goes underground and comes out in some springs below that
45 area.

46
47 Subsistence and cultural use studies, as
48 Ted mentioned, Steve Brond and Associates is working with
49 Fish and Game to conduct those surveys. Steve could give
50 you a long presentation about the interviews and the way

1 the data is compiled. It's quite an extensive process
2 that's being done.

3
4 Trefon and team have been very busy this
5 year with stakeholder relations. We had meetings in over
6 25 communities in the region. We spend a lot of time at
7 meetings like this giving presentations, conferences.
8 This chart just summarizes our meetings in 2004 and 2005.
9 In 2004 we have a total of 64 meetings and in '05 309.
10 So Trefon and I spend a lot of time gathering air miles.
11 We're busy.

12
13 Another thing we did was stakeholder
14 tours of the mine, the Pebble Project site. We also
15 hosted a couple tours to the Fort Knox gold mine.
16 There's an open pit gold mine near Fairbanks and people
17 went on tours of Fort Knox and I think most people found
18 it helpful to see a mine in operation and ask questions,
19 so this helps put it into perspective for them what
20 Pebble might look like.

21
22 This picture I find especially helpful.
23 It's a picture of the tailings dam and the engineer is
24 explaining how it's constructed. There's a pump-back
25 house and that's where any seepage that does occur is
26 pumped back into the tailings facility, but this is about
27 300 feet high at Fort Knox.

28
29 Workforce develop and training, I won't
30 go into a lot of detail here. I have to always point out
31 that Andrew Balluta of Nondalton is our oldest bear guard
32 at age 75 and he told me when we took this picture we
33 could only use it if I was sure to tell people he's our
34 oldest bear guard and he's very proud of that fact. If
35 you're not familiar with why we have bear guards, as the
36 scientists are out in the field we hire local people to
37 basically stand watch and we've been fortunate not to
38 have any incidents, but they're an important part of the
39 team.

40
41 Michelle Brunner is our business and
42 workforce development manager and she's conducting some
43 training classes for bear guards as well as helpers for
44 2006. We have donated money for scholarships to the Lake
45 and Pen Borough school district, Southwest Regional
46 school district, Bristol Bay, Dillingham and the BBNC.
47 We donated money to the MCEP Program which is an
48 excellent program and they'll be implementing that
49 program throughout the Lake and Pen this year. AMAREF
50 (ph), which is a program that is implemented for K-12 to

1 learn about mining and resource development.

2

3 Michelle is working with various entities
4 because if this mine does go forward, we need a lot of
5 workers and a lot of training and education needs to be
6 put in place in order for us to be able to maximize local
7 hire. In 2005 457 Alaskans worked on the project, so
8 about 75 percent Alaskans, and of those 112 workers were
9 from Bristol Bay communities, and \$2.8 million was spent
10 just in the Lake Iliamna. These are some of the job
11 opportunities we'll have in '06 of people that we need in
12 order to continue our studies for drilling and the
13 environmental program.

14

15 Back to our cross-section, at the end of
16 2005 we discovered even greater grades of gold and copper
17 in some really deep holes below this tertiary rock and
18 that caused us to continue to drill through December of
19 '05 and determine that we have a lot more there than we
20 thought we had. This is actually a whole separate
21 deposit than this west over here. So the east zone, and
22 this puts it in perspective, that red means not only is
23 it a lot but also where you see that word open is where
24 we haven't defined how deep that goes.

25

26 So based on those holes drilled at the
27 end of '05 we've determined this additional resource,
28 22.1 million ounces of additional gold, 24.3 billion
29 additional pounds of copper and 1.5 billion additional
30 pounds of molybdenum. That's a lot. So the company had
31 to take a step back and say now what. The company has
32 made a decision to drill off the east zone in 2006 to
33 better define the east deposit and we're now evaluating
34 some additional options for development, one of which is
35 the potential of a combined open pit and an underground
36 block caving mine. The engineering team will be working
37 with the geologist to develop an integrated development
38 plan for the west and the east in '06.

39

40 One of the results of that is our permit
41 applications will be delayed until mid to late '07
42 because now the engineers have to go back to the drawing
43 board and figure out the best way to develop this
44 project. So we will focus on drilling in '06. We are
45 also continuing our discussions with major mining
46 companies. As you've probably heard, Northern Dynasty has
47 every intention of partnering with a major and several of
48 them are very interested and we're in negotiations right
49 now. We wouldn't apply for our permits until that
50 partnership is in place. We'll continue our

1 environmental and socioeconomic studies and our
2 stakeholder relations effort as well.

3

4 This is just our estimated budget for
5 '06, between 12 and 15 million for community relations
6 and environmental and 30 to 35 million total. Most of
7 the money will be spent on drilling in '06.

8

9 So I get asked a lot, okay, you've
10 changed things, now what, what's your time line. This is
11 a chart that our NEPA and permitting manager Mike Smith
12 prepared and I won't spend a lot of time on it, but the
13 point is companies start in what they call initial
14 exploration, advanced exploration and then they go into
15 this whole permitting process that you hear about. We're
16 here. We're still in advanced exploration. We still
17 haven't defined our project. We have quite a long ways
18 to go in this process, so there are many years ahead for
19 input and review and comments on the project.

20

21 So we appreciate your interest and time
22 and if you have any questions I'd be happy to answer them
23 the best I can.

24

25 MR. ANGASAN: I'd like to add we have a
26 different team that goes around to respond to different
27 issues. We have a geochemist, a structural engineer and
28 a fish scientist. We put together that team to go to
29 community meetings and to go to organizational meetings
30 and will answer specific questions that people may have
31 regarding the chemical composition, the structural
32 design, the impact to salmon if any. Those are the kind
33 of details that Northern Dynasty is now moving into.
34 We've heard enough questions that no one has the answer
35 to from the lay level, so we have the engineers and the
36 scientists as part of our traveling team. I've gone to
37 one meeting already with them in Seattle and it's worked
38 out real well.

39

40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Earlier you guys were
41 doing a lot of baseline studies, water sampling all
42 around. Is that available to the public, all that
43 information so that at some time if there is a change in
44 the water that the people will be able to have the
45 records to verify?

46

47 MS. EDE: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thanks for the
48 question. Absolutely. All the data that have been
49 collected to date are documented in several different
50 reports. We have study plans that document our

1 methodology, but also in 2004 consultants wrote progress
2 reports that incorporates all of that data and those are
3 available off our website or I'd be happy to send you a
4 CD with all the reports on them. As we move forward
5 we'll be writing more documentation. All the data will
6 be available to the public.

7
8 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thanks. Any
9 questions. Dan.

10
11 MR. DUNAWAY: I don't know much about
12 mining. What is the nature of the mineralization or the
13 deposit at Fort Knox? As we hear -- I can't hardly even
14 say it, porphyry.

15
16 MS. EDE: Porphyry, yeah.

17
18 MR. DUNAWAY: Pebble. And then I'm
19 starting to learn that's just a little bit of it.
20 There's catalogs of different names for all the minerals.
21 Is Fort Knox a porphyry deposit or what is it?

22
23 MS. EDE: Well, Fort Knox is gold and the
24 porphyry just is a fancy way to mean that all those
25 minerals are interspersed within the rock, so it's not a
26 vein-type system with higher concentrations in one area.
27 That's why you develop it in a crush, grind, float
28 process. Now the process that Northern Dynasty is
29 evaluating right now is actually very similar to the
30 process used at Fort Knox where the rock is crushed up
31 and then mixed with chemicals and mostly it's sort of a
32 soapy type material and the minerals adhere to the soap
33 bubbles and they float to the top and then that is
34 skimmed off.

35
36 What they do at Fort Knox is they then
37 run it additionally through what's called a closed
38 circuit system that includes cyanide to extract the gold
39 and that's done in a closed circuit and that's part of
40 the process and one of the ways that gold is extracted to
41 the maximum extent possible. Pebble because it's copper,
42 gold and molybdenum, at least right now, nothing has been
43 finalized, but we're looking at that initial crush,
44 grind, float and then a separate process potentially for
45 the gold and we may be looking at using cyanide in a
46 closed circuit similar to what they use at Fort Knox, but
47 it hasn't been determined yet. It's all part of the
48 study that's being done right now. With this new
49 development it kind of throws a change into things.

50

1 Back to what Trefon was saying, what's
2 probably a good idea is if we had our geochemist, Steven
3 Day, come and give a presentation and maybe Ken Brower,
4 who is our senior engineer, because they can get into a
5 lot more detail and answer a lot more of that part of
6 things for you and explain how the rock is managed to
7 ensure that there isn't any contamination.

8
9 MR. DUNAWAY: I was hoping to hear more
10 than just there's gold at Fort Knox. I've heard comments
11 about sulfite type mineralization at Pebble. I've heard
12 rumors that Fort Knox is an oxide type mineralization.
13 Is Fort Knox gold a sulfite system or oxide system?

14
15 MS. EDE: First of all, I'm not a
16 geologist, so I can't better answer your question, but I
17 think what you're getting to is the percent. The percent
18 of sulfides contributes to what we call potentially
19 reactive rock, so rock that could over time generate acid
20 rock drainage. The numbers right now are indicating of
21 the amount of rock taken out of the pit at Pebble, 95
22 percent is non-reactive and then the 5 percent that's
23 reactive is what's treated in a different way and stored
24 in a different way to ensure there isn't any acid that's
25 generated.

26
27 I could get into that detail, but it
28 would be best for Steven Day to give that presentation
29 for you. There are tests being done and we do recognize
30 there is potentially acid-generating rock in the deposit
31 and you do have to manage it a certain way. Simply put,
32 the way you do that is keep it under water and at the
33 bottom of the tailings facility so that it isn't exposed
34 to air because that's what causes it to generate acid
35 over time. That is similar to what they have at Fort
36 Knox, but I'm not familiar enough with the details of
37 Fort Knox to answer your questions.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Nanci.

40
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: I guess that brings up
42 a question for me. What manner of time are we talking
43 about keeping it under water until it's no longer a
44 threat?

45
46 MS. EDE: It would be indefinite. When
47 you build the tailings facility, actually most of the
48 tailings is solid and only the very top, I think
49 somewhere like 10 or 15 percent is actually water, so
50 over time you deposit the potentially reactive tailings

1 in the very bottom of that and then you put non-reactive
2 tailings on top of it and keep it covered in water. Part
3 of what is required as a reclamation and closure plan
4 when you apply for permits and the team would work with
5 the communities to determine the best plan for closure,
6 but there has to be monitoring throughout the life of the
7 mine and beyond to ensure that everything is contained
8 within that facility.

9

10 Again, there's a whole separate
11 presentation that explains it well. I just wasn't
12 prepared to get into that detail today, but we're happy
13 to have Ken and Steven Day come back and do that. I
14 think it's really useful.

15

16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: You mentioned that
17 they might be applying for their first permits later on
18 this year. What permit would that be for?

19

20 MS. EDE: What usually kick-starts the
21 NEPA review process is the application of a Federal
22 permit and most likely we would apply for an APA MPDS
23 permit and then that's what kick-starts the official
24 process, but there are somewhere around 45 different
25 State and Federal permits that are required, so it's
26 quite a long process, probably three-plus years to get
27 all the permits from the various agencies before you can
28 start construction. It would probably be in 2007 or
29 later before the permitting process starts.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They haven't come out
32 with an EIS assessment yet?

33

34 MS. EDE: No.

35

36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: When do you estimate
37 that would be?

38

39 MS. EDE: If you look at this chart, the
40 way it works is here's the permit application, so right
41 now we're doing baseline studies and project design, then
42 you have permit applications and that's what starts the
43 NEPA EIS process. Part of that process is choosing a
44 third party contractor to review all the studies and the
45 proposed mine design, a scoping process that takes
46 several years, alternatives looked at, and after all this
47 is done is when the draft EIS is written and then that
48 goes out for review and input through public meetings,
49 tribal consultation and written comments and then the
50 final EIS is prepared, record of decisions is completed

1 and then either the permits are denied or if they're
2 issued you go forward.

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: All right. Thanks.

5

6 MS. EDE: There obviously is a lot of
7 opposition out there and a lot of information being
8 bandied about and some of that information is incorrect,
9 so it is important to check when you hear things about
10 the project to find out whether things are accurate.
11 We're not proposing a cyanide heap leach. Another thing
12 we've been accused of is promoting the mixing zone
13 changes for the State. Northern Dynasty has no interest
14 in the mixing zone changes. We have no plans for a
15 mixing zone at Pebble. We had nothing to do with those
16 changes yet we were blamed. So you just have to check
17 your facts when you hear things and we're always happy to
18 answer questions as they come up.

19

20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Dan.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Would you have a handout
23 available? This is a helpful schematic to help me and
24 others visualize the whole process.

25

26 MS. EDE: You bet. I'd be happy to share
27 the PowerPoint. There's a whole separate PowerPoint on
28 the NEPA process and I can get you a copy of that as
29 well.

30

31 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: you should probably
32 send it to Cliff. I don't see any more hands. Thank
33 you, guys. Appreciate it.

34

35 MR. ANGASAN: As an aside, I'm a
36 commercial fisherman from the Kvichak and one of the
37 concerns that I had was I saw all these millions of
38 dollars being spent by Northern Dynasty up in the fishery
39 on salmon research and they're committed to sharing all
40 of their studies with the State and Federal agencies.

41

42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Thank you, Trefon.
43 Cliff. I guess we're down to new business.

44

45 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. If the Council
46 Members would turn to Page 124 and 125 and 126. It's the
47 Bristol Bay Charter and this was signed on October 2005.
48 So this is just recently approved and you can look
49 through there. If you have any concerns or corrections,
50 we can go ahead and forward those. I can bring those

1 concerns to Ann Wilkinson in our office who is the
2 coordinator who oversees the charters.

3
4 The only significant change I've seen in
5 the last few years was the membership on Page 125. In
6 the past, the Council's original size was seven and
7 that's been increased to 10, so there hasn't been much
8 change to this charter. It's been signed off and
9 approved. It's just for information and if the Council
10 had some changes to make.

11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. That takes care
13 of that then. We need to go back to number nine, request
14 for subsistence fisheries proposals. But there is one
15 more thing I wanted to bring up on the agency reports. A
16 lot of you guys have probably been watching the news and
17 seeing all the birds dying over in Europe and we have the
18 Asian Flu update here information only. I was just
19 wondering if there was anybody that could tell us when
20 could we expect we might be impacted by this. We have a
21 spring season coming up of birds, but most of those birds
22 come from the south. In the fall time they might be
23 coming over from Russia. Can you tell us what we have to
24 look forward to?

25
26 MR. HAMMOND: Mr. Chairman, Members of
27 the Council. I'm happy to say I'm totally unqualified to
28 answer your question, but I will anyway. The real answer
29 is we don't have any idea. If you look in your briefing
30 paper, we have yet to document any cases of bird flu in
31 wild birds. So what we are mostly looking at here is
32 that we know historically some of the major flu epidemics
33 seem to have been strains that were avian related. We
34 know that somehow they were transmitted from person to
35 person and the Centers for Disease Control has run a
36 bunch of simulation models. So far they haven't come up
37 with a scenario that they can beat. There's a lot of
38 attention being paid to this just because of that.

39
40 At this point we've had no cases of this
41 H5N1 in wild birds. We have no cases of transmission
42 from person to person, but we do have people getting it
43 from poultry. The locations where that's happening have
44 been expanding. It started out primarily in Asia. It's
45 migrated all the way over to Turkey and thereabouts. So
46 the concern is if it gets in wild birds it could be
47 pretty extensive.

48
49 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Have you been watching
50 the news, all those swans that are dying in Europe?

1 They've got these big suits on and respirators. It's
2 like a deadly nerve agent or something the way they're
3 reacting to those swans. It makes me wonder when and if
4 it's going to come over this way.

5
6 MR. HAMMOND: Well, that's why they're
7 being careful about it. What they are doing, there are
8 two or three different agencies that are coordinating
9 some placement of people in the field to try to collect
10 actual real-time information about birds, to monitor wild
11 bird populations, looking for signs of disease. We've
12 talked about that. It's like who's going to sign up for
13 that job. So if you have any candidates in mind, let us
14 know.

15
16 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Cliff.

17
18 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council
19 Members. What you might consider too is if you're
20 concerned about that, the region has a Migratory Bird
21 Working Group and I'm sure they've been asking questions
22 regarding the avian flu.

23
24 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I was going to
25 recommend we stay on the agenda, so maybe at the next
26 meeting they can report or something. Orville.

27
28 MR. LIND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 Orville Lind, ranger for Fish and Wildlife Service here
30 in King Salmon. I have a contact with the Fish and
31 Wildlife Service in Anchorage who has been given the task
32 of being the avian influenza coordinator for Region 7 and
33 her name is Deborah Rock. I have a contact number I can
34 show you after the meeting.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm interested in
37 having this back on the agenda at the next meeting.

38
39 MR. LIND: I've had the pleasure of
40 hearing her report in Bethel about two weeks ago and she
41 is pretty knowledgeable on the disease.

42
43 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I guess we need to go
44 back to number nine, request for subsistence fisheries
45 proposals. Does anyone have anything they want to bring
46 up.

47
48 MS. ALECK: Actually, I have a concern.
49 I guess I can get some help from you, Nanci.

50

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yes. The whole thing
2 kind of started, Randy was involved in it too in the
3 spring. There's some areas, three of them, didn't we
4 identify them this morning, down around the Chigniks
5 region that are currently closed to certain subsistence
6 uses we believe that we need to get opened or to make
7 sure that they're open to the uses that they're currently
8 being used in because they are currently being used.

9
10 MS. ALECK: Yes. Thank you.
11

12 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan O'Hara called me this
13 fall or winter sometime. We made an action but I think
14 you weren't here and we might not have done it right.

15
16 MS. MORRIS LYON: What ended up happening
17 with it was that it wasn't going to make the changes
18 necessary by removing it, so we left it as an action item
19 because it was a housekeeping issue to align regulations.
20 But in reviewing it we realized that the uses are not
21 being allowed currently. So we need to get a regulation
22 on the plate so that the uses that are currently being
23 used are not illegal.

24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: That was our intent when we
26 made the other one.

27
28 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I understand they need
29 to utilize the area for subsistence, but I'm not sure
30 what needs to be done.

31
32 MS. ALECK: Actually they are being
33 utilized. They actually state that they're a non-
34 subsistence user area but they've been traditionally used
35 all these many, many years. I think it needs to be
36 recognized.

37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Boris.

39
40 MR. KOSBRUK: I think we should get a
41 biologist from down there and discuss that. I know some
42 problems we had last fall. It was cut off. No more
43 escapement.

44
45 MS. ALECK: That was for the Clarks River
46 area.

47
48 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So what do you guys
49 recommend we do? Have a proposal or have the Staff work
50 on a proposal?

1 MS. ALECK: Actually, I guess I'm here on
2 a cry for help.
3
4 MS. MORRIS LYON: I think I would
5 recommend that Virginia get together with probably Mike
6 down there and define the areas and the uses and what
7 sort of a regulation needs to be put in place in order to
8 acknowledge those or make those allowable uses.
9
10 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: What Mike are you
11 talking about?
12
13 MS. MORRIS LYON: Mr. Edwards.
14
15 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Are you familiar with
16 Chignik?
17
18 MR. EDWARDS: A little bit, yes. Mr.
19 Chairman, Council Members. Mike Edwards, Fish and
20 Wildlife Service in King Salmon. Could you guys
21 elaborate on exactly what regulation you're referring to
22 that's declaring that these areas are non-subsistence
23 use.
24
25 MS. MORRIS LYON: The one that I'm
26 familiar with I cannot pinpoint for you, but it had to do
27 with the use of the weir, that subsistence wasn't allowed
28 above the weir fishing, which is how that whole thing
29 came up. Then Virginia pointed out that the areas they
30 were using were indeed above the weir.
31
32 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: It was a proposal we
33 took up last October and we supported it, but apparently
34 it wasn't adequate for them.
35
36 MR. EDWARDS: If you look at the letter
37 that Cliff introduced yesterday that was dated the 14th
38 of February, the area from the Chignik weir to the mouth
39 of the lake is now open to subsistence fishing.
40
41 MS. MORRIS LYON: So it's dated, times.
42 It's a slotted event.
43
44 MR. EDWARDS: Yes. I have to find the
45 letter. It was the one Cliff introduced from the Federal
46 Board to Randy that said what the changes were. They did
47 adopt that, so the river is open with the exception of a
48 time frame closure for chinook spawning conservation.
49
50 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chairman. Mike, what

1 came out from Virginia's discussion with Dan and the
2 other Council Members was that up in the lake the
3 tributaries flowing into Chignik Lake have been closed to
4 subsistence harvest, specifically coho. What Virginia
5 says is that residents in Chignik Lake have harvested red
6 fish and it's been known by ADF&G and the Refuge, but
7 they wanted to submit a proposal so that they could
8 legally take the harvest of red fish and some coho or I
9 may be wrong. But, anyway, that's the gist of it.

10
11 MS. ALECK: Because it seems like nobody
12 is understanding where Clarks River is.....

13
14 MR. EDWARDS: No, I know where Clarks
15 River is. I'm just confused. There's two different
16 issues going on here. We're talking about fishing in the
17 Chignik River above the weir and now Cliff talking about
18 red fish on the tributary.

19
20 MS. MORRIS LYON: The proposal
21 encompassed all of the above.

22
23 MR. EDWARDS: No. The proposal that was
24 submitted was to mirror our regs to the State regs, which
25 would allow fishing in the Chignik River, not any of the
26 tributaries.

27
28 MS. MORRIS LYON: So was it in the
29 explanation that we discovered it? It had something to
30 do that was tied to that proposal.

31
32 MS. ALECK: Actually, I think this is
33 closed areas in the Chignik area for subsistence salmon
34 fishing. Chignik River, Black and Chignik Lake areas you
35 may not take salmon in the Chignik River upstream from
36 ADF&G weir site or counting tower in Black Lake or any
37 tributary to Black and Chignik Lake.

38
39 MR. EDWARDS: Correct. That's last
40 year's regulation book. If I could find the letter that
41 Cliff gave that said what the Board's actions were. Here
42 it is. It says align Federal and State subsistence
43 fishing regulations for the Chignik Management Area to
44 allow users to subsistence fish for salmon in the Chignik
45 River, except for the area 100 yards upstream or
46 downstream of the Fish and Game weir. Additionally,
47 salmon would not be allowed to be taken in the Chignik
48 River upstream from the weir to Chignik Lake from July 1
49 to August 31. That closure is for the chinook
50 conservation.

1 Originally, when we proposed this, the
2 State changed their regs down there to allow that
3 fishing, we came to the Council, I said to Cliff we need
4 to get the Federal regs to mirror the State regs. We
5 were only dealing with the Chignik River. This is the
6 first time I've ever heard anyone mention that they want
7 to change the regs to start legalizing fishing in any of
8 the tributaries to Chignik Lake.

9
10 MS. ALECK: But we've always
11 traditionally.....

12
13 MR. EDWARDS: If that's been going on,
14 that's fine, but submit a proposal to change the
15 regulation. Originally we were never talking, at least
16 my involvement, about tributaries to the Chignik Lake.
17 If it's occurring and we need to submit a proposal, now
18 is the time to submit the proposal to change Federal
19 regs.

20
21 MR. DUNAWAY: So talk about the locations
22 you want and the times you need, maybe species, and ask
23 the regulatory specialist to develop language that might
24 work.

25
26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Virginia, are you
27 talking about the mouth of those tributaries or up the
28 creeks themselves?

29
30 MS. ALECK: Up the tributaries, up the
31 creeks. We've traditionally used them ever since that
32 village was established.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: All season?

35
36 MS. ALECK: As soon as there's fish up
37 there.

38
39 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Are you guys
40 interested in moving to draw up a proposal, have Staff
41 work with Virginia.

42
43 MS. MORRIS LYON: I do think that in
44 order to make sure that this one is done right I think we
45 should have whichever entity, if it isn't Mike.

46
47 MS. ALECK: Right, right.

48
49 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. The proposal
50 was done correctly. Like Mike said, we were aligning

1 with State regs. Virginia wasn't at the last meeting.
2 Because her concerns came up afterwards, the portion of
3 the regulation that she was referring to on Page 48 that
4 refers to closed areas. That was the snafu right there.
5 Those have always been closed, as Mike has said. So you
6 were mixing apples and oranges, where we were aligning
7 with State regulations into the river, the weir. So the
8 closures on the tributaries are totally different. So
9 that's what I want to communicate to the Council. Let's
10 not get confused here. The regulation has already been
11 passed. We've already aligned with the State. So let's
12 keep that out of the mix.

13

14 In terms of any fisheries proposal that's
15 going to come from the Council is going to be in regards
16 to those tributaries that are closed.

17

18 MS. MORRIS LYON: Absolutely.

19

20 MS. ALECK: Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I'm unfamiliar with
23 the area and what they want done. I think they should
24 propose it and bring it back to us so they have it the
25 way they want it with the biologists.

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: I don't know if you call it
28 a resolution or a motion, but I'd be willing to move
29 something like on the order of ask Virginia and Mike and
30 possibly State biologist, possibly advisory committees to
31 work together to bring a proposal addressing Virginia's
32 concerns to the next meeting.

33

34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We've got a deadline
35 of what, March?

36

37 MR. EDENSHAW: But something along that
38 line, Mr. Chair and Council, would work for us in terms
39 of having a motion from the Council stating they would
40 support it. We'll submit a proposal along the lines of
41 where Dan's going prior to the March 24th deadline.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: I'd be willing to make a
44 motion to that effect. The proposal, as I understand it,
45 would address closed tributaries in the Chignik drainage,
46 address subsistence uses in those closed areas. If
47 subsistence staff and possibly State staff could work
48 together to come up with appropriate language by the
49 deadline, it could be presented. I'd call that my motion
50 if there's a second.

1 MS. MORRIS LYON: Yeah, I second it.
2 That's what I see needs to be done and done soon before
3 the deadline occurs so it can be on the table in front of
4 us come fall.
5
6 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. What we could
7 probably do is involve Rod Campbell in our office who's
8 had extensive experience in the region and he's our
9 liaison with the State, as well as Mike and Virginia over
10 in Chignik Lake.
11
12 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: They can submit it in
13 a month, can't they, so that would be before the
14 deadline.
15
16 MS. KOSBRUK: I don't see why they
17 couldn't. Talk with them and see if that's what they
18 want and then propose something.
19
20 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: We have a motion and
21 it's been seconded. Is there any more comment.
22
23 MR. KOSBRUK: Just for information, when
24 we had the problems about three, four years ago Jim
25 Larson called me up and he said we have to conserve that
26 river until the numbers come back up, which we did. He
27 was pretty concerned about that. And they did. I just
28 want you guys to know that.
29
30 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So you should
31 talk to some of these other guys, Virginia, and make sure
32 it's the way you want it, what you're asking for. Seeing
33 no more comment. All in favor of the motion signify by
34 saying aye.
35
36 IN UNISON: Aye.
37
38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Opposed.
39
40 (No opposing votes)
41
42 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Motion carried 5-0.
43 Any other fishery proposals.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I don't see any.
48 We're on 12. Before we get to 12, is there anything we
49 left out you guys wanted to bring up? Everybody is
50 happy?

1 MS. ALECK: I'm not happy. I mean I'm
2 happy with the way things went smoothly. I would like to
3 make sure that wolf predation is looked at really
4 seriously because it seems like it's happening in all of
5 our regions. It's going to decimate the Mulchatna Herd
6 too if we don't reduce the predators of our main meat
7 resources.

8
9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The Department and the
10 Staff are going to start doing a wolf study this spring
11 and summer, so that's a start, but maybe we could have
12 our coordinator figure out how we could go about what
13 needs to be done about having a predator control plan.
14 That way we could have it at the next meeting. Here's
15 our number one.

16
17 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman. Predator
18 control and a predator control program is not under the
19 purview of the Federal Subsistence Board. You'd need to
20 work with the individual agencies, you would need to work
21 with the Board of Game. I should point out that in Unit
22 9 the daily harvest limit is 10 wolves a day, so there is
23 opportunity for local people to take this issue into
24 their own hands and harvest wolves. The trapping limit
25 is very extensive also.

26
27 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. So the Federal
28 Subsistence Board doesn't want to take action on this.

29
30 MS. ALECK: I don't think we can really
31 do it on the local level. It seems like it's such a big
32 area and we have a problem with fuel prices. Who can
33 really afford to go full blast with the way fuel prices
34 are right now.

35
36 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. The Board of
37 Game has authorized plans in certain areas of the state.
38 From what I understand, they didn't want to implement any
39 more until they were done with some of the ones they were
40 doing. The Board of Game is State. They don't have any
41 authorization on Federal land. That's half the issue
42 right there. Dan.

43
44 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chairman. When Joe
45 Klutsch made a presentation yesterday, he referred to
46 some idea he had for a fix, but I wasn't well enough
47 versed to know what he meant. I hoped he'd hang around
48 so I could ask him. I don't know if Lem might know.

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

1 Council. My name is Lem Butler for the record. The
2 State is actually the primary wildlife manager in Alaska,
3 so we do have jurisdiction through the Board of Game over
4 wildlife on Federal lands as well as State lands. The
5 Board of Game regulations definitely do apply. There's
6 often a time where that's the best forum for proposals to
7 be aired and regulation changes to be made.

8

9 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: How do we go about
10 getting a plan for predator control?

11

12 MR. BUTLER: You're going to have to work
13 through both State and Federal process for that. To this
14 point, predator control hasn't been allowed on Federal
15 lands. The majority of lands in Unit 9 is Federal land,
16 so you would definitely need to develop a plan with the
17 Federal government for anything to happen in that area.

18

19 For the State side, there are a couple
20 different criteria that have to be met. First, the
21 population has to be below the intensive management
22 objectives. It has to be a population designated for
23 intensive management if it falls below a certain
24 threshold.

25

26 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Wouldn't North
27 Peninsula Caribou qualify?

28

29 MR. BUTLER: It definitely meets that
30 criteria. So that would be one you could do. Another
31 thing we have to show is that we've reduced human
32 harvest, which we've done in the Northern Peninsula Herd
33 area as well. So that would be one we could propose as a
34 candidate if we can show that predator control could
35 reasonably affect the population in a favorable manner.
36 The Board of Game has discussed and deliberated over
37 initiating a predator control plan. The problems for the
38 Northern Herd fall into this dilemma with the majority of
39 the area being Federal.

40

41 The second problem, especially with this
42 disease dilemma, are not sure that we want to affect a
43 large population increase at this time. We're still
44 seeing nutritional limitations for this population. Some
45 of that is likely due to disease. We're going to sort it
46 out hopefully, but trying to increase a population that's
47 nutritionally stressed is potentially bad. So there are
48 a lot of important questions that need to be answered
49 before the State would fully back a predator control plan
50 for the Northern Peninsula Herd area.

1 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Like I mentioned
2 earlier, I was concerned whether the diseases would kill
3 off the animals and it didn't sound like it. It just
4 makes them weak where it's easier for the predators to
5 catch them. If the population of predators went down,
6 there would be that many more calves survive in my
7 opinion.

8
9 Going through the Federal agencies, we
10 just heard from Bill Knauer that the Federal Subsistence
11 Board doesn't deal with predator control, so what agency
12 are you talking about?

13
14 MR. BUTLER: It would have to go through
15 the Federal Board. You'd have to try to get them to
16 change their policy. The limitation has been imposed by
17 the Federal government as a landowner in those areas.
18 They have not allowed us to do wolf control on Federal
19 lands. If you look at the maps on the wall, this one on
20 the left in particular, the white that you're seeing
21 along the coast on Bristol Bay side is the State lands.
22 The pink and purple are Federal lands. It's a
23 significant chunk of area. What we've seen is easily a
24 wolf pack territory can span between the Federal and
25 State lands. You start doing predator control and
26 usually the animals figure out where those political
27 boundaries area. They know where they're safe and where
28 they're not.

29
30 The caribou and moose migrate back and
31 forth across those boundaries. They're political
32 boundaries, not realistic population boundaries. So
33 multiple complications associated with this current land
34 jurisdiction.

35
36 So you'd have to deal with the Fish and
37 Wildlife Service on that. I apologize. Apparently I
38 misspoke. Not the Federal Subsistence Board.

39
40 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: I heard this winter
41 there was a herd of caribou behind South Naknek. It was
42 about a couple hundred or so and there was a bunch of
43 wolves on them. Are there any left?

44
45 MR. BUTLER: There are caribou left over
46 there. We don't have all those individuals marked, so I
47 couldn't tell you the fate of the 100 individuals you're
48 referring to. We know that predators kill caribou.
49 That's not something anyone is debating. The question is
50 how much of that is compensatory mortality versus

1 additive. In an additive state, if you get rid of
2 predation, theoretically you'll see an increase in
3 survival. In a compensatory, one might offset the other.
4 Remove the predators and the animals might still die of
5 disease at the same rate. So that would be one where you
6 wouldn't see an effect potentially.

7
8 They're just things to consider. I'm
9 certainly willing to discuss it. If people want to
10 submit a proposal to the Board of Game, we can let the
11 Board review it again.

12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The proposals for
14 game, the deadline is in December, so we have until then
15 to do that. Cliff.

16
17 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council
18 Members. For the fall meeting, I'd be more than happy to
19 bring you in with the exception of -- this Council has
20 addressed same day airborne hunting of wolves, just as
21 Bill brought up they increased the harvest limit of
22 wolves, they liberalized the brown bear harvest, so the
23 Council has probably exhausted everything in terms of
24 liberalizing wolves and bears on Federal lands as well as
25 same day airborne hunting. Before Ralph Anderson became
26 executive director for BBNA, while he was director of
27 Natural Resources, they submitted a proposal to the Board
28 of Game to implement or request a predator control
29 management plan on State lands and that was denied. I'll
30 make sure at our upcoming meeting I'll bring you
31 documentation of everything the Council has submitted for
32 increased harvest of wolves on Federal lands.

33
34 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Maybe have that on the
35 annual report and also don't forget to put on that 9(E)
36 we rejected. We need to some way get them to have more
37 opportunity instead of closing everybody down. Lem,
38 thanks.

39
40 So now I guess that's it.

41
42 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. The 5th and
43 6th dates are solidified for the fall for this upcoming
44 year. We want Page 128 for the winter meeting.

45
46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: The October meeting is
47 already set for the 5th and 6th, so we need a February
48 meeting.

49
50 MR. DUNAWAY: It seems about this time of

1 year works.

2

3

4 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody have any
5 suggestions. I don't know what I'm going to be doing a
6 year from now. We can always move it, can't we?

6

7

MR. EDENSHAW: Well, yeah, you can.

8

9

10 MR. DUNAWAY: Whether it was the 20th and
11 21st or the 21st and 22nd would suit me. The former
12 experience of being a State employee and having folks
13 schedule meetings for me on Thanksgiving, the day after
14 Thanksgiving and a number of other things, plus having to
15 work on the Fourth of July an awful lot, I would like to
16 pay respect to employees out there.

16

17

18 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. Just a little
19 note because of Virginia, Boris and now Alvin Boskofsky,
20 when Alvin shows up, PenAir normally just flies on
21 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

21

22 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So if they come in on
23 Monday, we can have the meeting on a Tuesday and
24 Wednesday.

25

26

27 MR. EDENSHAW: Or come in on Wednesday
28 and have it on Thursday and Friday.

28

29

30 MS. MORRIS LYON: Let's leave it like
31 this, 20th and 21st.

31

32

33 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. It's been
34 suggested 20th and 21st. We don't need a motion, do we?

34

35

MR. DUNAWAY: Unanimous consent.

36

37

38 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Anybody object to
39 that, 20th and 21st.

39

40

(No comments)

41

42

43 MR. EDENSHAW: Same start time, 1:00
44 o'clock?

44

45

46 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: If we do start it in
47 the morning at 8:30 or 9:00 instead of 1:00 o'clock, we
48 might get done that day.

48

49

50 MS. MORRIS LYON: I think coming in the
day before and starting early is a better idea, too.

1 MS. ALECK: I like that, too.
2
3 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay, we'll start at
4 8:30. One more thing. We'll have our vacant seats and
5 then Robin Samuelson, that seat is vacant, too, isn't it?
6
7 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair and Council
8 Members. For this upcoming cycle, Randy, Virginia and
9 Robin's seat expired and we had one vacant seat, so we're
10 hopeful those appointments will be made. We received
11 four applicants.
12
13 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: These people have to
14 be interviewed.
15
16 MR. EDENSHAW: All four applicants will
17 be interviewed. Virginia, yourself.
18
19 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: So they'll be
20 available to be on the committee come October?
21
22 MR. EDENSHAW: Hopefully by that time.
23 It will be in the fall.
24
25 CHAIRMAN ALVAREZ: Okay. Is that it
26 then? Then we're adjourned.
27
28 (Off record)
29
30 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)
31

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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)ss.
STATE OF ALASKA)

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