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1 BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 VOLUME I

5
6 Naknek, Alaska
7 February 26, 2004
8 1:00 o'clock p.m.
9

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Peter Abraham
14 Virginia Aleck
15 Randy Alvarez
16 Dan Dunaway
17 Robert Heyano - By Telephone
18 Boris Kosbruk, Sr.
19 Nanci Morris
20 H. Robin Samuelson - By Telephone

21

22

23 Coordinator: Clifford Edenshaw (Acting Chairperson)

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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(Naknek, Alaska - 2/26/2004)

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(On record)

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CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Good afternoon.

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Boris Kosbruk, Sr.

MR. KOSBRUK: Here.

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1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dan Dunaway.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.

4

5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dan O'Hara. The
6 Chair called me a couple weeks ago, prior to the Council
7 meeting and conveyed to me that he would be unable to
8 attend the meeting due to other commitments.

9

10 Randy Alvarez.

11

12 MR. ALVAREZ: Here.

13

14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Nanci Morris.

15

16 MS. MORRIS: Here.

17

18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you Council
19 members, there is a quorum. And we will proceed with the
20 meeting. And during this time I will Chair the meeting.
21 Robin Samuelson and Robert Heyano, I called Robin back
22 this morning and they wish to be included in the
23 Council's deliberations when we begin addressing wildlife
24 proposals. Are there any questions from the Council
25 members.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none,
30 we'll move forward on our agenda.

31

32 If we proceed on Page 1, we can go ahead
33 and start with Pete over here to my right. And please,
34 for those of you in the audience, too, I just want to
35 remind everyone, these microphones up here at the table
36 are voice-activated. So if you have any testimony,
37 comments regarding deliberation on any issue that the
38 Council is going to address this afternoon, please come
39 to the table to voice your comments. Because even in the
40 back, if someone were to say something, we can't hear
41 you. So we'd just stress that you come up here to the
42 table up here and provide any additional comments you
43 have regarding the wildlife proposals or other issues
44 that the Council will address this afternoon.

45

46 And also I want to reiterate for the
47 other individuals in the public and other agency staff,
48 specifically the public, we have some small recorder
49 forms, if you wish to address the Council on the pending
50 wildlife proposals we will take action on here this

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1 afternoon, please fill those out, and on the bottom just
2 state what proposal number.

3

4 And please sign in on the sign-in sheets
5 we have over there.

6

7 And for those of you who are also here,
8 all of these books here have all the agenda items, all
9 the information that the Council will address this
10 afternoon. The stapled stack over there is nothing more
11 than a shortened version where I've omitted some of the
12 stuff that's not really pertinent to the calendar and the
13 agenda, but the stapled stuff is no different than what's
14 inside the book.

15

16 And with that, we'll go ahead and proceed
17 if there's not any questions from the Council.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, we'll go
22 ahead and start with Pete on introductions.

23

24 MR. ABRAHAM: Pete from Togiak.

25

26 MR. ALVAREZ: Randy Alvarez, Igiugig.

27

28 MS. MORRIS: Nanci Morris, King Salmon.

29

30 MR. KOSBRUK: Boris Kosbruk, Perryville.

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway, Dillingham.

33

34 MS. ALECK: Virginia Aleck, Chignik Lake.

35 Do I read this?

36

37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No, we're just
38 going into formal introductions, Virginia, thank you.

39

40 MS. ALECK: You can tell I'm new.

41

42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: That's quite all
43 right. Andy.

44

45 MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, wildlife
46 biologist Togiak Refuge.

47

48 MR. WALSH: Pat Walsh. I'm the lead
49 biologist for Togiak Refuge.

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1 MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, Fish and
2 Wildlife Service, OSM.

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4 MR. LIND: Orville Lind, Fish and
5 Wildlife Service, Ranger, Alaska Peninsula/Becharof
6 Refuge.

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8 MR. LIND: Elliott Lind, Chignik Lake.

9
10 MR. FOWLER: Joe Fowler, Superintendent
11 of Katmai National Park and Aniakchak National Monument.

12
13 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Subsistence
14 Division, Fish and Game out of Dillingham.

15
16 MS. WHEELER: Polly Wheeler, Office of
17 Subsistence Management.

18
19 MR. GERHARD: I'm Bob Gerhard with the
20 National Park Service.

21
22 MR. FINK: Lee Fink, Chief Ranger, Lake
23 Clark National Park and Preserve.

24
25 MR. EDWARDS: Mike Edwards, fisheries
26 biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, King Salmon.

27
28 MR. SIMMONS: Hi, I'm Rod Simmons with
29 Fish and Wildlife Service. I work in the Regional Office
30 in Anchorage and serve on the Inter-Agency Staff
31 Committee for the Federal Subsistence Board.

32
33 MR. LIEDBERG: I'm Paul Liedberg. I'm
34 the Refuge Manager with the Togiak National Wildlife
35 Refuge.

36
37 MR. DENTON: I'm Jeff Denton, BLM
38 biologist out of Anchorage.

39
40 MR. STEPANOFF: Sam Stepanoff, Chignik
41 Lake.

42
43 MR. CLARK: I'm Eddie Clark. I'm a
44 Naknek Native subsistence user.

45
46 MR. KALMAKOFF: Harry Kalmakoff. I'm
47 from the Aniakchak SRC.

48
49 MR. WOOLINGTON: Jim Woolington, game
50 biologist with the Department of Fish and Game in

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1 Dillingham.

2

3 MR. NORSTAD: Slim Norstad, Commercial
4 Fish, State of Alaska.

5

6 MR. SQUIBB: Ron Squibb, U.S. Fish and
7 Wildlife Service, King Salmon, biologist.

8

9 MR. NELSON: Dave Nelson, fisheries
10 biologist, National Park Service out of Anchorage.

11

12 MR. ANDERSON: Ralph Anderson, BBNA,
13 Natural Resources.

14

15 MR. CHYTHLOOK: John Chythlook, BBNA.

16

17 MR. HARD: Joel Hard, Superintendent of
18 Lake Clark National Park.

19

20 MR. CHEN: Good afternoon. My name is
21 Glenn Chen with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and I'm on
22 the Inter-Agency Staff Committee.

23

24 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, Subsistence
25 Coordinator, National Park Service.

26

27 MR. HAMON: Troy Hamon, Katmai National
28 Park.

29

30 MS. GOTTLIEB: Judy Gottlieb, National
31 Park Service. I'm happy to be here today.

32

33 MS. BUTLER: Lem Butler, wildlife
34 biologist for Fish and Game, King Salmon.

35

36 MR. KOEPESEL: Mark Koepsel, Deputy Refuge
37 Manager at Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge.

38

39 MR. LONS: Daryle Lons, Refuge Manager
40 for the Alaska Peninsula/Becharof Refuge.

41

42 MR. KLUTSCH: Joe Klutsch, resident of
43 King Salmon. I'm a hunting and fishing guide.

44

45 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: And Salena Hile's
46 our court recorder from Anchorage.

47

48 RECORDER: Thank you, Cliff.

49

50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: I'd like to

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1 welcome everyone to the meeting this afternoon. And for
2 those of you in the seats back there, I just want you to
3 welcome Randy Alvarez, Nanci Morris, Virginia Aleck and
4 Dan Dunaway, are all new Council members.

5

6 With that, we'll move on to review and
7 adoption of the agenda. Any additions or deletions.

8

9 MR. DUNAWAY: Do we need to move to.....

10

11 MR. KOSBRUK: Second.

12

13 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
14 motion to adopt the agenda and second. Discussion.

15

16 MR. ALVAREZ: Question.

17

18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question.
19 Question's been called for. All those in favor of the
20 motion signal by saying aye, those opposed, same sign.

21

22 IN UNISON: Aye.

23

24 (Laughter)

25

26 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion passes to
27 adopt the agenda.

28

29 Minutes, under Tab A on Page 7. This is
30 the minutes from the September 29th/30th Regional Council
31 meeting held in Dillingham.

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Move to adopt.

34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
36 motion to adopt the minutes of September 29th and 30th,
37 2003 meeting.

38

39 MS. MORRIS: Second.

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Second.

42 Discussion.

43

44 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

47

48 MR. DUNAWAY: I found one pretty minor
49 spelling correction on Page 18 at the top. I believe
50 we're referring to Talarik Creek on the second line.

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1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Oh, okay.

2

3 MR. DUNAWAY: And the proper spelling is
4 T-A-L-A-R-I-K, just so we know what we're talking about.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Any
7 additional corrections. Andy.

8

9 MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, Togiak
10 National Wildlife Refuge. Page 15, second paragraph,
11 beginning with Pete Abraham, towards the second sentence
12 there it says 18 to 1,900 animals, that should be 14 to
13 1,500 animals.

14

15 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Andy.

16

17 MR. DENTON: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Jeff.

20

21 MR. DENTON: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On
22 Page 17 under BLM comments -- my name is Jeff Denton, I'm
23 with the BLM. The first paragraph, the last sentence
24 should read, after the word, issued, once those lands are
25 surveyed and conveyances issued, the lands that remain
26 unconveyed will fall under the management of BLM, and the
27 total consideration of lands in that area is two million
28 acres. So it's not two million acres returning to BLM,
29 because the conveyances will come out of that two million
30 acres and be conveyed to the State, Native Corporations,
31 wherever the selections lie, and when the priorities are
32 made and conveyances made there will be some lands left.

33

34 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, so then on
35 the last sentence, once those lands are surveyed and
36 conveyances issued, could you repeat that?

37

38 MR. DENTON: The lands that remaining
39 unconveyed will fall under the management of BLM.

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

42

43 MR. DENTON: And I would go ahead and
44 strike, which may total a little over two million acres
45 because that's the total amount of lands that's being
46 considered here, and the lands that will be returning
47 will be unknown at this point in time.

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

50

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1 MR. DENTON: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jeff.

4 Any other corrections, edits? Orville.

5

6 MR. LIND: Orville Lind, Fish and
7 Wildlife Service, on Page 18, second to the last
8 paragraph, the last sentence says Mr. Lind further added
9 that he had distributed three boxes, that should be 11
10 wolf and wolverine data collection boxes.

11

12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Eleven.

13

14 MR. LIND: Wolf and wolverine data
15 collection boxes.

16

17 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you,
18 Orville. Any others.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: Can the mover also ask for
23 the question then?

24

25 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

26

27 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay, question.

28

29 MS. MORRIS: Second.

30

31 MR. ALVAREZ: You didn't need to second
32 it.

33

34 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: It didn't need a
35 second.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: We just need to take the
38 vote now.

39

40 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
41 motion to adopt the minutes as amended. All those in
42 favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those opposed,
47 same sign.

48

49 (No opposing vote)

50

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1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion passes.
2 We'll move on to Item No. 6, Chair's report. For the
3 members that were present this morning, under the .805c
4 letter, our tech writers, I apologize, not so much for
5 the tech writers, but I apologize the .805c letter which
6 is a letter that is drafted by the Federal Subsistence
7 Board is sent from the Chair to the Councils in regards
8 to actions that were taken on the recently held wildlife
9 proposals in May is not included in the booklet or at
10 least I couldn't find it this morning. And in essence,
11 the .805c letter is just a short discussion regarding
12 action that the Board took on all the wildlife proposals
13 that the Council had in May. And to my knowledge there
14 weren't any alarming results from those proposals.

15
16 So we'll go ahead and move on to the
17 second item, the 2003 annual report issues.

18
19 And at this time, for the Council, what I
20 would like to gather from you are any issues that you
21 have that will be included in the Draft 2003 annual
22 report, which I will draft up and fax back to you or mail
23 back to you in regards to the annual report and then it
24 will be submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board. So
25 for instance, the previous 2002 annual report, we had
26 issues in there regarding same day airborne hunting, ATV
27 use on the Preserve, there was FIS issues included in the
28 annual report.

29
30 Anyway, if you have any resource issues
31 or concerns, please let me know what those are and I will
32 draft them up into a report form, mail them back to you,
33 fax them back to you for your review and then those will
34 be forwarded to our office or there will be responses
35 developed and the Board will address those later in early
36 summer, June, and at the next Council meeting in
37 September, the Board will provide a response back to the
38 Council on all those issues.

39
40 And if you don't have anything on your
41 mind right now, there's still time for me, you know, when
42 I get back to Anchorage, to call each of you
43 individually, to see if there's issues you'd like to be
44 included in this report.

45
46 So at this time I'll take any issues or
47 concerns you may have in the Bristol Bay region regarding
48 fisheries and wildlife issues.

49
50 MR. ALVAREZ: Cliff, you mentioned the

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1 ATV use in the Preserve, Katmai Preserve, what's the
2 latest on that, I haven't heard for about a year? Do you
3 know? Still up in the air being considered as far as I
4 know.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Joe is coming up
7 to the table to provide us an answer.

8

9 MR. FOWLER: Joe Fowler, Superintendent
10 of Katmai National Park and Preserve. The Draft studies
11 on the use of ATVs in that area have been completed.
12 Copies of those Draft reports have been conveyed to the
13 village administrators for review, we're awaiting
14 comment.

15

16 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay. All right, thanks,
17 that answers that question.

18

19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. And also,
20 Randy, some of the Councils, well, not some, for instance
21 in 2003 some of the Councils didn't have issues and
22 that's fine, too, so however you guys want to do that.

23

24 Like I said, if you're unable to think of
25 something right now then.....

26

27 MR. ALVAREZ: When are you going to
28 submit the report?

29

30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, I'll get
31 back to the office on Monday and I'll generate the report
32 and I imagine I can do it in probably less, probably in a
33 week. It just depends on how many issues there are.
34 Because I'll work with Dave, and Polly is here as part of
35 the team, I'll have them review the write up and then fax
36 them out to you for your guy's review to say, is this
37 what you really want to have sent to the Board. Of
38 course, Dan will have to sign off on it. In his absence,
39 I'll fill him in when he comes back to Naknek and fill
40 him in on the rest of what occurs at the Council meeting.

41

42 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.

43

44 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: What is the wishes
45 of the Council. Are there any issues at this time that
46 you'd like for inclusion into the annual report?

47

48 (No comments)

49

50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Perhaps what I can

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1 do ,which would help move this along, is provide you a
2 copy of an annual report that was drafted and sent into
3 the Federal Subsistence Board as well as a copy of the
4 2002 response that the Board generated and sent back to
5 the Council, it would probably be easier for the new
6 Council members. And then that way, in the next few days
7 I can call you up and then if you have some issues that
8 you'd like to have drafted in this report I can go ahead
9 and do that and then fax it back to Dan for his
10 concurrence and signature. Would that work easier for
11 you?

12

13 MR. ALVAREZ: Maybe after this meeting
14 there might be something that I would like.

15

16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yeah, okay, okay,
17 yeah, there's still time.

18

19 MR. ALVAREZ: That would be easier.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: It would help me.

22

23 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, then I would
24 suggest to the Council that that happen before Boris
25 leaves because when Boris leaves there won't be a quorum
26 and action items, I would prefer the Council to have a
27 motion for -- or at least it's on the record.

28

29 MR. ALVAREZ: How long is he going to be
30 here? When are you leaving?

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: 5:00 o'clock.

33

34 MR. KOSBRUK: Or 6:00.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: But anyway, that's
37 a suggestion I have because he's leaving for some other
38 meeting.

39

40 MR. ALVAREZ: Because if one of the other
41 members was on teleconference, though, would that qualify
42 -- add to the quorum?

43

44 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: It would, but
45 those two aren't going to be on -- they just want to be
46 included for wildlife proposals, and if they're not here
47 I can still proceed, but it's like a little thing of my
48 own to be helpful to have.

49

50 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay, well, I don't have

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1 anymore.

2

3

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

4

5

6

MS. ALECK: If I have any questions later
on I'll write it down.

7

8

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

9

10

11

MR. DUNAWAY: We've really got to find
our way with this format.

12

13

MS. ALECK: Right.

14

15

16

17

18

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, perhaps
that's what I can do then is to send you a copy of the
2002 report which would make things a lot, I think
simplify.....

19

20

MS. ALECK: Right.

21

22

23

24

25

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW:in terms of
the issues that the Council has been wrestling with over
the last few years or since I came on board as their
coordinator, in terms of what they've done.

26

27

Any other questions.

28

29

(No comments)

30

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37

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: How about this
last one, Council members report. Any information from
-- this is more of an informational sharing, concerns,
talking openly about issues that the Council may have
recently taken action on or perhaps issues that they have
concerns about that they would like the Council to
address in the future.

38

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42

MR. DUNAWAY: Well, would this be like if
there had been some sort of subcommittee or if some of
the members participating in a working group?

43

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50

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Correct. This
would be a good time and perhaps and, I know, when
questions like that come up in terms of a Council member
serving on some other committee or was in attendance at
that meeting, not only the agency -- for instance this
afternoon when we get into that portion, for instance,
just on the 23rd of this week, on Monday, the Moose
Management Working Group met in Togiak and Andy Aderman

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1 is here from the Refuge and we'll hear more about that
2 meeting as well data and information regarding some of
3 these proposals that we'll take action on this afternoon.

4

5 So, yes, this would be a good time for
6 that also.

7

8 So I'll just proceed and when we get to
9 that portion of the agenda in the wildlife proposals,
10 Andy can fill us in on additional information as well as
11 Dave Fisher, who will present the information in the
12 wildlife proposal, he was also in attendance at the
13 meeting.

14

15 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Well, since you
16 brought that Moose Management Plan up, I'm just trying to
17 learn about it. But I suspect that that one, just
18 progress, is an ongoing issue. I suspect, from what I've
19 learned, that it's going to show up as an item in this
20 previous item that we were just talking about, 2003
21 annual report. I would think that the moose plan concern
22 might be appropriate to be listed there.

23

24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Anything
25 else from the Council.

26

27 MS. ALECK: I was just wondering, just to
28 touch on what Boris brought up today about Perryville.
29 That the subsistence users there are not getting enough
30 salmon, maybe not enough resources, you know, to go and
31 get the salmon. And also the subsistence users, I think,
32 can't understand why there's fishing out there,
33 commercial fishing going on when they're not getting
34 enough to eat.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Anything else from
37 the Council.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: From what Dan has
42 said is ongoing concerns with moose in 17(A) and from
43 Virginia, subsistence, is that related to fish, it was
44 discussing fish?

45

46 MS. ALECK: Fish. Yeah, I was talking
47 about fish.

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

50

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1 (No comments)

2

3 MS. ALECK: And there was the other one
4 we were supposed to talk with the guy who took Dave -- or
5 Dick Sellers, a steering committee.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. When we get
8 to that we can.....

9

10 MS. ALECK: Yeah.

11

12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, that
13 can.....

14

15 MS. ALECK: Yeah, mentioned.

16

17 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: That can be raised
18 in there, the Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd.

19

20 MS. ALECK: Yes. Yes.

21

22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Anything
23 else.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, that's a
28 good start and I'll go ahead, when I get back to
29 Anchorage, go ahead and draft up something, after I talk
30 with Dan afterwards, when we take a short break, and get
31 some clarification on drafting the language and stuff, as
32 well, as with Virginia, and then I'll go ahead and get
33 those out.

34

35 Anything else.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll move on to
40 No. 7. Open floor to public comments on the Federal
41 Subsistence Program.

42

43 As I mentioned, for those members of the
44 public, there's a half sheet over there that you may fill
45 out, and not only for addressing wildlife proposals, if
46 there is any other concerns or issues or questions you
47 have regarding the program that you would like to ask,
48 please fill those out as well and bring those up to me
49 and we'll go ahead and address those. And that can occur
50 throughout the meeting, not just at this juncture in the

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1 agenda. If at any time this afternoon or tomorrow
2 morning you want to address the Council, please fill out
3 those forms and just bring it up to me and we'll go ahead
4 and provide that time for you to address the Council.

5
6 I don't have any before me now so we'll
7 go ahead and move on to No. 8, which is a request for
8 subsistence fisheries proposals.

9
10 As you can see on the last line under
11 this item, the proposal period will be open until March
12 26th. So at this time the Council may also, if they so
13 desire to submit a subsistence fisheries proposals to
14 change seasons and harvest limits or else customary and
15 traditional use determinations. We have until Boris
16 leaves, or else, you know, we don't need to do that
17 because as long as it's on record, if the Council so
18 wishes to submit a proposal they may do that. Normally
19 we have paper copies of that but we're trying to become
20 -- for those of you who have gone on the OSM web site,
21 the proposal forms are also on there. And normally the
22 March 26th deadline coincides normally with the last
23 Council meeting we have, which will be towards that time
24 period so we have until March 26th. So either after this
25 meeting today or tomorrow, if you're at home and sit
26 there and say, hey, well, I'd like to submit a proposal
27 then you can always go ahead and do that.

28
29 At this time are there any.

30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: And normally, too,
34 if the Council wishes to submit a proposal, they can just
35 notify me and we can go ahead and draft up the proposal
36 and have the Council review that before Dan signs off on
37 it, so we can also do it that way. You know, we have
38 until March 26th. I brought a copy of the Federal
39 Subsistence Fishing Regulations in the back, and if you
40 want to look at that specifically to the Bristol Bay
41 region, I believe the Chigniks and one other region
42 that's included that the Council oversees in terms of
43 boundaries, you can go ahead and take a look at that
44 afterwards.

45
46 (Pause)

47
48 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing or seeing
49 no other desires for proposals at this time, just
50 remember we have until March 26th.

00017

1 We'll go ahead and move on to No. 9 here,
2 wildlife proposals review and Council's recommendation
3 under Tab B. And perhaps, Dave, before you start, I am
4 going to see if I can get this thing to go and get Robin
5 and Robert on the line.

6
7 (Pause)

8
9 MR. DUNAWAY: So when Boris leaves we
10 lose our quorum to do business?

11
12 MS. ALECK: To do business.

13
14 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah, it sounds like we
15 won't be able to vote.

16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, that's a
18 disappointment. Well, we don't have Robert here, so we
19 can't have Robert's rules.

20
21 (Pause)

22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Hello, this is Robin.

24
25 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hey, good
26 afternoon, Robin, this is Cliff Edenshaw.

27
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Hi Cliff.

29
30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robin, here
31 Council members present are Pete Abraham, Randy Alvarez,
32 Nanci Morris, Boris Kosbruk, Dan Dunaway and Virginia
33 Aleck.

34
35 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. I have Robert
36 Heyano and myself.

37
38 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: For the record
39 Robert Heyano and Robin Samuelsen are on teleconference.

40
41 Robin, what we're getting ready to start
42 is Dave Fisher is at the table and he will begin with
43 Proposal No. 1, which is a statewide proposal.

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you.

46
47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Dave.

48
49 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50 Proposal 1 is a statewide proposal. It would affect

00018

1 subsistence management on Federal public lands statewide.
2 This proposal was submitted by Sue Entsminger from Tok
3 and it's requesting the allowance of handicraft items
4 made from the fur of brown bear. This proposal would
5 allow the sale of handicraft items made from the fur of
6 brown bear as a means for subsistence users to gain
7 additional cash flow from hides that are normally not
8 utilized.

9

10 The proponent notes that the use of brown
11 bear hides is not available except for personal use.
12 This proposal would benefit them by allowing them to make
13 handicraft items and fully use the hide.

14

15 Current Federal Subsistence regulations
16 allow the sale of handicraft items made from the fur of
17 black bears but not brown bears.

18

19 The brown bear populations throughout
20 most of Alaska are pretty stable and they occupy all of
21 their former historic range. Every density of brown
22 bears varies throughout the state and normally ranges
23 from seven to 140 individuals per 100 square miles.

24

25 A regulatory law enforcement framework to
26 control illegal harvest or to control the legal sale of
27 brown bear fur handicraft items is not currently in place
28 nor does it seem to appear to be practical. This
29 proposal does generate many legal, biological and
30 cultural concerns, and if this proposal is adopted some
31 rural residents could find adoption of this culturally
32 objectionable.

33

34 The sale of handicraft items made from
35 brown bear parts could increase the potential for
36 additional legal and illegal harvest, possibly over-
37 exploiting some bear populations in certain parts of the
38 state.

39

40 Brown bear populations are usually small
41 in number, have very low population growth rates, low
42 sustainable yields. They do have high commercial value
43 though and are easily overharvested. Adoption of this
44 proposal could increase illegal harvest and provide other
45 economic incentives that may lead to the wasting of some
46 brown bear parts such as the meat. Commercialization of
47 trade in brown bear parts, using the fur for handicraft
48 items could increase illegal trafficking, especially in
49 endangered populations in the Lower 48.

50

00019

1 And I did mention that the current
2 regulations allows for the sale of handicraft items made
3 from the fur of black bears, but we do not have a lot of
4 information on a statewide basis regarding the use of
5 black bear fur for this, so it would be hard to make a
6 comparison.

7
8 The preliminary Staff conclusion would be
9 to oppose this proposal.

10
11 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman, thank
12 you.

13
14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dave.
15 At this time we'll go ahead and go to number 2 here,
16 ADF&G comments. Is there someone there from ADF&G out
17 there who is going to provide comments regarding this
18 proposal? Come on up to the table, please.

19
20 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chair. Members of
21 the Council. Jim Woolington, Alaska Department of Fish
22 and Game, Dillingham.

23
24 The Department's view on this proposal is
25 do not support and our comments are in the book and I can
26 -- if you need them read into the record I can go ahead
27 and read them, whatever your wishes are.

28
29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Jim, that would be
30 appropriate.

31
32 MR. WOOLINGTON: To read them into the
33 record?

34
35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Please.

36
37 MR. WOOLINGTON: Okay. The Department
38 has consistently opposed the commercialization of
39 wildlife similar to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
40 and other agencies have documented issues associated with
41 the commercialization and legal/illegal trade in wildlife
42 and their parts. The sale of grizzly bear parts may lead
43 to long-term population declines, may lead to long-term
44 brown bear grizzly population declines in some parts of
45 Alaska.

46
47 We agree with the proponent that many
48 areas in Interior Alaska now have liberal and simplified
49 harvest regulations that have not significantly increased
50 the harvest of brown or grizzly bears. But the

00020

1 development of a cash economy associated with the sale of
2 brown, grizzly bear hides may lead to over-exploitation
3 in some areas. Market-driven hunting tends to be
4 detrimental to wildlife populations.

5
6 Current regulations generally do not
7 result in a decline in the abundance of brown grizzly
8 bears because many hunters choose not to pursue them. A
9 development of a cash flow associated with the sale of
10 hides could cause individuals not previously associated
11 with bear hunting to change their behavior and become
12 bear hunter. Should this occur regulations would have to
13 be changed quickly to avoid imposition of permits or
14 other restrictions that would affect subsistence
15 opportunities.

16
17 The Department believes the current
18 regulatory system provides ample hunting opportunity for
19 subsistence and other uses for these species.

20
21 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.
22 At this time are there any additional State or Federal
23 agency comments.

24
25 MR. DUNAWAY: Did you just hand us one
26 here, Cliff?

27
28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: I'll get to those
29 afterwards, Dan, thank you.

30
31 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay.

32
33 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none. Are
34 there any comments from ADF&G Advisory Committee's. Let
35 me back track back here for a minute, Harry, were you
36 going to read the SRC comments into the record or is it
37 appropriate for us just to go ahead and cover this under
38 public written comments?

39
40 MR. KALMAKOFF: Go ahead and put it in in
41 public written comments.

42
43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, thank you,
44 Harry. There aren't any comments from any ADF&G Advisory
45 Committee members in the public?

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing or not
50 seeing any we'll move on to summary of written public

00021

1 comments.

2

3

4 If the Council members turn to Page 51,
5 we compiled a list of the short comments that we received
6 from the public and you see from the top there, Jim
7 Woolington read into the record ADF&G comments regarding
8 this proposal.

8

9

10 There was one submitted by the Upper
11 Tanana Fortymile Fish and Game Advisory Committee and
12 they support it. The Upper Tanana Local Fortymile Fish
13 and Game Advisory Committee, during its December meeting
14 passed a recommendation to support Proposal 1.

14

15

16 The Alaska Professional Hunters
17 Association submitted a written public comment. Neil
18 Webster provided comments on behalf of the Alaska
19 Professional Hunters Association. The Association
20 opposes Proposal 1 and similar proposals regarding the
21 sale of handicrafts from bears. The Alaska Board of Game,
22 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and others have
23 opposed similar proposals. How can proposals like these
24 comply with the requirements of ANILCA. They do not
25 comply with ANILCA.

25

26

27 And the last comment submitted by AHTNA
28 was the AHTNA Incorporated support the proposal because
29 it would allow the sale of handicrafts from the fur of a
30 grizzly bear.

30

31

32 The Aniakchak SRC met yesterday and their
33 recommendation on Proposal 1 is no recommendation. The
34 SRC discussed Proposal 1 and chose to make no
35 recommendation because brown bear fur is not used by area
36 crafts people for traditional handicrafts.

36

37

38 That concluded written public comments.

38

39

40 We'll move on, is there any public
41 testimony regarding Proposal 1. Go ahead, sir. If you'd
42 like to address the proposal, could you please come up
43 here to the table?

43

44

45 MR. KLUTSCH: Sure.

45

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: His name is Joe.

47

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, I know that.

50 Could you please state your name for the record for

51 Salena.

00022

1 MR. KLUTSCH: Yes, Mr. Chairman. My name
2 is Joe Klutsch. I think Dave Fisher summed up a lot of
3 the reasons that I would oppose this proposal.

4
5 Just to reiterate a few, I think it has
6 the possibility of opening the door for the sale or
7 illegal trade of parts. I know that brown and grizzly
8 bears are listed as a CITES species, even though in
9 Alaska they're not threatened and endangered they're
10 still listed as CITES and there are international
11 restrictions in place for any items that might be made
12 out of bears to be exported or shipped out of the
13 country. There's also European union restrictions on
14 items made from CITES listed species.

15
16 I had the privilege in the last four
17 years to go on two separate polar bear hunts, one in the
18 high eastern Arctic, Northern Baffin Island, and the
19 folks there took a pretty good beating from the CITES and
20 particular EU restrictions on sale of ivory and furs.
21 And that was important craft for them there. As it
22 related to polar bears, however, they didn't believe in
23 cutting up polar bears and making them into items for
24 sale. They did, the headhunters in each community, in
25 each settlement, though, would take and make muk-luk,
26 tops or really nice bib overall pants out of polar bears,
27 and they would keep the hides and other parts of polar
28 bears and use them for themselves. But it was considered
29 bad luck to cut up a polar bear and make things out of
30 them and sell them.

31
32 And then two years later in the Western
33 Arctic I went on another polar bear hunt with another
34 fellow and it was interesting to find that in those
35 communities, Pollatuk, Anuvik (ph) they have the same
36 feeling about it.

37
38 I mention this because I heard Dave
39 mention something about the cultural dimension of it.

40
41 Also brown and grizzly bears are a low
42 reproductive species and random shooting of sows or cubs
43 could occur and that might not be the best thing over the
44 long haul even though we're sensitive about the
45 predator/prey relationship.

46
47 One last comment that came from a friend
48 of mine that's on a Regional Council out of Southeast
49 Alaska, Mike Suffeoulus (ph) and he made the point that
50 there are some folks down there who would qualify under

00023

1 this to shoot brown bears, they're all geared up with 18
2 or 20 foot Boston Whalers with twin Yamahas. They moved
3 into the region of the state maybe five or seven years
4 ago and they're slaving at the opportunity to be able
5 to do this. And this doesn't have anything to do with
6 making artifacts, they're looking at it as a cold market
7 hunting opportunity.

8

9 So those are just some things to keep in
10 mind and I'll conclude my remarks with that.

11

12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Joe.

13

14 MR. KLUTSCH: Uh-huh.

15

16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Anyone else from
17 the public.

18

19 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For
20 the record I'm Mary McBurney with Lake Clark National
21 Park. And you should have copies of comments that were
22 submitted by the Lake Clark SRC as well.

23

24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, we have them.

25

26 MS. MCBURNEY: Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. This
29 here is a written public comment from the Lake Clark
30 Subsistence Resource Commission on Proposal 1.

31

32 The SRC supports with amendment. The SRC
33 recommends supporting Proposal 1 and amending the
34 designation of brown bear to brown/grizzly bear. This
35 proposal will allow subsistence users to more fully
36 utilize bears taken for subsistence and provide a
37 potential source of income for subsistence households.
38 Amending the designation of brown bear to include grizzly
39 bears recognizes that both names are commonly used by
40 subsistence users.

41

42 Moving on, is there anyone else wishing
43 to provide public testimony before we elevate this to the
44 Council.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Seeing none, what
49 is the wishes of the Council.

50

00024

1 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Randy.

4

5 MR. ALVAREZ: Is the State or the Federal
6 government see any difference between bear fur and any
7 other fur that was trapped, say otters or foxes or wolves
8 or wolverine? Because, you know, when you're utilizing
9 that fur you don't have to utilize the meat, and, you
10 know, some bear instances, brown bear, it's -- they will
11 take a brown bear in the spring time for the meat to eat
12 or they'll take the fat off a brown bear and eat that but
13 usually in the fall time it's not -- they're not as good
14 as other times of the year.

15

16 But my question was, is bear, grizzly
17 bear considered any different than other fur bearing
18 animals?

19

20 MR. FISHER: Well, according to the State
21 they're classified as a big game animal, not a fur
22 bearer, and you can use furbearers for handicraft items
23 and so on.

24

25 MR. ALVAREZ: So is wolf and wolverine?

26

27 MR. FISHER: They're classified as a
28 furbearer.

29

30 MR. ALVAREZ: A big game animal, I think,
31 aren't they?

32

33 MR. DUNAWAY: Do they have dual status,
34 you can harvest them under either regulation?

35

36 MR. FISHER: Maybe Woolington can.....

37

38 MR. DUNAWAY: It might be helpful.

39

40 MR. FISHER:yeah, Jim.

41

42 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chair, members of
43 the Council, Jim Woolington, Fish and Game in Dillingham.

44

45 Wolves and wolverine have dual status.
46 They are classified as both big game animals so that they
47 could be taken under a hunting license. They're also
48 classified as a furbearer, they can be taken under a
49 trapping license. Under trapping licenses, the hides and
50 parts can be sold.

00025

1 MR. ALVAREZ: And shot. Wolf and
2 wolverine, right, you can shoot, you don't have to trap
3 them, still utilize the fur in the same way if they're
4 shot?

5
6 MR. WOOLINGTON: Taking furbearers with
7 the use of firearms is considered a method of trapping.
8 So if you take it under the furbearer license it can
9 become an item of trade, or if you take it under the
10 trapping license it you can buy and sell it.

11
12 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay, thanks.

13
14 MR. FISHER: We had a proposal here, I
15 think it was last year, to try and change the
16 classification of grizzly bears and it failed. The Board
17 didn't approve it. And I think it was kind of for that
18 same reason, if they were classified as a furbearer then
19 the furs could be -- handicraft items could be made.

20
21 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah. The reason why I
22 brought that up, I'm not -- I don't know whether to
23 support it or not. I'm just kind of wondering what the
24 State or the Federal government, what they're classified
25 as. It all depends on how they were classified, I guess.

26
27 I could see that if -- you know, big game
28 hunters, I've heard of or seen that rugs, bear rugs or
29 mounts for sale, what would be the difference of, you
30 know, if say a big game hunter went out and shot himself
31 a bear and got it mounted, whether it be a rug or a full
32 mount and as if somebody would cut it up into pieces and
33 utilize it in small things. I've seen, a few years back,
34 I don't know if it's legal or not, but in stores polar
35 bear pieces, skin for sale, for using in flies, I don't
36 know if that's legal anymore, it probably isn't. But I'm
37 just trying to see whether it'd be merit to vote on it.

38
39 I have a tendency to say yes but it all
40 depends on if it would make it too easy to be illegal or
41 to waste -- I don't know how I'm going to vote on it yet.

42
43 MS. ALECK: I think I have the same
44 concerns as Randy because we do take bear for subsistence
45 use and save the meat, salt and the bear fat and we have
46 the hide, which is never saved. But for someone who
47 wants to do arts and crafts with, I mean, I think I'm
48 having a hard time with that issue, too. I'm not too
49 sure how I'm going to vote on that issue right now.

50

00026

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you,
2 Virginia.

3
4 MS. ALECK: Uh-huh.
5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert or Robin,
7 did you have any comments regarding the proposal.

8
9 MR. HEYANO: I have a couple of questions
10 and maybe a comment there, Cliff. This is Robert.

11
12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead, Robert.
13

14 MR. HEYANO: So the justification for
15 opposing it states that some of the potential negative
16 effects of what this regulation, if passed, would take
17 place. And I see that black bears are used for
18 handicrafts under State regulations and Federal now for
19 what, State regulations, for five years. In looking at
20 the printed information, I'm interpreting it as they
21 couldn't determine any negative effects to date.

22
23 I just want to make sure that's a correct
24 assumption in the information provided for us today?

25
26 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dave.
27

28 MR. FISHER: You're probably right there,
29 Robert. There hasn't been an assumption made on that, we
30 have little information and there's been no studies to
31 determine what type of handicrafts are made or what their
32 value has been once they've been sold. So I can't -- I
33 don't have any information for you on that.

34
35 MR. HEYANO: Well, I was more or less
36 referencing that as to the impacts of the resource and
37 some of these other concerns that are listed here as to
38 justification to not support the proposal. The
39 assumption is being made that this could have negative
40 effects on the bear population.

41
42 My question is, is that, has any of those
43 been observed when black bear was allowed to be used for
44 handicrafts?

45
46 MR. FISHER: Robert, could you repeat
47 your question?

48
49 MR. HEYANO: When black bear fur was
50 allowed to be used for handicraft and sold, did you

00027

1 notice negative impacts to the resource as a result of
2 that, i.e., increased harvest to the point where it had
3 detrimental impacts to the number of black bear? Some of
4 the justification to oppose this proposal are not
5 supported as resource oriented, and I was just wondering
6 if you noticed any of those impacts happening to the
7 black bear since it's been in regulation now for five
8 years.

9

10 MR. FISHER: Robert, not to my knowledge,
11 no, there's been nothing that I'm aware of that would
12 indicate that the population has gone down in any areas.
13 Perhaps, maybe, Jim, or one of the Fish and Game people
14 could elaborate on that a little more.

15

16 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I would
17 like to see some of the -- like there's Andy and Jim
18 Woolington who would possibly have information on -- I
19 don't know if they even heard -- did you hear Robert's
20 question?

21

22 MR. WOOLINGTON: Yes. Mr. Chair.
23 Members of the Council. Jim Woolington, Fish and Game in
24 Dillingham. I don't have any information how this
25 present regulations on use of black bear for handicrafts
26 have impacted populations.

27

28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.

29

30 MR. FISHER: Just one more comment there.
31 I would say probably it's going to take a little longer
32 than five years to really notice any impact. Because as
33 you know the black bear populations are pretty -- there's
34 quite a few of them throughout the state so it's going to
35 take a little while for anything to come up on that.

36

37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any other
38 questions, Robert.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robin. Robert.

43

44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, we're here.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
47 questions for Dave.

48

49 MR. HEYANO: I guess just a few more,
50 Cliff.

00028

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. HEYANO: The way the proposal is
4 written it says the handicrafts made from brown bear or
5 grizzly bear, not the whole hide; is that correct?

6

7 MR. FISHER: That's correct. Apparently
8 the proponent is indicating that she just wants to use or
9 wants a regulation passed that would just allow the fur,
10 the use of the fur.

11

12 MR. HEYANO: Okay, thanks, Dave. And the
13 last one I have is that would this only be brown bear fur
14 taken in a Federal subsistence hunt.....

15

16 MR. FISHER: Yes, it would apply.....

17

18 MR. HEYANO:that could be used for
19 a handicraft?

20

21 MR. FISHER: Excuse me, I cut on top of
22 you, Robert. Repeat.

23

24 MR. HEYANO: Would this be brown bear fur
25 that was taken during a Federal subsistence hunt that
26 could be used for a handicraft?

27

28 MR. FISHER: Yes, it would be an addition
29 to the Federal Subsistence regulations and it would
30 affect those brown bear hunts under Federal regulations
31 on Federal public lands.

32

33 MR. HEYANO: Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dan.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, let me grab my mike
38 back here. I have a few questions that have popped up
39 over here, actually a comment first and then some
40 questions.

41

42 I want to commend Aniakchak for speaking
43 to their tradition or lack thereof, in this case, it's a
44 real helpful thing. None of these other comments really
45 help me understand whether there's a tradition of using
46 brown bear fur for handicrafts or if this would be a
47 totally new development which would color my attitude
48 toward the proposal.

49

50 Quick question for any of the game guys,

00029

1 did I just recently hear of a black bear poaching and
2 parts selling bust that occurred in Alaska or was that
3 out of state somewhere?

4

5 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Prince William
6 Sound.

7

8 MR. DUNAWAY: And that makes me wonder if
9 that occurred partly under the screen of some of these
10 new regulations, that Prince William Sound poaching ring.

11

12 The second question would be, what would
13 constitute a handicraft? Is a full rug mount or some
14 facsimile of that a handicraft or would it be making
15 dance fans and cut up in small pieces? Is there a
16 technical definition for that?

17

18 MR. FISHER: Page 28 at the bottom left-
19 hand corner, there's a -- handicraft means.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay, that answers that
22 question. A question about enforceability, if something
23 like this were Federal only -- it'd have to be only a
24 Federal hunt unless the State regulations came in
25 alignment, this is where I still have got a lot of
26 learning to get my head squared away of where this would
27 apply. How would it mesh with what used to be the Brown
28 Bear Special Harvest Area or whatever, the Western Alaska
29 Brown Bear regulations?

30

31 So if somebody could speak to
32 enforceability and meshing with these other regulations,
33 I'd appreciate it.

34

35 MR. FISHER: Perhaps somebody with
36 enforcement authority could talk about the enforceability
37 of it. But as far as the way I understand it and like
38 the Chignik Brown Bear Management Area or the Western
39 Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, a bear harvested there
40 doesn't have to be sealed, but according to this
41 regulation, you could still use -- if this proposal was
42 passed, you could use the fur for a handicraft item and
43 then sell it.

44

45 That's the way I'm interpreting it. I
46 could be wrong but.....

47

48 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. So it would be cut
49 up and if it -- to meet the definition of handicraft it
50 could move out of that area then? I'm assuming

00030

1 handicrafts are for sale, maybe some local ceremonial or
2 traditional use -- and one last thing just popped into my
3 head here, is, if we're discussing this proposal, are we
4 supposed to get it on the table with a move to adopt or
5 do we do all the discussion, then move or not move to
6 adopt?

7

8 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, after Dave
9 was completed with his analysis we were just into
10 discussion part and then once you guys are done
11 discussing or asking questions of Dave or any other
12 agency, biologist, then we can go ahead and move it to
13 Council action. But right now this is just questions for
14 Dave since Dave is the author -- or not the author, but
15 he's presenting the analysis on behalf of Pete DeMatteo
16 who drew up the -- who wrote up the analysis.

17

18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Pete.

19

20 MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, I guess I got
21 a question for Dave Fisher or somebody that might know.

22

23 We had a brown bear study in 17 some
24 years ago, was that dropped or is it still in effect?

25

26 MR. FISHER: I think it was in part of
27 17(A) and then up in 18, the one that Yukon-Delta was
28 doing.

29

30 MR. ABRAHAM: Okay.

31

32 MR. FISHER: Yeah, that study has been
33 completed. They collared bears and they monitored the
34 collars for, I think, four or five, six years and they've
35 taken all the collars off and the main purpose of that
36 study was to find out a little -- try and find out how
37 many bears there are and their movements and what the
38 reproduction was.

39

40 MR. ABRAHAM: Well, I guess since we're
41 on the brown bear or other bear, they're becoming a
42 nuisance in the Togiak area or in our region over there,
43 that's Quinhagak, Goodnews, Togiak, they're starting to
44 come in the village and raiding the fish racks.

45

46 I guess we're getting a lot of brown
47 bears over there, everywhere. There's too many, a
48 nuisance.

49

50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Pete.

00031

1 I just wanted to add one comment.

2

3 Last year the Council addressed a --
4 there was a statewide, when the Board addressed customary
5 trade, they adopted a regulation that was statewide.
6 What this Council did was regionalize it and they
7 submitted a proposal last year, which the Board passed,
8 which regionalized customary trade. And I feel an issue
9 such as this regarding brown bears or the sale of
10 handicrafts in the future, depending on how the Board
11 takes action on this, this would almost seem like another
12 proposal that could be regionalized specific to the
13 Bristol Bay region regarding the sale of handicrafts made
14 from brown or black bear or grizzly bear.

15

16 But that's just one example of what the
17 Council did last year. I just wanted to toss that out.

18

19 Robert, Robin, any additional questions.

20

21 MR. SAMUELSEN: No.

22

23 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Nanci.

24

25 MS. MORRIS: Yes. I have one more
26 question, too, since it was brought up both by Joe and
27 you, stated in your evaluation, that you're afraid that
28 there may be some subsistence users who find this
29 culturally objectionable. None have come forward. Is
30 there any evidence, do you have any testimony from
31 anybody that supports that?

32

33 MR. FISHER: Not really. But I think
34 some of that will appear in some of the other Council
35 meetings. Pauline can maybe shed a little more light on
36 it than I could.

37

38 MS. WHEELER: Mr. Chair, this is Polly
39 Wheeler with the Office of Subsistence Management. The
40 Eastern Interior Regional Council is meeting this week
41 and the Western Interior Regional Council is meeting next
42 week and I suspect, at least, with the Western Interior
43 Council there may be some opposition to it.

44

45 I know when the Alaska Board of Game was
46 petitioned for the sale of brown bear claws and fur in
47 2000 there was a lot of opposition from the Western
48 Interior region, specifically the Koyukuk River area of
49 Interior Alaska. So those Council meetings haven't
50 occurred yet. I'll be at them so I can report back, but

00032

1 they haven't happened yet, but I suspect if there's any
2 opposition it'll be from the Western Interior Council.

3

4 MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Pete.

7

8 MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman, an answer for
9 Nanci, I guess. Several years ago some Korean guy was
10 trying to buy some gall bladders and he affected the
11 brown bears in our region over there. Because for two
12 years there was wanton waste on brown bear because of the
13 gall bladder. Eventually the parties got caught and that
14 stopped it right there. So, you know, something like
15 this can happen with the brown bears if the price is
16 right.

17

18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Pete.

19 Dan.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: A couple things. You'd
22 talked about customary trade and I hadn't thought of
23 that. So if, say, this was allowed then any sale of
24 those handicrafts would fall under the -- if there become
25 some limits, they would fall under the sale and trade
26 regulations that are being or have been developed by for
27 Federal Subsistence?

28

29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those customary
30 trade -- the example I provided was for salmon.

31

32 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. So they specifically
33 address salmon not.....

34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Correct.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY:in general?

38

39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Not in general
40 other species.

41

42 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay.

43

44 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Which this
45 proposal is a statewide, which would address the sale of
46 handicrafts from brown -- which it states here, for brown
47 bear.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. And then the other
50 comment I made is just when Pete brought it up, it

00033

1 occurred to me that I surf around on the web a bit on
2 some hunting and shooting web sites and somebody from
3 somewhere in the world solicited me to help them find
4 bear parts and protected species parts to buy them. I
5 wasn't too clear. Frankly, I forwarded it to U.S. Fish
6 and Wildlife Service. But there are folks out there
7 poking around. So there is potential for illegal markets
8 or there are illegal markets out there looking for
9 participants.

10

11 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dan.
12 What is the -- is there any more questions of Staff or
13 other field Staff regarding this proposal.

14

15 MR. SAMUELSEN: This is Robin.

16

17 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robin.

18

19 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, under the current
20 Federal regulations bear hide has to be sealed, and on
21 Page 30, about the middle of the page under FSMP
22 regulations both the hide and edible meat of black and
23 brown bear must be salvaged for human use, you may not
24 use wildlife for pet food under Federal Subsistence
25 regulations.

26

27 So what I'm seeing here is that a
28 Federally-qualified subsistence user going out on Federal
29 lands harvests a brown bear, they must take back the hide
30 and all edible meat; is that a fair assumption to make?

31

32 MR. FISHER: Yes.

33

34 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

35

36 MR. SAMUELSEN: And all the Staff
37 comments are showing that there's lots of boogie man's in
38 this proposal, they're equating it to maybe decimation of
39 bear population, maybe it's going to thrive illegal
40 trade, but if a subsistence violated and didn't get the
41 bear tag right after he shot it or the skull tag he'd be
42 in violation anyway, right?

43

44 MR. FISHER: Yeah, if he got caught, I
45 guess, yeah.

46

47 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay, thank you.

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: What is the wishes
50 of the Council.

00034

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Move for adoption, Mr.
2 Chair.

3
4 MR. ALVAREZ: Second.

5
6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Excuse me, what
7 was that Robin?

8
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: I move for adoption of
10 the proposal.

11
12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
13 motion by Robin Samuelson to move to adopt Proposal 1
14 which requests the allowance of handicraft items made
15 from the fur of brown bear. Is there a second.

16
17 MR. ALVAREZ: Second.

18
19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Randy Alvarez
20 seconded. Would you like to address your motion, Robin,
21 please.

22
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, I'm going to be
24 voting in support of the proposal. I think that the
25 Department has not -- Staff has not shown to us that it's
26 going to be detrimental. I mean whenever any law is
27 passed -- I mean it's illegal to shoot people and we turn
28 on the evening news and people are shooting people right
29 and left throughout the United States with guns or bow
30 and arrows or whatever, but I think this would provide
31 another opportunity to those folks that are not
32 culturally sensitive to dealing with bears.

33
34 Surely as Pete has indicated, I don't
35 want to spawn illegal trade, but I think this would do
36 this opposite. That the necessary permits would be in
37 place and we'd be able to track this a heck of a lot
38 better than what we're tracking right now which is out of
39 one bear populations -- or two bear populations within
40 the customary handicraft arena, and I think the question
41 from Robert a little while ago, has there been any
42 demonstrated abuses, and there hasn't been the Staff
43 answered.

44
45 I haven't seen there's abuses. In
46 Bristol Bay, the RAC has heard from numerous communities
47 of the bear problems. We've liberalized seasons in some
48 areas and, you know, for all the justifications to turn
49 it down, if they were real justifications I wouldn't be
50 supporting this proposal. But I can't see any reason why

00035

1 to turn down this proposal, they're hypothetical reasons.

2

3

MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.

4

5

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

6

7

MR. ALVAREZ: I see that the Lake Clark
8 National Park Subsistence Resource Commission supports
9 this proposal. What did the Aniakchak SRC, what was
10 theirs?

11

12

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No recommendation.

13

14

MR. ALVAREZ: They had no recommendation
15 on that. I guess I'll support this proposal because if
16 -- you know, there is illegal activities in every --
17 probably every species that's hunted or trapped or
18 whatever in the state and I don't think that this would
19 make it, the bears, any more targeted. And it would
20 help, you know, those people that do utilize this for
21 subsistence, I don't think it would make that many more
22 people go out and harvest them in my opinion.

23

24

So I would support this proposal -- or I
25 am going to.

26

27

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Randy.
28 Any additional discussion. Go ahead Eddie.

29

30

MR. CLARK: Yeah, I'm Eddie Clark, just a
31 resident of Naknek here. And so traditionally right now,
32 I'm sure Naknek was -- that 9(C), that we could
33 subsistence take a bear, but I really don't see that in
34 here. No Federal season open.

35

36

But I understood that we could. So
37 traditionally in the fall when we start putting our fish
38 up we have three or four problem bears around town, and
39 when we get tired of calling the Department, they end up
40 getting shot and so then the Department makes us skin
41 that bear and take it to them and we do not know where
42 that bear goes. If we could subsistence take that hide
43 and claws, I believe that that would be some value to the
44 person that the bear is getting into the smokehouse and
45 drying rack, and that would be one reason I would see.
46 Otherwise the problem bear would go to Alaska Department
47 of Fish and Game and I do not know where they go. I
48 believe that they get sold probably on auction so that's
49 monetary value to them. But I'm just thinking out loud
50 on that.

00036

1 So I think that would give a reason for
2 the bears to be shot that are in town and every town that
3 I know of around here has a problem.

4
5 Right now we call and call and call and
6 finally they get taken care of. But I think if we could
7 take them as a subsistence use, I think people would use
8 them and that would help, I think.

9
10 Thanks.

11
12 MS. ALECK: Mr. Chairman.

13
14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Virginia.

15
16 MS. ALECK: I would like to say that in
17 Chignik Lake we do have problem bears, too. And, you
18 know, I think when you shoot the bear like the man just
19 said, Fish and Game takes them, they take everything, the
20 head, the claws, and, you know, I would think that --
21 probably thinking in line the same as Randy, that I think
22 I would support the proposal because, you know, people
23 are making handicrafts and other means to make a dollar
24 when fish prices are so low right now.

25
26 And I think every culture is a little bit
27 different, our traditional ways are different, however, I
28 would like to say, you know, I respect other cultures and
29 traditional uses. We do have a lot of bear in Chignik.

30
31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you,
32 Virginia.

33
34 MS. ALECK: Uh-huh.

35
36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Dave,
37 could we just keep the discussion to the motion. There
38 was a motion made by Robin Samuelsen to adopt the
39 proposal which would request the allowance of handicraft
40 items made from the fur of brown bear which was seconded
41 by Randy Alvarez and there was a second and we're in
42 discussion -- but, go ahead, I just wanted to.....

43
44 MR. FISHER: I'd just like to make a
45 point of clarification if I could.

46
47 This regulation would only apply on bears
48 that were taken on Federal public lands.

49
50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Federal public

00037

1 lands.

2

3

MR. FISHER: Yes.

4

5

MR. SAMUELSEN: Sure I can't amend it to

6 State.

7

8

(Laughter)

9

10

MR. FISHER: Well, if you were over here
11 today we might be able to work something out.

12

13

MR. SAMUELSEN: I know, Dave, you pray
14 for the snow.

15

16

MR. FISHER: Come on now.

17

18

(Laughter)

19

20

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
21 Council discussion.

22

23

(No comments)

24

25

MR. HEYANO: Hearing none, Mr. Chair, I
26 call for the question.

27

28

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
29 called for. All those in favor of the motion signal by
30 saying aye.

31

32

IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those opposed,
35 same sign.

36

37

MR. DUNAWAY: Aye.

38

39

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion carries.
40 We'll move on to.....

41

42

MR. DUNAWAY: A time out over there.

43

44

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert and Robin,
45 Pete needs a break so we're going to take a recess for a
46 short time.

47

48

MR. HEYANO: Okay, we'll just stay on the
49 line.

50

00038

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll go ahead and
8 move on to Proposal 2, or not Proposal 2, Proposal 41.
9 Dave. And then, Dave, before you start, I meant to go
10 into this disclosure first, so if we can start with Pete,
11 let's just get this on the record because I meant to ask
12 the Council to address the ethics disclosure when we
13 started, but I overlooked it.

14

15 So before Dave starts on Proposal 41,
16 perhaps if Pete could just go through that one page deal
17 at the top here and go ahead and read it into the record
18 for us, please.

19

20 MR. ABRAHAM: My name is Pete Abraham. I
21 live in Togiak. I subsistence hunt fish in the Federal
22 lands and waters under the consideration of this meeting,
23 I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct any
24 business activities directly affected by agenda items
25 before the Council.

26

27 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Peter.
28 Randy.

29

30 MR. ALVAREZ: My name is Randy Alvarez
31 and I live in Igiugig. I subsistence hunt and fish in
32 the Federal lands and waters under consideration at this
33 meeting. I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct
34 any business activities directly affected by any agenda
35 items before the Council.

36

37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Nanci.

38

39 MS. MORRIS: My name is Nanci Morris and
40 I live in King Salmon. I subsistence hunt and fish in
41 the Federal lands and waters under consideration at this
42 meeting. I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct
43 any business activities directly affected by any agenda
44 items before the Council.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Boris.

47

48 MR. KOSBRUK: My name is Boris Kosbruk. I
49 live in Perryville. I subsistence hunt and fish in the
50 Federal lands and waters under consideration at this

00039

1 meeting. I do not hold any commercial permits or conduct
2 any business activities directly affected by any agenda
3 items before the Council.

4

5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Dan.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: My name is Dan Dunaway and
8 I live in Dillingham. And, I subsistence hunt and fish
9 in the Federal lands and waters under consideration at
10 this meeting, but I do not hold any commercial permits or
11 conduct any business activities directly affected by any
12 agenda items before the Council.

13

14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you.

15 Virginia.

16

17 MS. ALECK: My name is Virginia Aleck. I
18 live in Chignik Lake. I subsist, hunt, fish in the
19 Federal lands and waters under consideration at this
20 meeting, but I do not hold any commercial permits or
21 conduct any business activities directly affected by any
22 agenda items before the Council.

23

24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you,
25 Virginia. Robert and Robin, what they were discussing
26 was we have to start before each meeting with an ethics
27 disclosure. So if either you or, specifically Robin or
28 Robert, if you have any -- and perhaps what I can do is
29 the first one you heard most of the Council members read,
30 which states: I subsistence hunt and fish in the Federal
31 lands and waters under consideration at this meeting. I
32 do not hold any commercial permits or conduct any
33 business activities directly affected by any agenda items
34 before the Council. If that applies to you just say so,
35 Robert or Robin.

36

37 The second one is I subsistence hunt in
38 the Federal lands under consideration at this meeting, I
39 also hold a commercial fishing permit but not in any of
40 the areas -- well, disregard that one. We're trying to
41 look for ethics disclosures regarding wildlife proposals.

42

43 The third one is I subsistence hunt in
44 the Federal lands under consideration at this meeting. I
45 also hold a commercial fishing permit which is, i.e., to
46 operate a guide transport outfit, air taxi or a lodge
47 operation in the area affected by the proposal.

48

49 So it's mainly disclosing if you have
50 interest in those areas we need to have disclosure, and

00040

1 if it's substantial then that will be my decision to go
2 ahead and we'll take a short recess and I can talk to you
3 personally about that. But do you understand what I'm
4 reading, Robert and Robin.

5
6 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think we do, it's
7 pretty scratchy.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: I'll first start
12 with.....

13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'll go first, I guess.

15
16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yeah, go ahead.

17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: My name is Robin
19 Samuelson. I'm from Dillingham, Alaska. I'm a sports
20 fisherman. I'm a subsistence user. And after this Board
21 of Fish I don't know if I'm a commercial fisherman
22 anymore or not after they got done, I think I hold a
23 useless Bristol Bay drift permit. Most of my subsistence
24 activities takes place 17(A), 17(C), 17(B). In reviewing
25 the proposals before us today, Mr. Chairman, it doesn't
26 look like I have a conflict because I don't hunt within
27 these Federal Conservation Units for most of these
28 proposals that we're dealing with today that takes place.

29
30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Robin.
31 Robert.

32
33 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
34 Robert Heyano. I reside in Dillingham, Alaska. I'm a
35 commercial fisherman. I'm a subsistence fisherman. I
36 utilize Game Management Unit 17 and 9(B) for my
37 subsistence activities. I'm also a owner operator of a
38 small sportfish operation but that's conducted on private
39 land in State waters.

40
41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: And you have no
42 vested interest in any of the proposals we're going to
43 address this afternoon, the wildlife proposals?

44
45 MR. HEYANO: That's right.

46
47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. All
48 right, fire away, Dave, we'll go ahead and continue with
49 Proposal 41.

50

00041

1 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Proposal 41 also deals with brown bears and this was
3 submitted by the Alaska Becharof National Wildlife
4 Refuge, and it would revise the sealing requirement for
5 the skin and skull of brown bears harvested for
6 subsistence purposes in Unit 9(E).

7
8 Under current regulations, a brown bear
9 harvested in Unit 9(E) has to be sealed, both the skin
10 and skull have to be sealed by a Department of Fish and
11 Game person. That's contrary to brown bears that are
12 taken in the Chignik Brown Bear Management Area or the
13 Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area. If those
14 bears taken in those areas are not removed from the
15 management area they don't have to be sealed, if they are
16 removed then they have to be sealed. But currently in
17 9(E), a bear taken that is not removed still has to be
18 sealed.

19
20 So what this would do is allow those
21 people that take a bear in Unit 9(E), if they don't
22 remove it they don't have to be sealed. Kind of simplify
23 the regulations and bring those in alignment with the
24 Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, and actually
25 in other areas of the state also.

26
27 The Federal public lands that we're
28 talking about here in 9(E) are the Alaska Peninsula
29 Becharof National Wildlife Refuge and the Aniakchak
30 National Monument and Preserve and there's a map on Page,
31 I think 57 of your book that show the land status there
32 for 9(E).

33
34 The brown bear population in 9(E) is
35 considered to be stable. The current estimate is
36 somewhere around 3,000 brown bears. Most of the harvest
37 occurs by sport hunters. There is some subsistence
38 harvest on Federal public lands, however, that harvest
39 has been fairly low over the years, one, two, probably
40 three bears taken per year.

41
42 What this proposal would do, like I
43 mentioned when I started here, would remove the sealing
44 requirement for those bears harvested in 9(E) and they
45 wouldn't have to be sealed unless they were removed from
46 the management area.

47
48 The preliminary conclusion here of Staff
49 recommendation, would be to support the proposal. It
50 would reduce confusion regarding sealing requirements and

00042

1 it would put less of a burden on those subsistence users
2 who harvest a brown bear in 9(E), especially those bears
3 that are kept within the unit and not removed from the
4 area.

5

6 That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dave.

9 Any questions for Dave.

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll move on to
14 ADF&G comments. Were you going to provide any comments
15 on this proposal, Jim, or should I just read it.

16

17 MR. BUTLER: I was just going to read it.

18

19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Please come up to
20 the table.

21

22 MR. BUTLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 The State would support this proposal if it's modified to
24 reflect the State regulations for the Chignik Brown Bear
25 Management Area.

26

27 The portion of 9(E), which lies in the
28 State's Chignik Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, the
29 area consisting of all drainages in 9(E) that drain into
30 the Pacific Ocean between Cape Kumliun and the border of
31 9(E) and 9(D). In this management area, brown bears
32 taken by resident hunter under a registration permit need
33 not be sealed unless removed from the management area; if
34 the skin or skull is removed from the management area it
35 must be first sealed by a Department of Fish and Game
36 representative in King Salmon. At the time of sealing,
37 the Department representative shall remove and retain the
38 skin, the skull, and the front claws of the bear. The
39 Department supports a modified proposal that is
40 consistent with the current State regulations governing
41 the harvest of brown bears in the Chignik Alaska Brown
42 Bear Management Area.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Lem. I
47 just had a question regarding the -- normally in our
48 office in Anchorage we receive a printout of all the
49 ADF&G comments, are these pretty much in line with the
50 latest comments that were sent to our office?

00043

1 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, pretty much.

2

3 MR. FISHER: Yeah.

4

5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Pretty much.

6

7 MR. BUTLER: Uh-huh.

8

9 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Oh, okay, thank

10 you.

11

12 MR. FISHER: I think the one that appears
13 in the book is a little shorter, but it's basically the
14 same.

15

16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. Do you
17 have a question, Dan?

18

19 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, for Mr. Butler.

20

21 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Lem, I'm a little slow on
24 this so how -- I'm having trouble picking up the
25 difference between the proposal and the recommended
26 language or the preferred language that the State is
27 offering.

28

29 MR. BUTLER: The State would like to see
30 the area that this pertains to limited to the Chignik
31 Brown Bear Management Area. The borders are much clearer
32 and more easily enforced by law enforcement officials.

33

34 MR. FISHER: I have a question for -- so
35 you're talking just, you want this to apply just to the
36 Chignik Alaska Brown Bear Management Area?

37

38 MR. BUTLER: That's correct, Unit 9(E).

39

40 MR. FISHER: So actually it would apply
41 to those Federal lands that are within the Chignik Brown
42 Bear Management Area; is that modification that
43 you're.....

44

45 MR. BUTLER: The Chignik Brown Bear
46 Management Area is completely within Federal lands, so it
47 just limits the area to the Chignik Brown Bear Management
48 Area, which again would be Federal lands, but not the
49 entire Federal lands within Unit 9(E).

50

00044

1 MR. DUNAWAY: And I'm scrambling here,
2 does it show on this map on Page 57 where that is, where
3 that area is?

4
5 MR. FISHER: No, I don't think it does.
6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: You would have to
8 look in the State regs for the Chignik Brown Bear
9 Management Area.

10
11 MR. BUTLER: No, it does show Cape
12 Kumliun and so it would be that area between that, south
13 and west of there to the border of 9(D), anything that
14 drains into the Pacific on the eastern side of the range.
15

16 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay, thank you.

17
18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Lem.
19 We'll go ahead and move on to other State or Federal
20 agency comments.

21
22 MR. SQUIBB: My name is Ron Squibb. I
23 work with the Alaska Peninsula Becharof Refuge.
24

25 I initially wrote the proposal. I just
26 wanted to clarify this, give you an understanding of why
27 we proposed this.

28
29 Basically in the Federal reg book on Page
30 21 and 22 is a discussion of sealing requirements for the
31 Federal brown bear hunts. And several years ago, I can't
32 remember exactly the number of years, but within three to
33 five years ago this Regional Advisory Council passed a
34 regulation allowing subsistence harvest of brown bears,
35 Federal subsistence harvest of brown bears in all of Unit
36 9(E), which includes much more area than the Chignik
37 Brown Bear Management Area of the state.

38
39 At that time they did not address the
40 sealing requirement. And within the Federal reg book,
41 under sealing of bear skins and skulls, you turn to the
42 next page, Page 22, there's a list of all the other areas
43 where there have been Federal brown bear hunts opened
44 over the years since the Federal Subsistence Program
45 began. And there's a paragraph for each of them, I'll
46 just read one. It says: if the skin or skull of a bear
47 taken in the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area is
48 removed from that area it must first be sealed by an
49 ADF&G representative in Bethel, Dillingham or McGrath.
50 At the time of sealing they will retain that -- I'm

00045

1 sorry, I'm reading the wrong paragraph, if you'll excuse
2 me.

3

4 (Pause)

5

6 MR. FISHER: Is that the one there?

7

8 MR. SQUIBB: I'm sorry, a person who
9 possesses a bear shall keep the skin and skull together
10 until a representative of Fish and Game has removed a
11 tooth, et cetera, however, this provision shall not apply
12 to bears taken within these areas that I mentioned
13 before. It's basically as long as long as the skin and
14 skull are not removed from the area. And so this was
15 just -- I apologize for my confusion in the reading.

16

17 But basically we're just trying to make
18 the Unit 9(E) sealing requirement the same as these other
19 brown bear management areas, and the Federal government --
20 or excuse me, the RAC and the Federal Subsistence Board
21 chose to make the boundary all of Unit 9(E) at that time
22 and they did not carry along the release of the
23 requirement for sealing. And I know from our Refuge
24 ranger, Orville Lind has informed me that traditionally
25 the skin and skull are left in the field, so basically
26 we're just trying to make sure when people are following
27 this, when they follow their traditional use they were
28 not violating any laws, once the Federal Subsistence
29 Board passed a regulation allowing it in all of 9(E).

30

31 We're just trying to clean up --
32 basically an exercise to -- a bookkeeping exercise. We
33 didn't want to get in a debate on any of the issues of
34 the boundaries because a Federal brown bear hunt does
35 exist in Unit 9(E) and we're just trying to make the
36 hunters in that area legal if they do not remove -- you
37 know, when they take the bear they do not use the hide or
38 anything, that they leave it in the field, they're still
39 legal.

40

41 That's the only reason we submitted this
42 proposal.

43

44 Any questions. I apologize for the
45 confusion, I wasn't prepared to speak.

46

47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin, did
48 you have any questions for Dave or Ron.

49

50 MR. HEYANO: We're on Proposal.....

00046

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: 41. Sealing
2 requirements.

3
4 MR. HEYANO: 41, okay, gotcha, no, it's
5 pretty self-explanatory, I think.

6
7 MR. SQUIBB: Okay. If there's no further
8 questions, thank you, Council. I appreciate your time.

9
10 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any other
11 questions for Ron.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: ADF&G Advisory
16 Committee comments. Is there anyone here from the
17 Advisory Committee who wishes to provide comments
18 regarding this proposal.

19
20 (No comments)

21
22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none,
23 we'll go ahead. Written public comments.

24
25 The Aniakchak SRC on Proposal 41 supports
26 the proposal. The SRC supports changing the sealing
27 requirements to allow subsistence users taking brown bear
28 in Unit 9(E) to seal brown bear hides and/or skulls only
29 if they are removed from Unit 9(E).

30
31 Is there anyone from the public who
32 wishes to provide testimony regarding this proposal.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none,
37 we'll elevate this to Council discussion. What is the
38 wishes of the Council.

39
40 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman, I move we
41 adopt Proposal 41.

42
43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
44 motion to adopt Proposal 41.

45
46 MS. ALECK: I'll second that.

47
48 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's a second
49 from Virginia. Discussion.

50

00047

1 MR. ABRAHAM: Question.

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
4 called for.

5

6 MR. HEYANO: Hold on a minute, Cliff.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead, Robert.

9

10 MR. HEYANO: On the motion, does that
11 include the modification provided or submitted by ADF&G,
12 change in boundaries?

13

14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No, Robert, the
15 motion just addresses as requested -- as submitted by the
16 Alaska Peninsula Refuge which would revise the sealing
17 requirement -- the short answer is, no, Robert. It's
18 just to adopt the Staff analysis as presented by Dave
19 Fisher.

20

21 MR. HEYANO: Okay, thank you.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: Could I clarify this, this
24 applies to Federal hunts in 9(E)?

25

26 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: To Federal lands
27 in 9(E), yes.

28

29 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay.

30

31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
32 called for. All those in favor of the motion signify by
33 saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those opposed.

38

39 (No opposing votes)

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion passes.
42 Next one, Dave.

43

44 MR. FISHER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the next
45 one is Proposal No. 42. This was submitted by the
46 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council. And this would
47 reduce the bull caribou harvest limits and modify seasons
48 in Unit 9(B), Unit 17 and Unit 18.

49

50 Before I get started I'd like to have you

00048

1 turn to your regulation book, Page 102. You on Page 102
2 Robin.

3

4 MR. SAMUELSEN: Pardon?

5

6 MR. FISHER: Are you on Page 102 of your
7 regulation book?

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

10

11 MR. HEYANO: Yes.

12

13 MR. FISHER: Okay. On Page 102, under
14 caribou, Unit 17(A) if you'll look in the lower right-
15 hand corner, it says August 1 through April 15th, that
16 should be August 1 through March 31st. And right below
17 that it says August 1 through March 31st, that should be
18 August 1 through April 15th. Those are two typos. Okay.

19

20 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: And Dave, we've
21 submitted this through Bill so they can produce an errata
22 sheet, correct?

23

24 MR. FISHER: Yes.

25

26 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead, Dave.

27

28 MR. FISHER: Okay, we're dealing with the
29 Mulchatna Caribou Herd here and it has a pretty large
30 range. It covers over 60,000 square miles. It's found
31 in Units 9(B), Unit 17, Unit 18 south and also 19(A) and
32 19(B). Between 1981 and 1997 this caribou herd increased
33 at an annual rate of about 17 percent and in 1996 the
34 population was estimated to be around 200,000. The
35 current estimate is somewhere around 147,000.

36

37 The bull/cow ratios began to decline in
38 the year 2000 from 38 bulls to 100 cows down to around 17
39 bulls per 100 cows. Fish and Game management objectives
40 for this herd are to maintain a minimum population of 100
41 to 150,000 animals and a minimum bull/cow ratio of 35 to
42 100. But you can see that the bull/cow ratio is down and
43 that has elevated concern on both the Department of Fish
44 and Game and also this Advisory Council.

45

46 The harvest for Mulchatna Caribou Herd
47 has been as high as around 12,000 animals. About two-
48 thirds of this harvest has been bulls. Most of the
49 harvest occurs in August and September. The Mulchatna
50 Caribou Herd is an important subsistence species.

00049

1 Household surveys in the Bristol Bay and Yukon Delta area
2 show that caribou counted for about 12 percent of
3 subsistence resources. It's also an important resource
4 for sport hunters, it does get a lot of sport hunter use.
5

6 What we want to do here is to change the
7 harvest limit. For Unit 9(B) five caribou, July 1
8 through April 15th. We'd be lengthening the season there
9 a little bit but we would require that no more than one
10 bull be taken from July 1 through November 30th, so we
11 would be potentially cutting back on the bull harvest in
12 that area in Unit 9(B). We'd be doing the same thing in
13 Unit 17(A), all drainages west of Right-Hand Point, no
14 bull may be taken from August 1 through November 30th, no
15 more than one bull. We'd also be proposing to reduce the
16 bull harvest limit in Unit 17(B) and 17(C) east of the
17 Wood River, no more than one bull may be taken August 1st
18 through November 30th. In Unit 17(A) and 17(C)
19 remainder, maintain a harvest limit of up to five
20 caribou, however the season and the harvest limit and
21 hunt area would be announced by the Togiak National
22 Wildlife Refuge manager. They do that depending on what
23 the movement of that herd does, if there's quite a few
24 animals in there they would probably open up the season
25 earlier and set the harvest limit accordingly.
26

27 In Unit 18 we recommended a modification
28 there based on recent Board of Game action. Prior to
29 their action Unit 18 was divided into north and south,
30 they went with just a straight Unit 18, five caribou,
31 August 1 through April 15th, however no more than one
32 bull may be taken from August 1st through November 30th.
33

34 I would like to discuss a little
35 clarification to the Unit 18 portion. I was talking with
36 Mike Rearden, Refuge manager there at the Yukon Delta,
37 and his recommendation would be to not address the
38 restriction on the bull take, just leave it at five
39 caribou and defer that portion of this proposal that
40 deals with 18 to the Yukon Delta Regional Advisory
41 Council, let them address it. That's just a
42 recommendation on my part.
43

44 And the main reason for that is
45 apparently there's some information, some survey
46 information that's, a little different than what they
47 obtained up there, it's a little different than what we
48 have gotten down here in the eastern part of the herd's
49 range. Our surveys down here showed that we had 17 bulls
50 per 100 cows, however, in their surveys up there they had

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1 approximately 28 bulls per 100 cows. So Mike's
2 recommendation would be to do more surveys and get some
3 better data and for us down here to defer that portion of
4 this proposal that deals with 18 to the Yukon Delta
5 Advisory Council.

6
7 The reasons for reducing the bull harvest
8 in 9(B) and 17 would be to try and increase that bull
9 population, get that bull/cow ratio up. And we're still
10 maintaining a five caribou harvest limit but we are
11 restricting bull take during certain times of the season.
12 So it would not probably impact subsistence users all
13 that much, they'd still be able to take the five caribou
14 but they would have to watch when they took the bulls.

15
16 And that's about all I have, thank you,
17 Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dave.
20 One quick question regarding Mike Rearden's comments to
21 you. This proposal addresses Units 9(B), 17 and 18, what
22 was your response to Mike in regards to your analysis
23 asking the Council to defer taking action on 18 and --
24 for example, we'd go to the Board meeting in May, can the
25 Board adopt a chopped up proposal like that where we're
26 omitting Unit 18 from this?

27
28 MR. FISHER: I believe in the past, I
29 believe this Council has deferred action on a proposal to
30 another Council.

31
32 Robin and Robert may want to correct me
33 if I'm wrong but I believe we have done that in the past.

34
35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

36
37 MR. FISHER: I told Mike I would make
38 that recommendation to the Council, that would be my
39 recommendation to be to go along with what he wanted to
40 do with that part of 18.

41
42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin, did
43 you have any questions for Dave.

44
45 MR. HEYANO: No, no questions Mr.
46 Chairman. This is Robert. We're having a hard time
47 hearing him, he seems to move away from the speaker or
48 the mike or whatever he's talking into and then we get a
49 lot of static if he doesn't speak up.

50

00051

1 What I thought I heard him say is that
2 the people in Unit 18 want to exclude the one bull
3 caribou from July to -- or from August to November; is
4 that correct, and still maintain the five bulls?

5
6 MR. FISHER: Yes, that's correct. Some
7 of the biological information that Mike and the Fish and
8 Game people up there have gotten shows a higher bull/cow
9 ratio than what we have down here or in the eastern part
10 of the range of the herd, so Mike felt that restricting
11 that bull harvest would possibly impact subsistence users
12 and recommended through me that we defer that action on
13 that part of 18 to that Yukon Delta Regional Advisory
14 Council and kind of see what they come up with.

15
16 MR. HEYANO: But I think those are all
17 Mulchatna animals. If they want to do that then they
18 need to take an average of bull to cow ratio in 18 and
19 then in 17 and 9 and average it out. They're not
20 separate Mulchatna animals that stay in Unit 18, they
21 move back and forth all the time as we all well know.

22
23 I don't have the answer to why they have
24 a higher bull to cow ratio in 18, but we're talking the
25 same herd here.

26
27 MR. FISHER: We understand that.

28
29 MR. HEYANO: But to me the correct
30 methodology would be to take an average and see where
31 we're at.

32
33 MR. FISHER: I don't know how to answer
34 your question, you're probably right. But then Mike did
35 express that concern and they are going to do some
36 additional surveys to get some better data or combined
37 data or whatever it takes.

38
39 Maybe Jim Woolington could address that
40 question.

41
42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dave.

43
44 MR. FISHER: Yes.

45
46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: I had a question.
47 If you look on Page 75 then, so would you be asking in
48 your modified Staff analysis, would you be omitting that
49 portion on the top there?

50

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1 MR. FISHER: Or recommend deferral to the
2 Yukon Delta Council, yes.

3
4 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Or recommend
5 deferral.

6
7 MR. FISHER: Yeah, my recommendation
8 would be to recommend that you defer that part that deals
9 with that part, 18, to the Yukon Delta.

10
11 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

12
13 MS. ALECK: Mr. Chairman.

14
15 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Virginia.

16
17 MS. ALECK: I have a question. I'm
18 having trouble with the dates, August through November,
19 August, September, October is rutting season and
20 subsistence users use the animal during the rutting; I
21 don't think so.

22
23 MR. DUNAWAY: They could shoot -- try to
24 get cows if it's during the rut, at least, folks I know
25 around Dillingham, their best to avoid bulls in October.

26
27 MS. ALECK: Well, in the fall time some
28 people, like us, we used to get at least one bull for the
29 fall hunt just for the fat. I don't know how it would be
30 a problem but I'm just having trouble with the month
31 October.

32
33 MR. FISHER: In what unit?

34
35 MS. ALECK: In any unit. Because there's
36 a lot of wanton waste during rutting season, and we don't
37 use caribou during rutting season.

38
39 MR. FISHER: Well, in 9(B) they've added
40 -- they went from August 1st to April 15th to July 1st to
41 April 15th, so there's been another month added in 9(B).
42 However, they were proposing to restrict the bull
43 harvest.....

44
45 MS. ALECK: Uh-huh.

46
47 MR. FISHER:one bull from July 1 to
48 November 30th.

49
50 MS. ALECK: Uh-huh.

00053

1 MR. FISHER: And basically the seasons in
2 the remainder of the proposal stay pretty much the same
3 with the exception of the bull restriction.

4
5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Boris, did you
6 have a question.

7
8 MR. KOSBRUK: Yeah, I just want to point
9 out that I brought up at the last meeting we had here, or
10 I think Dillingham, that I experienced it myself, where a
11 plane brought a load of caribou in and the dogs wouldn't
12 even eat it and Virginia's right, it's just wan -- don't
13 we have a wanton waste law in the state? Or we're not
14 the State, but then we're going against it.

15
16 MR. FISHER: Yeah, both the Federal
17 regulations and State regulations, there's wanton waste
18 in both regulations.

19
20 MR. KOSBRUK: Well, during the rutting
21 season you're wasting, there's no doubt in my mind about
22 that, you can't eat it.

23
24 MS. ALECK: Yeah, I know the meat places
25 in Anchorage don't even take the meat during rutting
26 season to process the meats.

27
28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Are there any
29 other questions for Dave.

30
31 MR. ALVAREZ: I do, Cliff. Dave, you
32 estimate the caribou in the Mulchatna Herd are 147,000
33 now?

34
35 MR. FISHER: (Nods affirmatively)

36
37 MR. ALVAREZ: And do you happen to know
38 where they are now? Where the bulk of the caribou are,
39 and we're.....

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MR. ALVAREZ:you know, I guess, up
44 around 9(B), around the Iliamna Lake area, there hasn't
45 been much caribou for -- since a year ago about this time
46 we haven't seen them.

47
48 MR. FISHER: I'm not sure where the
49 majority of them, I know there's quite a few up in Unit
50 18. Maybe Jim could bring us up to date up what the

00054

1 latest.....

2

3 MR. ALVAREZ: Are they tending to stay up
4 there all year around?

5

6 MR. FISHER: No, they will move.

7

8 MR. ALVAREZ: Down how far?

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 MR. FISHER: Well, I can't predict
13 caribou movements.

14

15 MR. ALVAREZ: You know, we have a big
16 herd, but it doesn't do any good if they're 200 miles --
17 you know, it's like we have no caribou. You know there
18 was a couple of thousand caribou right across the road,
19 up by the dump up here, you could see them, you know,
20 they were Mulchatna -- well, most of them were Mulchatna
21 caribou, but, you know, you have to have Tier II to hunt
22 them.

23

24 Boy, when I go back to Igiugig and fly
25 back and forth there's hardly anything up there and
26 everybody's always asking me, you see any caribou, you
27 see any caribou, every time I go by.

28

29 MR. FISHER: Those are probably Northern
30 Alaska Peninsula Herd weren't they?

31

32 MR. ALVAREZ: I don't think so. I think
33 they were -- they came across -- some of them probably
34 were but a lot of those caribou came across probably
35 about half way between -- a little over halfway between
36 Levelock and Igiugig in December, I believe it was, and
37 they worked their way all over to Naknek, to the road,
38 highway here, then they kind of worked back -- I haven't
39 been out of town for the last couple of weeks but they
40 were working their way back up towards Branch River right
41 along the hills up there the last I saw them.

42

43 But that's the only caribou I heard of
44 coming down there. I heard -- I understand there's
45 probably some over on the west side of the bay. I don't
46 know how big a herd that is but -- but for quite a few
47 years there haven't been much around, not like it used to
48 be.

49

50 MR. FISHER: Well, that Northern Alaska

00055

1 Peninsula Herd has really -- the population has fallen
2 somewhere, I think, probably five, 6,000 so that's one of
3 the reasons why you aren't seeing a lot of caribou around
4 here. And then of course the Mulchatna Herd is down.

5
6 MR. ALVAREZ: Well, it sounds like
7 they're kind of tending to stay more up there, you know,
8 and I kind of hope they don't do that forever because
9 it's like we don't have much of a herd anymore they're so
10 far up there.

11
12 I just wanted to point that out, you
13 know, they do migrate down here, they used to. But, you
14 know, times are changing, I don't know if they found new
15 food or girlfriends or whatever, but they're not coming
16 back.

17
18 (Laughter)

19
20 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Randy.
21 Any other comments for Dave.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Questions.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: If not we'll move
30 on to ADF&G comments.

31
32 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chairman. Members
33 of the Council. The Department of Fish and Game supports
34 this proposal with modifications to make it consistent to
35 present State caribou season and bag limits in Unit 18.

36
37 It's fall 2003 meeting, the Alaska Board
38 of Game revised the caribou season in Game Management
39 Unit 18 to August 1st through April 15th, thereby
40 extending the season by 15 days and adding the provision
41 that no more than one bull may be taken between August
42 1st and November 30th.

43
44 Adopting this change in the Federal
45 regulations will provide additional hunting opportunity
46 for Federally-qualified subsistence users and minimize
47 confusion.

48
49 And I could answer questions if you so
50 desire.

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1 MR. ALVAREZ: Have you surveyed or do any
2 surveys lately, do you know where the caribou are?

3
4 MR. WOOLINGTON: At the present time, you
5 know, the wintering area, they're scattered throughout
6 the range.

7
8 I would like to back up a little bit and
9 make a comment on that population estimate of 147,000.
10 That was our estimate for the summer 2002 photo census.
11 Since that time we have not conducted a photo census
12 summer 2003, and so we don't have a present estimate,
13 although I will say that the last several years the
14 winter's been pretty easy and we have also had relatively
15 good calf proportions in the fall. So where we're at in
16 relation to that 147,000 right now, I really can't say.

17
18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Nanci.

19
20 MS. MORRIS: Do you have an opinion, as
21 far as the discrepancy goes in the bull to cow ratio as
22 seen from Unit 18 down to these lower units?

23
24 MR. WOOLINGTON: As Robert Heyano
25 mentioned, it's all one herd. This same Mulchatna Herd
26 ranges from the Alaska Range on the east all the way to
27 almost Bethel on the west and they've been as far north
28 as McGrath a few times and south to Cape Newenham,
29 Dillingham, and Edlund Point area. So there's a lot of
30 mixing throughout the year every year.

31
32 When we do the fall composition counts,
33 since the last three or four years at least we've tried
34 to do composition counts, both, do one count up in the
35 Aniak/Bethel area and another one down here in, maybe the
36 central portion of Unit 17 over on the eastern -- or
37 western portion of 9(B), and then we add the numbers
38 together and just average it out.

39
40 This last year we had some weather
41 conditions and through this -- you know, through these
42 surveys where we're doing the two different places, since
43 we started doing that we have noticed a difference in the
44 bull/cow ratio through the two different sample areas.
45 Now, again, they're the same caribou, they mix throughout
46 the year, but when we do the composition counts it's
47 usually the first week of October when the bulls and cows
48 are all mixed up into large rutting aggregations but it's
49 after most of the hunting season in the year. Most of
50 the hunting occurs in the fall. And so we have seen a

00057

1 fewer bull -- the lower bull/cow ratio in the caribou
2 we've counted over in the eastern portion than we have
3 the last few years in the western portion.

4

5 Now, this last year the total that, I
6 believe, 17 bulls per 100 cows, that was sum together.
7 The actual number that we got over in the eastern side
8 was a bit less than that and as Dave said, I think the
9 ones that we counted over -- or that I counted over in
10 the Aniak Whitefish Lake area was about 28 bulls per 100
11 cows. Even given that, it's below my management
12 objective of 35 bulls per 100 cows for the total herd.

13

14 Now, I felt kind of uncomfortable about
15 the numbers were able to produce for this last fall
16 composition count. We had some weather problems and
17 scheduling problems and things like that but
18 unfortunately when you do surveys like this that you
19 can't control all the parameters on it, every once in
20 awhile you get one that you're pretty uncomfortable with
21 and we try to look at it on a trend basis and long-term.
22 So the reason why the Board of Game went to the one bull
23 bag limit in the fall from August through the end of
24 November in 17 and 9(B) and also in 18 is because we have
25 seen for the last three years, at least, a bull/cow ratio
26 that is below our management objectives of 35 bulls per
27 100 cows.

28

29 Again, these caribou through the year
30 move from one side of the range to the other and we have
31 quite a number of radio collars in the herd. And one
32 year a radio-collared individual might winter over in the
33 eastern part of the range, the year it will winter over
34 in the -- it may winter over in the western part or both
35 during one year. So a lot of movement and a lot of
36 mixing.

37

38 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Boris.

39

40 MR. KOSBRUK: Yeah, I hear all these
41 surveys here, I'm getting curious, up north up here, you
42 have anything for south, any surveys?

43

44 MR. WOOLINGTON: For north or south of
45 what?

46

47 MR. KOSBRUK: (E) to be specific.

48

49 MR. WOOLINGTON: Yeah, this is -- I don't
50 -- Lem Butler would have the fall composition counts for

00058

1 the North Peninsula Herd and South Peninsula Herd. I
2 don't have that data. I manage the Mulchatna Herd, which
3 this proposal is addressing.

4

5 MR. KOSBRUK: Is he here?

6

7 MR. WOOLINGTON: Yes, he was up here.

8

9 MR. KOSBRUK: He was just here?

10

11 MR. WOOLINGTON: He's still here.

12

13 MS. ALECK: He's back there.

14

15 MS. ALECK: I have a question for you.

16

17 MR. WOOLINGTON: Yes.

18

19 MS. ALECK: You. Do you have the
20 steering committee for the Mulchatna Herd about this, the
21 decline in your bull, do they show -- I mean you guys are
22 concerned that there's a -- the bull ratio is going down
23 and I was wondering if you guys are going to have your --
24 the guides and stuff to kind of lay off, too, or is it
25 just the subsistence users you guys are going to ask to
26 get just the one bull? Are the hunters, the big game
27 hunters are going to go ahead and get the bulls anyway?

28

29 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chairman. Members
30 of the Council. There is no steering committee regarding
31 the Mulchatna Herd as far as I'm concerned.

32

33 MS. ALECK: Oh, okay.

34

35 MR. WOOLINGTON: The Department -- or the
36 Board of Game regulations -- or changes that the Board of
37 Game made regarding hunting caribou in 9(B) and 17 and
38 then subsequently this last fall in 18, one of the
39 changes was that previously the non-resident bag limit
40 for hunting caribou in these areas was two caribou. The
41 Board of Game dropped that down to one caribou for non-
42 residents. And all State resident -- and then for State
43 residents, the bag limit was five caribou total for the
44 whole year, it remains at five caribou total in these
45 areas, however, for State residents, of those five which
46 you can take all throughout the season, one -- you could
47 only take one bull during that August through November
48 30th period. And I believe in 9(B) the season actually
49 starts July 1st. So during the fall hunt, prior to
50 November 30th, Alaska residents could take five caribou,

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1 of which, only one can be a bull. That is the present
2 regulations.

3

4 MS. ALECK: Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any other
7 questions for Jim.

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: If not we'll move
12 on to -- go ahead, Jim.

13

14 MR. WOOLINGTON: Did you want me to go
15 through distribution of where we -- I think there was a
16 question as far as where caribou are at and movements and
17 that.

18

19 MR. ALVAREZ: Do you have that?

20

21 MR. WOOLINGTON: I can give you a rundown
22 on what we've seen and what we see as movements through
23 the year if you so desire?

24

25 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah, if you got numbers
26 for that because when I go back up to Igiugig they'll
27 probably ask me where the caribou are and so I can kind
28 of tell them, well, this is where they're at, you know.
29 I mean if you guys have that information I'd like to hear
30 it.

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Randy,
33 before we proceed on that, are you going to be here for
34 tomorrow's meeting as well?

35

36 MR. WOOLINGTON: It depends how long it
37 goes on, I guess.

38

39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Because I
40 wanted to keep our discussion to the proposal. Because
41 Jim can provide some input or information on the
42 Mulchatna Herd in his presentation of agency report if
43 he's here tomorrow, if that's okay with you.

44

45 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, unless it.....

46

47 MR. WOOLINGTON: Whatever you wish.

48

49 MR. DUNAWAY: Could it possibly affect
50 our perspective on this proposal, is that what you're

00060

1 thinking Randy, or are you mostly interested in where to
2 go hunting later?

3

4 (Laughter)

5

6 MR. ALVAREZ: Well, I'm just wondering if
7 what really is their -- are they changing their migrating
8 pattern where they're not coming down as much anymore
9 because, you know, from about 10, 15 years ago they were
10 just thick, all over the Iliamna Lake region there was --
11 you know, even on top of Big Mountain, and they were kind
12 of at their peak. You know, I was flying along the
13 northwest side of the lake one time and there must have
14 been 20 miles of caribou and I don't know how -- about a
15 mile wide -- I couldn't even tell you how many caribou
16 there were there were just so many. And ever since --
17 and, you know, that was kind of the peak and the last few
18 years there's just hardly been any, hardly any come
19 around. Did they change the -- did the cycle -- you
20 know, I kind of see it, it's kind of slowly changed where
21 less and less were coming back to the last couple of
22 years until it's just like there's hardly any; like this
23 147,000 doesn't even exist. You know, maybe it's only a
24 few thousand.

25

26 But that's not really pertaining to this
27 proposal. I'd kind of like to hear from some of the
28 other -- I don't really -- I think this part of Unit 18,
29 this part of the proposal should contain Unit 18, too, in
30 my opinion. I don't think we should omit it and I'd kind
31 of like to hear what some of the other guys feel about
32 that.

33

34 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, Randy.
35 Before we get to some of the other Council discussion, we
36 could proceed on with other State and Federal agency
37 comments, if there are any.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: If not, we'll
42 proceed on to any Advisory Committee members there in the
43 public who wish to provide comments to this proposal.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none,
48 summary of written public comments.

49

50 The Lake Clark SRC supports Proposal 42.

00061

1 The SRC recognizes the conservation concern for the
2 Mulchatna Caribou Herd and supports reducing the harvest
3 limit for bull caribou from two to one.

4

5 And that's all there were in regards to
6 the written public comments.

7

8 Is there anyone in the public who wishes
9 to come forth and provide any testimony regarding
10 Proposal 42.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: If not we'll go
15 ahead and move on to Regional Council deliberation. What
16 is the wishes of the Council.

17

18 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman, I move to
19 adopt Proposal 42.

20

21 MR. ABRAHAM: Second the motion.

22

23 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
24 motion to adopt Proposal 42. For clarification, Randy,
25 could you -- when Dave presented his analysis, is your
26 motion to adopt the proposal as modified? If you look on
27 Page 74, this is Dave's written Staff analysis. The
28 original proposal, if you look on Page 67, it goes
29 through the whole -- actually on 68, this was the
30 original proposal submitted by the Council, which was
31 modified in Dave's Staff analysis on Page 74.

32

33 MR. FISHER: It's modified to include the
34 recent Board of Game changes that they made last
35 November. And then I was recommending a minor
36 modification based on Refuge Manager Mike Rearden to drop
37 that -- or defer that part of 18 to the YK Delta Council.

38

39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dave, so for
40 clarification then on the proposal, if you look on Page
41 68, the proposed -- what you have on Page 68 is exactly
42 what Randy is proposing in his motion, correct?

43

44 MR. FISHER: Well, if he's going with
45 what the proposal is calling for.

46

47 MR. ALVAREZ: That was my original
48 intent.

49

50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

00062

1 MR. ALVAREZ: The original proposal to
2 include Unit 18.

3
4 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

5
6 MR. ALVAREZ: But if it's any different
7 than.....

8
9 MR. FISHER: Yes, my modification is to
10 combine north and south into Unit 18 like what the Board
11 of Game did, there's no more north and south, it's just
12 all Unit 18, that was the modification I wanted to make.

13
14 And then the modification I mentioned a
15 few minutes ago was just to delete that portion of this
16 proposal that deals with 18 and let the Yukon Delta
17 Council handle it.

18
19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay.

20
21 MR. FISHER: Based on their concern for
22 the bull/cow ratio discrepancy and the one bull harvest
23 limit.

24
25 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah, I understand that.
26 But as Mr. Woolington mentioned, you know, even 28 bulls
27 to 100 cows was below his threshold of 35, what he
28 recommended so I'd like to see Unit 18 be part of the
29 motion.

30
31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dan, did you have
32 a question.

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm trying to keep track of
35 all this, because I'll say what I support and then I want
36 to make sure -- I support, like, Randy, but I support the
37 recommended modifications that appear on Page 74 and 75
38 respectfully declining the recommended deferral of 18. I
39 think 18 should be included.

40
41 And I'm getting muddled on whether that
42 language includes the recommendation of the Fish and Game
43 Department, which I understand is trying to get State
44 regs and Federal regs lined up in 18. Personally I would
45 support, either, if we could make it a friendly amendment
46 to the language to include the Fish and Game
47 recommendation, I would like to offer that, but I'd also
48 want to emphasize that I do believe that Unit 18 should
49 be included in this final package when we vote on it.

50

00063

1 MR. ALVAREZ: I could go along with that.

2

3 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman, this is

4 Robert.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Robert.

7

8 MR. HEYANO: Do we have a motion on the

9 floor?

10

11 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, there is a
12 motion to adopt Proposal 42 as submitted by the Bristol
13 Bay Council which would reduce the bull caribou harvest
14 limits and extend the seasons in Units 9(B), 17 and 18.

15

16 MR. HEYANO: Thank you.

17

18 MR. FISHER: Cliff.

19

20 MR. HEYANO: Has it been seconded?

21

22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: It's been

23 seconded.

24

25 MR. HEYANO: Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I
26 would like to offer a friendly amendment to the motion,
27 to offer substitute language as addressed on Page 74 and
28 75 in of booklet by the Staff.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: You must not have heard me
31 Robert, that's what I was offering up, but I appreciate
32 the support. How do you feel about the recommendations
33 on Page 79 from the Department of Fish and Game.

34

35 MR. HEYANO: Dan, when I read it, I think
36 the language on 75 includes what ADF&G was attempting to
37 get at with the proposal in regards to Unit 18.

38

39 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. With that
40 reassurance that sounds good to me, and you said it
41 better than I did, appreciate it.

42

43 MR. ALVAREZ: I agree.

44

45 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Randy,
46 would you like to address your motion.

47

48 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.

49

50 MR. HEYANO: Has my friendly been

00064

1 accepted by the maker of the motion, Mr. Chair?

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Randy.

4

5 MR. ALVAREZ: Yes.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, it has

8 Robert.

9

10 MR. HEYANO: Thank you.

11

12 MR. ALVAREZ: So I could resubmit my
13 motion for Proposal 42 to include the modified language
14 to be in line with the State of Alaska regulations and
15 that would include Unit 18 in that, too.

16

17 MR. DUNAWAY: So that I understand, like
18 what Robert said, I think if you move to adopt the
19 recommended language appearing on 74/75, that probably
20 answers -- I think that answers my concerns and I think
21 it does yours and Robert's too.

22

23 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Randy, all's I was
24 just -- and just protocol, you know, when we made the
25 motion and it was seconded and then there was the
26 friendly amendment, all's I'm looking for is just
27 justification in terms of the motion.

28

29 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah.

30

31 MR. DUNAWAY: Just talking about it after
32 you make it, that's all.

33

34 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any further
37 discussion.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 MR. ALVAREZ: Call for the question.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: I was just -- I guess I've
44 spoke my peace, I support this.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
47 called for. All those in favor of the motion signify by
48 saying aye.

49

50 IN UNISON: Aye.

00065

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those opposed,
2 same sign.

3
4 (No opposing votes)

5
6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion carries.

7 Dave.

8
9 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
10 The next proposal was submitted by the Bristol Bay
11 Regional Advisory Council. This would allow for the same
12 day airborne hunting of caribou in Game Management Unit 9
13 and Game Management Unit 17.

14
15 The same day airborne hunting of caribou
16 as proposed would affect four caribou herds, the Southern
17 Alaska Peninsula Herd in Units 9(E) and Unit 10. The
18 Northern Alaska Peninsula Herd in Unit 9. The Nushagak
19 Peninsula Caribou Herd in Unit 17(A) and 17(C). And the
20 Mulchatna Caribou Herd in Unit 9 and Unit 17.

21
22 Current Federal regulations prohibit the
23 same day airborne hunting of big game animals except for
24 deer but not on National Park Service lands. It's
25 prohibited on National Park Service lands.

26
27 Current State regulations prohibit same
28 day airborne hunting except for deer and Mulchatna
29 Caribou Herd and they do allow the same day airborne
30 hunting for the Mulchatna Caribou Herd January 1 through
31 April 15th in Unit 9(B), 17(B) and 17(C) east of the
32 Nushagak River.

33
34 A little bit on the regulatory history of
35 this issue. Federal Subsistence regulations were derived
36 from State regulations back in 1990 when the Federal
37 program came into being and it prohibited the same day
38 airborne hunting of big game except for deer. The Board
39 of Game adopted same day airborne hunting for Mulchatna
40 Caribou Herd on State management lands in 1995 for the
41 areas that I mentioned and this was modified a year later
42 requiring the hunter to be at least 300 feet from the
43 airplane before there was any harvest.

44
45 Another important fact here is -- or
46 important regulation is the Airborne Hunting Act which
47 was adopted in 1974 prohibits the shooting of wildlife
48 from aircraft and the use of aircraft to harass wildlife.
49 The Federal Subsistence Board has reviewed several
50 wildlife proposals for same day airborne hunting

00066

1 including two for same day airborne hunting for the
2 Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd and they have opposed all
3 of these. The Mulchatna Caribou Herd, we just got done
4 discussing that and so those numbers and the status of
5 that herd should be pretty fresh in our minds. The
6 Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd, we did talk a
7 little bit about that, but that herd has declined from
8 around 20,000 in the mid-80s to the current estimate, I
9 think, somewhere around five to 6,000 animals; that may
10 be a little high but it's still a decline, and that
11 figure estimate was based in 2002. And since that
12 decline we've gone to a Tier II caribou hunt, we've
13 talked a little bit about that and we've also gone to a
14 restricted Federal registration permit hunt based on 10
15 percent of the Tier II permits.

16
17 The Nushagak Peninsula Caribou Herd has
18 declined from around 12, 1,300 in the late '90s to a
19 current estimate of around 700. The only caribou herd
20 that is stable and increasing is the Southern Alaska
21 Peninsula Caribou Herd and that's, at one time numbered
22 around 1,800 and that was in '96 and we're up over 5,000
23 animals there now.

24
25 Caribou, as we've discussed here earlier
26 is an important food source for people in the Bristol Bay
27 area and this is primarily -- access to hunt these has
28 been by foot, four-wheeler, snowmachine, motor vehicle or
29 by boat. We don't have any studies regarding the same
30 day airborne as a customary and traditional practice for
31 taking caribou. We do know that it happened and
32 references in the literature refer to the use of aircraft
33 use to harvest caribou. And there could have been some
34 same day airborne possibly, some did occur probably prior
35 to the Airborne Hunting Act.

36
37 What this proposal would do would allow
38 same day airborne hunting for caribou from the four herds
39 that I mentioned, and actually it would increase the
40 subsistence harvest potential for those who own or have
41 access to airplanes. Would increase access to caribou
42 that are in hard to get areas by other means, by boat or
43 by four-wheeler, motor vehicle or by foot, so if you had
44 an airplane you could get into some of these more remote
45 areas. However, exposing caribou to harassment from
46 airplanes, especially during the winter when they are
47 sometimes in their poorest physical condition is not
48 considered a sound management practice. Same day
49 airborne hunting of caribou could create enforcement
50 problems, violation of Airborne Hunting Act, and you

00067

1 would have same day airborne hunting on Federal lands,
2 but not all State lands and not on all -- or not on
3 National Park Service Lands, so we could cause some --
4 there could be some confusion generated there. And this
5 could focus anti-airborne hunting interest and create
6 controversy by linking subsistence with airborne hunting.

7
8 We did have quite a discussion of this at
9 our leadership team meeting in Anchorage, and there was a
10 recommendation to modify this proposal somewhat, and that
11 would be to oppose same day airborne hunting except for
12 Mulchatna Herd and that would be to align with what the
13 current State has.

14
15 And by passing this proposal it's going
16 to affect some BLM land in Unit 9(B), Unit 17(B) and Unit
17 17(C), and also some -- a little bit of Togiak National
18 Wildlife Refuge land in Unit 17(B).

19
20 That's about all I have.

21
22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dave.
23 Robert, Robin, did you have any questions for Dave.

24
25 MR. HEYANO: I do but I'll hold off on
26 them.

27
28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any questions from
29 the Council members here in the room.

30
31 MS. ALECK: I was just reading up on the
32 caribou conditions. I notice here there's a lung worm
33 being observed; I mean how bad is it, is it only in
34 calves or has it been.....

35
36 MR. FISHER: No, well, it has affected
37 the nutritional -- primarily in cows and it also -- well,
38 it affects the reproduction of calves so it is a concern,
39 primarily in the Northern Alaska Peninsula Herd. And
40 that could be related to the habitat, deterioration of
41 the habitat. That's one of the reasons why that herd is
42 down.

43
44 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any other
45 questions for Dave on the analysis.

46
47 MR. DUNAWAY: Robert better fire away.

48
49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We're ready
50 Robert.

00068

1 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Dave, I know at several meetings we've asked Staff to
3 conduct a C&T determination on methods and means in
4 regards to same day airborne, can you give us a status
5 report on that work?

6
7 MR. FISHER: I wish I could, I don't have
8 an update on that Robert, maybe Cliff or Polly could talk
9 on that. I was looking at the -- I analyzed the proposal
10 based on what the Council -- based on the proposal that
11 they submitted and that was to allow for same day
12 airborne hunting in both of those Game Management Units,
13 so that's kind of where I went with my work. But to my
14 knowledge, I don't believe we have done any special work
15 on the customary and traditional use of that unless
16 somebody else, Cliff or Polly.

17
18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, from some
19 of the general discussions we had with Dan LaPlant and
20 Tim Jennings, prior to his departure on a detail, the
21 discussions we had regarding customary and traditional
22 C&T requests to collect data for the use of aircraft for
23 same day airborne hunting, they -- at least at the LT
24 level, they chose not to move forward to collect data
25 because they felt that current Federal regulations for
26 same day airborne hunting and the collection data
27 wouldn't mesh with -- at least in regards to wolves, you
28 know, we had that discussion with wolves. But the
29 initial discussions that they did go was over wolves and
30 it was that if they did go out and collect the data that
31 it would be in conflict with the current Federal
32 regulations, at least, for different agencies, with the
33 Refuge, Daryle, and I think Paul could address those.
34 But they just felt that the C&T data would go in conflict
35 with the current Federal regulations for same day
36 airborne hunting -- or not the same day, but the Airborne
37 Hunting Act. And unless Glenn or.....

38
39 MR. HEYANO: And Cliff, I guess.....

40
41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Robert.
42 Unless Glenn.....

43
44 MR. HEYANO: Go ahead.

45
46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW:has any input
47 in regards to that, but that's the discussions we had at
48 the leadership team level in our office when Pat was on
49 board before she retired, which was just a few months
50 ago.

00069

1 Go ahead, Robert.

2

3

4 MR. HEYANO: Then I guess the question
5 for Dave is if my memory serves me right is that back
6 when we were looking at a proposal to allow same day
7 airborne for Nushagak Peninsula caribou we received --
8 the RAC received an opinion from the Solicitor's Office
9 stating that same day airborne hunting for caribou in his
10 opinion did not violate the Federal Airborne Hunting Act;
11 is that correct?

12

13 MR. FISHER: That's incorrect. He said
14 it could violate the Airborne Hunting Act, that was Keith
15 Goltz, our solicitor that made that opinion.

16

17 MR. HEYANO: Well, my recollection was
18 that it did not violate the Federal Airborne Hunting Act.

19

20 MR. FISHER: Well, Robert, I can -- I
21 know what you're talking about and I can pull his opinion
22 and get it to you if you'd like me to do that, I'd be
23 more than happy to do that.

24

25 MR. HEYANO: Okay, thanks, I would
26 appreciate that. Then on Page 84, there's been some same
27 day airborne hunting on State lands on the regulatory
28 history part of it. Have you known of any convictions in
29 violation of the Same Day Airborne Hunting Act as it
30 pertains to these allowable hunts in the past and
31 currently, and future, I think we have it in 17(C) and
32 (B) and 9(B)?

33

34 MR. FISHER: I'm not aware of any
35 convictions on State lands. I know of some convictions
36 on -- that have happened in Federal lands since I moved
37 to Alaska in '81 throughout the State in working with our
38 law enforcement people. I can't exactly cite dates but I
39 know there has been some same day airborne hunting
40 violations throughout the state primarily with big game
41 guides, but I'm unaware of any.....

42

43 MR. HEYANO: No, my reference is.....

44

45 MR. FISHER: No, I know what your
46 reference is, but I'm unaware of any that have occurred
47 on State lands. Maybe one of the -- Jim or the other
48 fellow can address that.

49

50 MR. HEYANO: No, Dave, I think you missed
the intent of the question. Where it's allowed or has

00070

1 been allowed, has there been any convictions?

2

3 MR. FISHER: You're talking specifically
4 the Mulchatna Caribou Herd where it's allowed on State
5 lands?

6

7 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think in Unit 8 or
8 someplace you can hunt deer down in Southeast with the
9 same day airborne, I was wondering if there's been any
10 convictions on harassment of animals and that type of
11 thing.

12

13 MR. FISHER: I'm not familiar with that.
14 Robert I will be happy to look that up and get some
15 information to you on the same day airborne hunting of
16 deer or as it relates to the Airborne Hunting Act.

17

18 MR. HEYANO: Thanks. A lot of your
19 justification to oppose it as you go through the proposal
20 says it could, it could, it could be in violation of
21 harassing and what not. And we have some history here to
22 go back and look to see if this practice that's allowed
23 has it done that, and that's what I was trying to get at.
24 Has there been any convictions in the past with hunts
25 that have allowed same day airborne.

26

27 MR. FISHER: I can do some research on
28 that for you and get back to you on that Robert.

29

30 MR. HEYANO: Thanks.

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any further
33 questions for Dave, Robert.

34

35 MR. HEYANO: I guess just one last one
36 for now and that's in regards to he referenced the
37 Bristol Bay Native Association as opposing same day
38 airborne customary and traditional practice and maybe you
39 could answer this Cliff, but, didn't they submit a
40 proposal to us to allow it for wolves, same day airborne,
41 citing C&T reasons, plus other reasons, but being
42 customary and traditional use of harvest?

43

44 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: I can't answer
45 that right now, Robert, maybe if Ralph Andersen would
46 step up he could answer your question.

47

48 MR. ANDERSEN: Thank you, Cliff. Robert.
49 Members of the Committee. On Page 85 of Dave's Staff
50 analysis it does say that Proposal WP-01-22 was submitted

00071

1 by BBNA that would have allowed for the subsistence
2 hunting and trapping of wolves in Unit 9(C) and Unit 9(E)
3 while same day airborne. And the primary purpose behind
4 that proposal was because we were trying to find some way
5 to deal with the rapid decline by predators on the
6 Northern Alaska Peninsula Caribou Herd.

7
8 The proposal was put together as a result
9 of resolutions that we received from villages on the
10 Peninsula. And as the Staff analysis goes, the proposal,
11 while it was approved by the Bristol Bay RAC, it was
12 rejected by the Federal Subsistence Board.

13
14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Ralph.
15 Dan.

16
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 I think this was back for Dave. Maybe I have filters up
19 or I'm not listening careful but I'm a little confused.
20 I understand that you avoid collecting data on customary
21 and traditional use of airplanes because the results
22 might conflict with existing law? Is that what I heard?
23 And I'll go further to say, is that appropriate? You're
24 supposed to find out the information, not.....

25
26 MR. FISHER: I don't know if that's what
27 you heard.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 MR. DUNAWAY: That's what I understood.

32
33 MS. MORRIS: That's also a question I
34 have written down so I heard the same thing.

35
36 MR. DUNAWAY: And that's kind of like
37 what Fish and Game used to get accused of and other
38 folks, of.....

39
40 (Laughter)

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY:avoiding to do the
43 research because you don't want to see the results and I
44 sure hope that's not what's going on.

45
46 MR. FISHER: No, I don't think that's
47 what's going on. Maybe perhaps Polly could shed a little
48 light on that.

49
50 (Laughter)

00072

1 MS. WHEELER: Sorry, Dave.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 MS. WHEELER: You're on your own.

6

7 (Laughter)

8

9 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No, but, Dan,
10 that's the discussions we had with Tim and Dan LaPlant in
11 our office regarding when the Council had addressed a
12 proposal for same day airborne hunting of wolves, the
13 issue came up of C&T, and Dan when I get back to the
14 office I'd be more than happy to get clarification from
15 Dan LaPlant, who we seek counsel from in regards to the
16 requests by the Council. Not only was it submitted
17 through its annual report, but it was also requested
18 during their deliberations regarding.....

19

20 MR. FISHER: Predator control.

21

22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Correct.

23

24 MR. FISHER: I guess, Robert, to answer
25 your question -- well, I can't answer it right now. Like
26 Cliff says we'll have to get back to you on it. I know
27 there was some discussion as far as with Tim and Dan in
28 our office when we talked about this proposal, so we'll
29 have to follow-up on it for you.

30

31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
32 questions for Dave.

33

34 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Randy.

37

38 MR. ALVAREZ: If we pass this, we would
39 be supporting airplanes for customary and traditional use
40 in Federal land; am I correct?

41

42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: That's correct.

43

44 MR. ALVAREZ: About four years ago the
45 Kenaitze Tribe of Kenai was applying for a C&T
46 determination in Units 9(A) and (B) and our Advisory
47 Committee Lake Iliamna and the Village of Igiugig that I
48 belong to, opposed them being -- them getting that
49 customary and traditional determination. You know, we
50 didn't oppose 9(A) because it's on the Cook Inlet side of

00073

1 the mountain range, you know, they probably have a
2 history of going across there with a boat but the only
3 way they can get over to 9(B) and hunt in Federal lands
4 is to fly because I don't think they're going to walk
5 through the mountains. And if this would set precedence,
6 I don't think we -- I wouldn't support this proposal.

7
8 MR. FISHER: Well, airplanes can be used
9 to access areas. There's no provisions that prohibit
10 that now, you can go and fly into an area and access
11 area, you just can't hunt the same day you have flown the
12 airplane in, you have to wait.

13
14 MR. ALVAREZ: Well, what I was.....
15

16 MR. FISHER: So we're not trying to --
17 we're not taking away -- this wouldn't -- we're not
18 opposing it because of the access because that's
19 currently allowed.

20
21 MR. ALVAREZ: But would this -- what I
22 mentioned was, if this proposal went through, we'd be
23 supporting customary and traditional determination.

24
25 MR. FISHER: There hasn't been a
26 customary and traditional determination. Based on the
27 information that we have, we know that it occurred, that
28 airplanes were used to access and there was probably some
29 instances where there was same day airborne hunting that
30 occurred, most of it probably occurred prior to 1974,
31 prior to the Airborne Hunting Act, but after the Airborne
32 Hunting Act was in effect, that prohibited harassing of
33 any type with an airplane of wildlife. So after that
34 probably some of it still did occur but it was reduced
35 quite a bit.

36
37 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay. Well, I see what
38 you're saying but I -- I think it might set precedence if
39 -- because I see on Page 84 it talks about customary and
40 traditional use determinations and that part of the paper
41 -- that part of the report.

42
43 MR. FISHER: That has nothing to do with
44 -- those are determinations that were made for people who
45 have customarily and traditionally used those animals,
46 have hunted the animals.

47
48 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.
49

50 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional

00074

1 questions for Dave.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: If not, we'll move
6 on to ADF&G comments.

7

8 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chairman. Members
9 of the Council. I'm Jim Woolington, Fish and Game over
10 in Dillingham. There are several areas in the State
11 where presently you can legally hunt caribou the same day
12 you've airborne and was put in effect to take advantage
13 of some of the large caribou herds such as the Western
14 Arctic Herd and the Mulchatna Herd. Areas where there
15 aren't large numbers of caribou would not be appropriate
16 for same day airborne hunting.

17

18 The Department of Fish and Game supports
19 this proposal with modification. This proposal would
20 open up Federal public lands in a vast -- this proposal
21 as written would open up Federal public lands in a vast
22 area of Southwestern Alaska to same day airborne hunting.
23 The Department does not support allowing the same day
24 airborne hunting of caribou throughout Game Management
25 Units 9 and 17. However, we can support provisions for
26 same day airborne hunting in the Federal subsistence
27 regulations that are consistent with present State
28 regulations which authorize same day airborne hunting of
29 Mulchatna caribou during the period January 1st through
30 April 15th in Game Management Units 9(B), 17(B) and 17(C)
31 east of the Nushagak River provided that the hunter is at
32 least 300 feet away from the aircraft.

33

34 Federal same day airborne hunting
35 regulations inconsistent with the State regulations would
36 create enforcement problems and subject some of the small
37 and declining other herds, such as the North Alaska
38 Peninsula Herd to overharvest. And the difficulty of
39 distinguishing Federal lands from State management lands
40 in Game Management Units 9 and 17 would only add to
41 enforcement difficulties and would likely result in
42 violations.

43

44 I'll answer questions if you have some.

45

46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.
47 Any questions for Jim.

48

49 MR. HEYANO: I have one, Mr. Chairman.

50

00075

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go right ahead
2 Robert.

3
4 MR. HEYANO: Currently the North
5 Peninsula Caribou Herd, the hunt is conducted under a
6 Tier II system, and what I understand is that this
7 regulation of same day airborne would only apply to
8 Federal lands to Federally-qualified subsistence users.
9 My understanding of the permitting process was those
10 permits were evaluated on a yearly basis, I believe, and
11 the number was set to determine what the acceptable
12 harvest was, and I think there's very few Federal -- or
13 there's a lot less Federal permits than there are State
14 Tier II permits.

15
16 So I really can't follow Jim's reasoning that
17 it's going to lead to overharvesting if --
18 hypothetically, say, if there's 20 Federal permits for
19 Tier II and that's the harvest you're looking for, unless
20 that harvest was taken illegally which could happen today
21 without the use of aircraft, I think the protections in
22 that scenario for the resource is there by limiting the
23 number of permits that are issued.

24
25 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Jim.

26
27 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chairman. Members
28 of the Council. I'm not all that familiar with the North
29 Peninsula Herd Tier II process. But typically for these
30 hunts, the number of permits issued are in excess,
31 somewhat in excess to the number of caribou that they
32 would like to see harvested. So it would just -- and I'm
33 thinking and trying to talk here at the same time, but it
34 would seem like increasing the success over what previous
35 hunting activity has been, would likely end up resulting
36 in decreased opportunity for subsistence hunters.

37
38 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any other
39 questions for Jim.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.
44 We'll move on to State and Federal agency comments, are
45 there any other State and Federal agency comments.

46
47 (No comments)

48
49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's a letter,
50 for the record, from the Bristol Bay Native Association

00076

1 from Terry Hoefflerle.

2

3

4 This letter is to express BBNA's
5 opposition to Proposals 43 -- and I'll go ahead and cover
6 44 as well. Opposition to Proposals 43 and 44 being
7 considered by the Bristol Bay Council. 43 would allow
8 same day airborne hunts for caribou in Units 9 and 17,
9 and Proposal 44 would allow same day airborne hunts for
10 moose in Units 9 and 17. In 1997, BBNA's board of
11 directors adopted the position that use of aircraft
12 should not be considered a customary and traditional
13 method of transportation for subsistence harvest. The
14 board of directors has not wavered from that position.

15

16 BBNA opposes same day airborne hunts for
17 moose and caribou for subsistence purposes. BBNA cannot
18 support efforts to allow same day aerial subsistence
19 moose hunts and opposes same day airborne hunting for
20 caribou, even with the modification proposed by Staff.

21

22 BBNA's board adopted this position with
23 several important considerations. First, the vast
24 majority of BBNA members do not own or operate their own
25 private aircraft nor can very many afford to charter an
26 aircraft for their subsistence hunts. The vast majority
27 of those people who do own and operate their own aircraft
28 or can financially afford to charter an aircraft to take
29 advantage of same day airborne hunts will more than
30 likely be from outside the Bristol Bay region. Allowing
31 same day airborne hunts will increase competition between
32 resident subsistence users and hunters from outside the
33 region.

34

35 We encourage the Council to not adopt
36 Proposal 43 even with the modification proposed by Staff
37 and Proposal 44. Thank you for your consideration, Terry
38 Hoefflerle.

39

40 Now, the Lake Clark SRC, they went ahead
41 and no recommendation. The SRC discussed Proposal 43 but
42 makes no recommendation since same day airborne hunting
43 is not permitted on National Park Service lands and would
44 not affect caribou hunting in Lake Clark National Park or
45 Preserve.

46

47 The Aniakchak SRC, they oppose the same
48 day airborne hunting and expressed concern that allowing
49 same day airborne hunting for caribou would open the door
50 for sport and commercial hunters to use the practice.
51 There are serious conservation concerns regarding 9(E)

00077

1 caribou and both the State and Federal caribou hunts are
2 managed as Tier II harvests. This proposal would open
3 all of Unit 9 to same day airborne hunting and allow
4 subsistence hunters from outside 9(E) to hunt caribou
5 with an airplane and compete with local subsistence
6 users.

7
8 We received a written letter from High
9 Adventure Air Charter Guides and Outfitters. And they
10 are writing in regards to Proposals -- I'll go ahead and
11 address 44 as well just to read into the record, but they
12 sit there and say we are writing in response to having
13 received and looked over the Federal wildlife proposals
14 2004 and 2005 that we recently received in the mail.
15 After reviewing and discussing the proposals it
16 contained, we have a couple of concerns. Let us preface
17 those concerns by stating that we are long-time Alaskans,
18 either since birth or in some cases since the early 1960s
19 and have hunted, fished, flown privately and operated a
20 successful outdoor oriented business in the state all
21 during that time. We realize we're not all knowing but
22 do feel we have extensive experience that relates to our
23 areas of concern.

24
25 Our concerns are with Proposal 43 and 44
26 that have to do with a suggestion to make it legal to
27 conduct subsistence hunting for caribou and moose on the
28 same day that a person has been airborne in a small
29 aircraft in Units 9 and 17. It has long been illegal
30 except for winter caribou hunting for this action to take
31 place and for good reason. With the State's recent
32 decision as of 2003 season to lower the overall limit and
33 bull harvest of caribou and with the present state of the
34 moose population coupled with the increase of natural
35 predators in those units, we feel it would be a very bad
36 move to open those areas up to any kind of additional
37 same day airborne hunting.

38
39 We also seriously question the term and
40 need for hunting for anyone who has the resources to use
41 an airplane to fly around, spot and land to take either
42 moose or caribou. Folks in that category are not
43 generally or logically considered to be in a subsistence
44 hunt situation. We are certainly not opposed to true
45 subsistence hunting, but do feel that the passage of
46 these two proposals would be out of synch with the idea
47 of subsistence hunting a very unfair decision as it
48 relates to may other hunters that are not able to hunt
49 under subsistence rules in those areas.

50

00078

1 We strongly request that these two
2 proposals not be passed into regulation and operation.
3 Sincerely, Greg Bell.

4
5 And that concludes the written public
6 comments for Proposal 43.

7
8 Is there anyone out there who wishes to
9 provide public testimony regarding Proposal 43.

10
11 MR. KLUTSCH: Mr. Chairman.

12
13 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Jose.

14
15 MR. KLUTSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 Again, my name is Joe Klutsch.

17
18 The testimony that you read into the
19 record from BBNA and also the Aniakchak Resource
20 Commission will make my testimony simple. I concur with
21 their evaluation. I think we've got a resource
22 management concern out there in terms of the health of
23 the caribou population and a moose population that we've
24 got to be watching real carefully. I think that this
25 could set a bad precedent and jeopardize the health of
26 the populations.

27
28 As it relates to the long trail we've
29 been down in the guiding profession, we fought for many
30 years to clean up the ethical and conditions related,
31 ethics of same day airborne hunting. It was pretty
32 prevalent there in the late '60s and into the early '70s
33 and a lot of the old airplane hunters were reluctant to
34 change their ways and we've worked real, real hard to
35 clean that up and I think we've made great progress at
36 it.

37
38 So for those stated reasons I would
39 oppose both the proposal related to the caribou and also
40 the moose. That would conclude my comments.

41
42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Joe.
43 Is there any additional public testimony.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none or
48 seeing any requests, we'll go ahead and move this to
49 Council deliberation. What is the wishes of the
50 Council? Robert and Robin, we're moving 43 to the

00079

1 Council deliberations

2

3

Dan.

4

5 MR. DUNAWAY: I'd like to move to adopt
6 Proposal 43 using the suggested modified language that
7 appears on Page 91.

8

9 MR. ALVAREZ: Is that the State
10 recommendation?

11

12 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I believe the State
13 and the Federal subsistence Staff are pretty much in
14 concurrence with that language.

15

16 MR. FISHER: Modified Staff.

17

18 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Modified Staff
19 analysis.

20

21 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Now, the way I
22 understand this, this would make Federal lands and the
23 State lands, make it all in alignment where it's
24 currently allowed, namely the Mulchatna Herd, but would
25 exclude North Peninsula Herd, Nushagak Herd, and -- so
26 it's not near as far reaching as the original proposal.

27

28 MR. FISHER: The Southern Herd, too.

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: And the Southern Herd. I
31 wouldn't support aerial hunting in those areas or same
32 day airborne hunting in those areas for the low
33 populations. I don't have a problem with it where the
34 population can withstand it.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question for Dave.
37 On Dan's motion, he's motioning to adopt the Staff's
38 analysis as modified on Page 91, and then he asked for
39 additional clarification for those, for the Northern
40 Herds and the Nushagak but that's not stated in the
41 modified Staff analysis.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Kind of launched straight
44 from move to adopt to a little bit of discussion, I
45 should apologize there. But I was trying to make sure I
46 understood -- people understood my intent and that's what
47 I believe the modified language is.

48

49 MR. FISHER: Yeah. The modified proposed
50 regulation appears on Page 91, so that's what the

00080

1 regulation would be. If it doesn't reference the other
2 herds then they're not included.

3

4 MR. DUNAWAY: Right, thank you.

5

6 MS. MORRIS: Second.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin,
9 there's been a motion by Dan Dunaway to adopt the Staff
10 analysis as modified on Page 91, that's been seconded by
11 Nanci Morris.

12

13 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you, Cliff. I
14 think we heard that. But we didn't hear the reply to
15 Dan's -- does this then put Federal regulations in
16 consistency with State regulation on those identified
17 lands?

18

19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dave.

20

21 MR. FISHER: Yes. It would only apply to
22 those -- it would apply to the taking of caribou from
23 January 1 through April 15th in Units 9(B), 17(B), and
24 that portion of 17(C) east of the Nushagak River provided
25 the hunter is 300 feet from the airplane.

26

27 The exception here is within National
28 Park Service lands. It would not apply on National Park
29 Service lands, but it would apply on those Federal public
30 lands in 9(B), 17(B) and that part of 17(C). So it's
31 going to affect BLM lands in Unit 9(B), 17(B) and 17(C),
32 those BLM lands in those units and a very small portion
33 of Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in the western portion
34 of Unit 17(B).

35

36 MR. SAMUELSEN: I understand that, thank
37 you.

38

39 MR. FISHER: Okay.

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Dan, would you
42 like to address your motion.

43

44 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you. I kind of did
45 as part of my motion. But because I understand there's
46 some really small chunks of Federal lands out there in
47 this modified proposed area would make it probably much
48 easier to allow folks to follow the law and not get
49 crossed up between State and Federal regulations.

50

00081

1 Also at this time I think that herd can
2 still sustain some harvest and that's been -- it's one
3 I've taken advantage of a little bit. I think it does
4 serve a purpose for some.

5
6 I also want to go on record is I think
7 that's going to be one of the first things to be either
8 restricted by bag limit or go away completely as this
9 herd drops farther.

10
11 But I can't support same day airborne for
12 other areas named under the original proposal, due to
13 their small populations, populations of concern, and I'll
14 leave it at that.

15
16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Anyone else.

17
18 MR. ALVAREZ: I would support the area
19 that the State already operates in and not any new area,
20 especially where there's a real hardship for the amount
21 of caribou that are able to harvested.

22
23 And Dan was talking a minute ago about
24 that it might not be very long where the land and shoot
25 on the State land will probably go away. I know the last
26 Board of Game meeting last year, a year and a half ago
27 our advisory committee proposed to do away with that
28 proposal and some of the members, most of the members
29 didn't like the land and shoot because of the amount of
30 caribou that do come back. When that proposal got
31 instituted we had a lot of caribou around 9(B) and as I
32 was saying earlier, there aren't hardly any caribou
33 around 9(B) anymore, and so henceforth, a lot of our
34 members don't think that regulation should be there,
35 especially in 9(B).

36
37 So I really don't like it but if it was
38 just in the area that the State hunting takes place I
39 suppose I could support that part because there are some
40 real small Federal lands within that area and you
41 wouldn't be illegal if you happened to be in that little
42 small area and it'd be pretty hard to tell where you are
43 anyway, but that would make it align with the State
44 proposals.

45
46 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any further
47 discussion from the Council regarding the motion on the
48 floor.

49
50 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chair.

00082

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Robert.

2

3 MR. HEYANO: Thank you. I have a few
4 comments.

5

6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Fire away, Robert.

7

8 MR. HEYANO: Okay, thank you, Mr. Chair.

9 I won't be supporting the motion. I think that as a
10 member of the Federal Subsistence Board representing
11 Federal Subsistence users and a lifelong resident of the
12 area, I know, for a fact that aircraft, same day airborne
13 was used extensively in this area in those communities
14 that had them by those people, and not only were they
15 used by the individuals, they were shared through family
16 members and friends, and that was a customary practice.

17

18 Growing up here there was very little
19 moose and caribou and it was very common for the folks
20 here to go to the Alaska Peninsula to hunt caribou and
21 moose, same day airborne, and that's the approach I'm
22 taking here as a Federal Subsistence user. In all due
23 respect to Joe Klutsch, this isn't a guided hunt, this
24 isn't a sport hunt, this is a subsistence hunt. And you
25 know this was a practice that was acceptable here in the
26 Bristol Bay region in certain communities before
27 regulations prohibited it.

28

29 And I think that's where I'm coming from.
30 Is that, if it is in fact a customary and traditional
31 method and means then we can't arbitrarily disallow it.
32 If we have resource concerns then I think we ought to
33 look at those resource concerns and address them.

34

35 The justification, the facts laid out
36 here does not do that. What's happening here is they
37 define subsistence within a box and as long as
38 subsistence falls within that box they're okay with it.
39 But as soon as the subsistence user starts to move it
40 outside the box, based on criteria that's been
41 established, then the system doesn't seem to work.

42

43 I know we had that same problem when we
44 made rod and reel an acceptable means of sport fishing.
45 The same issue came up when we made rainbow trout a
46 subsistence fish. And that's what's happening here.

47

48 To me, if you believe the justification
49 that the Staff wrote here, which I don't think holds any
50 water on these potential abuses and what not, they can't

00083

1 recite one conviction where it has taken place, they
2 should hold true regardless of where you allow it. You
3 know, when they say aircraft provides a mean by which
4 animals can be effectively detected and quickly killed in
5 relatively large numbers. The advantage of an airplane
6 is locating the animal. Once you locate them, a guy on a
7 snowmachine or whatever has a huge advantage over you as
8 far as stalking and getting the animal.

9
10 Hard numbers. We're talking about
11 Federally-qualified subsistence users here. This is who
12 is going to be allowed to do it, not the general public.
13 And I know we have hunts that non-Federally qualified
14 subsistence users are allowed to take place and we're
15 restricting Federal Subsistence users here. We all know
16 that the migration runs of caribou have drastically
17 changed and the availability isn't consistent like they
18 used to be in the past and I think this proposal will
19 allow those qualified users better access.

20
21 And I'll concede not everybody will take
22 part in it, but there is subsistence users out there that
23 will.

24
25 Furthermore, I think that there is some
26 misunderstanding here. If you go back to Page 85 of the
27 book, the last sentence before biological background,
28 same day airborne hunting on caribou on BLM land and FWS
29 land is currently allowed but under State regulations.
30 If we're passing this proposal based on that statement
31 isn't going to align anything, it's already allowed.

32
33 So those are my comments, Mr. Chair, and
34 I still maintain that same day airborne is a customary
35 and traditional practice of certain folks in Bristol Bay
36 in certain communities and it should be allowed to
37 continue.

38
39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Robert.
40 Any additional Council.

41
42 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, a little bit of
43 response to Robert's concerns. I'm trying to keep an
44 open mind regarding C&T airborne and I see this proposal
45 more as a methods and means rather than C&T. And in my
46 mind, particularly the Nushagak Herd, right now isn't in
47 abundance to support this additional methods and means,
48 nor the Northern Peninsula Herd. However, should they
49 increase in abundance, then given what data could be
50 brought to bear on it, I could imagine seeing that same

00084

1 day airborne could be considered an appropriate method
2 and a customary and traditional use.

3

4 I know some of my time in Igiugig back in
5 the early '70s, I think people were still able to land
6 and shoot or they were still just doing it, I'm not sure.

7

8

9 So I see this proposal here more speaking
10 to just another immediate method and means to the current
11 population and I the only place I see that it's
12 appropriate is in the Mulchatna Herd.

13

14 But I guess I'll leave it alone at that.
15 I'm not necessarily opposed in the future to seeing it
16 allowed if the population is warranted.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dan.
21 Any additional Council comments.

22

23 MR. ALVAREZ: Question.

24

25 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
26 called for. All those in favor of the motion to adopt
27 the Staff analysis as modified signify by saying aye.

28

29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30

31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Those opposed,
32 same

33

34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Motion passes.

37

38 MR. ALVAREZ: What was the vote? I'd
39 like to.....

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Seven to one.

42

43 MR. ALVAREZ: No, not even.

44

45 MS. ALECK: No, I don't think so.

46

47 MR. DUNAWAY: You better.....

48

49 REPORTER: Take a roll call vote.

50

00085

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Robert and
2 Robin, what I'll do is a roll call vote. And the motion
3 is to adopt the Staff analysis as modified. We'll start
4 off first with Virginia.

5
6 MS. ALECK: I'll have to refrain from
7 that. I would say no.

8
9 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Are you abstaining
10 or voting no?

11
12 MS. ALECK: No.

13
14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. You're voting
15 against the motion.

16
17 MS. ALECK: Right.

18
19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Dan.

20
21 MR. DUNAWAY: Yes.

22
23 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes. Boris.

24
25 MR. KOSBRUK: No.

26
27 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Nanci.

28
29 MS. MORRIS: No.

30
31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Randy.

32
33 MR. ALVAREZ: No.

34
35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Pete.

36
37 MR. ABRAHAM: No.

38
39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Robert.

40
41 MR. HEYANO: No.

42
43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robin.

44
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.

46
47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you. The
48 motion fails.

49
50 Robert and Robin, will you be -- it's

00086

1 about 13 minutes to 5:00, will you be available on
2 teleconference tomorrow morning?

3

4 MR. ABRAHAM: I will be Dan -- or, I
5 mean, excuse me, Cliff.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, thanks, I
8 like the first one better.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: So Robert will be
13 available.

14

15 MR. SAMUELSEN: I will be available.

16

17 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Well, we're
18 going to plan to start about 8:30 then. If there's no
19 objections from the Council.....

20

21 MR. SAMUELSEN: We're quitting already,
22 Christ, we're just starting to have fun.

23

24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. What's the
25 wishes of the Council, just move on?

26

27 (Council nods affirmatively)

28

29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right, we're
30 going to move on then to Proposal 44.

31

32 MR. KOSBRUK: I got to make a call.

33

34 MS. ALECK: May as well take a break.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Take a break.

37

38 MR. ALVAREZ: We could take a break and
39 then move on.

40

41 MS. ALECK: Just take a quick break.

42

43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay. Robert and
44 Robin, we're going to take a short break and then we'll
45 move on to Proposal 44.

46

47 MR. SAMUELSEN: Sounds good.

48

49 (Off record)

50

00087

1 (On record)

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We're ready to
4 start again, please. Robert, Robin, can you hear us?

5

6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, we're back on line.

7

8 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right. Well,
9 we just completed -- well, not completed, but on Proposal
10 43 there was a motion to adopt the Staff analysis as
11 modified and that was rejected. And I would entertain
12 any further discussion or motions regarding Proposal 43
13 because if, for instance, this motion that the Council
14 voted on and passed, doesn't do anything for Proposal 43
15 other than just tell the Board that they rejected the
16 Staff analysis. And the initial proposal was still on
17 the table and we would go back to the Board in May
18 without any recommendation from the Council.

19

20 So any discussion or thoughts about where
21 to go next.

22

23 MR. DUNAWAY: What I heard I think we
24 ought to move on to 44. If there's opposition to a
25 milder form, I can't imagine support for a more drastic
26 form.

27

28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin, did
29 you get that?

30

31 MR. ALVAREZ: But what you're saying is
32 that we take care of it, what we just did, or what we
33 just voted on was an amended version of that.

34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: And it was
36 rejected.

37

38 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay, so then we didn't
39 really go over the original proposal yet so we might have
40 to vote on the original proposal other than we would have
41 no action on that part.

42

43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: That's correct.

44

45 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I would think that
46 the record of how we got to that decision, of the final
47 voting, might speak something to 43 overall. But it
48 depends on if somebody wants to bring it to the floor.

49

50 MR. ALVAREZ: Well, I'll move that we

00088

1 adopt Proposal 43 as written.

2

3

MS. MORRIS: Second.

4

5 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin,
6 there's a motion on the floor that's been seconded to
7 adopt Proposal 43 as submitted on Page 82 of your
8 booklet, which would allow same day airborne hunting of
9 caribou in Units 9 and 17.

10

11 MR. ALVAREZ: Call for the question.

12

13 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
14 called for. I'll go ahead and do another roll call vote
15 starting with Virginia.

16

17 MS. ALECK: No.

18

19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Virginia votes no
20 on the motion. Dan.

21

22 MR. DUNAWAY: No.

23

24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Nancy.

25

26 MS. MORRIS: No.

27

28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Randy.

29

30 MR. ALVAREZ: No.

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Pete.

33

34 MR. ABRAHAM: No.

35

36 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Boris is away from
37 his Chair here. Robert Heyano, how do you vote on the
38 motion?

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Are you there
43 Robert? Robin.

44

45 MR. SAMUELSEN: No. He votes yes.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert votes yes.

50 Robin.

00089

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Robert votes yes. Robin
2 votes no.

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right.

7
8 MR. SAMUELSEN: Some things never change.

9
10 (Laughter)

11
12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: The motion was to
13 adopt Proposal 43 as is stated in the Council book on
14 Page 82, which would allow same day airborne hunting for
15 caribou in Units 9 and 17 and that motion fails, one to
16 six, with Boris -- Boris is away from his desk, so we'll
17 go ahead. The motion fails.

18
19 I mean procedurally, excuse me, the
20 motion passes -- I mean the motion fails to except
21 Proposal 43, the original proposal.

22
23 MR. DUNAWAY: It'd be easier for me if
24 moved to adopt the original proposal and then we can
25 amend the proposal if we want to and we either vote on it
26 up or down.

27
28 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah, that's the way.....

29
30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No, it would have
31 been easier if they would have just had a motion to
32 reject the proposal versus.....

33
34 MR. DUNAWAY: I thought it was supposed
35 to be brought on in an affirmative.....

36
37 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah.

38
39 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Anyway, well,
40 that's all moot now. We'll go ahead and move on to
41 Proposal 44.

42
43 MR. ABRAHAM: 44.

44
45 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: 44. Robert,
46 Robin, was there any -- excuse me, before we continue,
47 Dave, the Council voted down the original proposal as
48 submitted by the Bristol Bay Council and that's what
49 we'll take to the Board.

50

00090

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: We understand that.

2

3 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right. Fire
4 away Dave.

5

6 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Cliff. Proposal
7 44, this was submitted by the Bristol Bay Regional
8 Advisory Council. This would allow the same day airborne
9 hunting for moose in Game Management Unit 9 and Game
10 Management Unit 17.

11

12 This proposal would allow subsistence
13 hunters to hunt moose while same day airborne in Unit 9
14 and Unit 17. And the proponents claim that this would
15 provide a greater opportunity for subsistence users and
16 it would allow subsistence users to access more favorable
17 hunting areas. Passage of this proposal would be the
18 first time that same day airborne hunting for moose would
19 be allowed on Federal lands in Alaska.

20

21 The current Federal regulations are the
22 same as we discussed in 43. Current State regulations
23 prohibit same day airborne hunting of moose. The
24 regulatory history is the same as we talked about in 43.

25

26 A little bit on moose biology here. The
27 population in Unit 9 is estimated to be stable somewhere
28 around five to 6,000 animals. In Unit 17, I'd like to
29 break that out just a little bit. 17(A) the population
30 there has been increasing. The current estimate is
31 somewhere around 750, and we'll talk a little bit about
32 that when we get into the next proposals. 17(B) and
33 17(C) the population is estimated to be stable. Numbers
34 there have increased and they've also increased their
35 range over the last 10 to 20 years.

36

37 Moose is a highly valued subsistence food
38 source for subsistence users in the Bristol Bay area.
39 Again, we have no formal studies of same day airborne
40 hunting for moose as a customary and traditional
41 practice. We know that, similar to caribou, some
42 subsistence same day airborne hunting of moose probably
43 occurred, probably pre-Airborne Hunting Act.

44

45 What this proposal would do, would allow
46 subsistence users, for those who have airplanes or have
47 access to airplanes be able to hunt moose, same day
48 airborne, and get into those areas where -- that are
49 difficult to access by other means.

50

00091

1 Probably would increase the harvest of
2 moose as hunters could access these areas quicker and
3 cover more hunting areas to locate the animals. Could
4 put, in some instances, additional stress on animals. It
5 also could disrupt hunters who are using other, more
6 traditional means, such as snowmachine, boat, four-
7 wheeler. This would be especially advantageous during
8 the winter when moose have a tendency to congregate in
9 river valley bottoms with a riparian cover. So there is
10 a potential for an overharvest of moose in some areas,
11 especially large bulls.

12
13 As I mentioned in the caribou proposal,
14 it could create some Airborne Hunting Act violations and
15 some enforcement problems. Under this proposal it would
16 be legal on Fish and Wildlife Service lands, BLM lands,
17 Forest Service lands -- not Forest Service lands.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 MR. DUNAWAY: Forest Service lands.

22
23 MR. FISHER: But not on Park Service
24 lands and not on State lands. I don't know how that
25 Forest Service got in.

26
27 (Laughter)

28
29 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: It sounded good
30 Dave.

31
32 (Laughter)

33
34 MR. FISHER: They're not in Unit 9 or in
35 Unit 17.

36
37 (Laughter)

38
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Alders are a great lumber
40 resource.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MR. FISHER: The preliminary Staff
45 recommendation would be to oppose this proposal.

46
47 That's about all I have.

48
49 Well, I do have one other thing. We met
50 with the Moose Planning Working Group on Monday regarding

00092

1 17(A) moose and we discussed this proposal along with 45,
2 46 and 47, and at that time the Working Group did oppose
3 this proposal.

4

That's all I have.

6

7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dave.
8 Any questions for Dave. Robert, Robin, any questions for
9 Dave.

10

11 MR. HEYANO: No, Mr. Chair. Just all my
12 previous comments, he doesn't seem to have very many
13 answers to those so I won't waste the Council's time.

14

15 MR. FISHER: You'll get answers, Robert,
16 just be patient.

17

18 MR. HEYANO: I'm going to be dead pretty
19 soon, Dave, we're going on about five years.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MR. FISHER: Well, you got to hang in
24 there for a little bit longer.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MR. HEYANO: Thank you.

29

30 MS. ALECK: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes, Virginia.

33

34 MS. ALECK: I have a question.
35 Pertaining to 9, is that all of 9(A), (B), (C), (D) and
36 (E)? This, when they just say 9.

37

38 MR. FISHER: Yes. When I say Unit 9, I'm
39 talking (A), (B), (C) and (D), I just lumped everything
40 into Unit 9.

41

42 MS. ALECK: Okay, I just wanted to get
43 that clarified.

44

45 MR. ALVAREZ: I had a question about that
46 too. You mentioned that was five to 6,000 population of
47 moose.

48

49 MR. FISHER: For Unit 9.

50

00093

1 MR. ALVAREZ: In all of Unit 9?

2

3 MR. FISHER: Uh-huh.

4

5 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.

6

7 MR. DUNAWAY: That's an estimate, 9(D).

8

9 MR. ALVAREZ: Yeah, I know, moose is kind
10 of estimate like bears.

11

12 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
13 questions for Dave.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll go ahead and
18 move on to ADF&G comments.

19

20 MR. WOOLINGTON: Mr. Chairman. Members
21 of the Council. Jim Woolington, Fish and Game in
22 Dillingham. And for the record, the Department of Fish
23 and Game does oppose this proposal, and I'll read our
24 comments into the record.

25

26 Same day airborne hunting of moose is not
27 allowed anywhere else in the state and it's authorization
28 in Game Management Unit 9 and 17 would be detrimental to
29 the moose populations there. The overall moose
30 population in Game Management Unit 9 is considered to be
31 low and stable based on trend count surveys and compared
32 to its historic size in the 1970s. Furthermore, moose
33 populations in GMU's 9(A) and 9(B) are considered to be
34 very low. GMU 9 moose population is believed to be
35 limited by neonate mortality, that's the young calves,
36 mortality of the young moose calves associated with brown
37 bear predation but is relative stable due in part to the
38 stability in the human harvest over the last 20 years.
39 Same day airborne hunting would increase harvest above
40 sustainable levels, further reducing the population and
41 lead to more harvest restrictions being imposed on
42 Federally-qualified subsistence users.

43

44 And I'll answer any questions if you have
45 some.

46

47 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.

48

49 MS. ALECK: I have a question.

50

00094

1 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Virginia.

2

3 MS. ALECK: What was the moose count in
4 the 1970s like?

5

6 MR. WOOLINGTON: Maybe I'd defer to Dave
7 on that, I think he has the numbers on that.

8

9 MS. ALECK: Okay.

10

11 MR. WOOLINGTON: I don't have them off
12 hand.

13

14 MR. FISHER: The early 1970s?

15

16 MS. ALECK: Uh-huh.

17

18 MR. FISHER: Well, what do I say here.
19 The population peaked in the late '60s but started to
20 decline shortly after that. I don't give any numbers
21 there. I can look into that and give you a call or
22 something.

23

24 MS. ALECK: Okay, that'd be great.

25

26 MR. FISHER: Sure.

27

28 MS. ALECK: Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, additional
31 questions for Jim.

32

33 (No comments)

34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll move on to
36 other State and Federal agency comments.

37

38 MR. HEYANO: I have one for Jim, Cliff,
39 please.

40

41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Go ahead, Robert.

42

43 MR. HEYANO: This is Robert. Yeah, I
44 would like to have some justification for the very first
45 sentence on his comment, same day airborne hunting of
46 moose not allowed anywhere in the State, I recognize that
47 as pretty self-explanatory. The second part, and it's
48 authorization in Units 9 and 17 would be detrimental to
49 the moose population there.

50

00095

1 I guess I don't understand is, by
2 allowing same day airborne hunting on Federal lands to
3 Federally-qualified subsistence users, knowing that you
4 can adjust seasons and bag limits and restrict non-
5 residents of Alaska and further non-Federally-qualified,
6 how could that be detrimental to the moose populations?
7 It seems like there would be some management action to
8 prohibit that. I'd like an explanation on that, please.
9

10 MR. WOOLINGTON: Well, I think before any
11 management actions would ever take place we'd have to
12 document a decline in populations that -- and resulting
13 in increasing in harvest by increasing the opportunity by
14 this method, we believe would result in lowered
15 populations. So we couldn't -- if this proposal was put
16 in and keep in mind it doesn't mean that it's only
17 aircraft owners that's going to be -- that could take
18 advantage of this opportunity, it's anybody that wanted
19 to charter an aircraft also. And given some of the
20 fairly large -- or relatively large communities within
21 this area, it could result in quite a bit of additional
22 harvest activity and in areas that now probably serve as
23 reservoirs for areas that are being hunted more heavily
24 than areas that aren't as accessible.
25

26 So the basis of the detrimental to the
27 moose population, I think, is down lower in the
28 paragraph.
29

30 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
31 questions, Robert.
32

33 MR. HEYANO: No, thank you.
34

35 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Jim.
36 Is there anyone, any advisory committee members out there
37 who would like to provide comments regarding the
38 proposal.
39

40 (No comments)
41

42 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Summary of written
43 public comments. Just for the record I read into the
44 record earlier a letter received from High Adventure Air
45 Charter Guides and Outfitters and also a letter written
46 by Terry Hoefflerle, CEO for BBNA, which both oppose
47 Proposal 44.
48

49 The Aniakchak SRC opposes Proposal 44.
50 The SRC opposes same day airborne hunting and expressed

00096

1 concern that allowing same day airborne for moose would
2 open the door for sport and commercial hunters to use the
3 practice. Very few subsistence users in Unit 9(E) have
4 airplanes and this proposal would increase competition
5 for the moose resource by allowing subsistence hunters
6 from other areas to hunt same day airborne for moose in
7 Unit 9(E).

8

9 And the Lake Clark SRC on Proposal 44 had
10 no recommendation.

11

12 MR. CLARK: May I comment again.

13

14 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Please come up.

15

16 MR. CLARK: Eddie Clark of Naknek. Just
17 a subsistence user. This year, particular, no snow
18 coverage. We traditionally hunt the Big Creek area and
19 we get, I think 11 permits up there, and so this year no
20 snow, the way the freeze was, I believe maybe one moose
21 was taken which had to be down low. I don't think
22 anybody successfully went up there. And last year, no
23 cold, no snow, we used a boat. And I hunt for elders,
24 and I know a lot of us hunt for elders. The majority of
25 our elders in our community are at the age where they
26 depend on me, somebody like Randy, someone that is
27 fortunate to have an airplane to -- and like to get out
28 there to do it and so I get their proxies, I can hunt for
29 them.

30

31 And the younger Native groups don't seem
32 to be hunting like we do. Randy and I are at an age
33 where we hunt for the elderlies. I think this community
34 missed an opportunity because of the weather conditions
35 to get moose out of the Big Creek area this year. And I
36 think if we had a same day airborne and conditions like
37 this, I think we could have got a couple of moose for the
38 elders.

39

40 And for like the Egegik, there was no
41 moose around where they get it. There was no snow.
42 Enough ice they couldn't use a boat. So they were land-
43 locked at Egegik, but if we could have same day airborne
44 I believe we could have got a couple moose for the Egegik
45 Village, which people call me because I know them and I
46 fish around there in the summer. But I just think we
47 miss opportunity.

48

49 And I look at, say the moose in the upper
50 Ugashik, okay, I know there's a couple hundred moose in

00097

1 there and if I take a number -- and the guides and
2 everything, like Joe Klutsch and other guides in the
3 area, how many moose that they take for money compared to
4 how many moose a Native takes to eat, I mean I don't see
5 why same day airborne, even if it's a permitted numbered
6 hunt like the Big Creek area, that's fine, but the game
7 guides get a large number and they get paid -- they
8 charge people to take those moose. We just want some
9 moose to eat. And when the conditions are bad we can't
10 get out there.

11

12 And I guess our elders are getting at the
13 age where they don't want to be out there spending the
14 night. I can talk them into getting into an airplane and
15 go and they'll help, but I can't talk them into spending
16 the night in December when it's 20 below and 25 below,
17 and so I just think we miss an opportunity to get a few
18 more moose for our communities, the ones I know of.

19

20 Thanks.

21

22 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Eddie.
23 Any additional comments.

24

25 (No comments)

26

27 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Hearing none,
28 we'll move this on to Council deliberation.

29

30 MR. ALVAREZ: Move to adopt Proposal 44.

31

32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's been a
33 motion to adopt Proposal 44 by Randy Alvarez.

34

35 MR. ABRAHAM: Second.

36

37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Seconded by Pete
38 Abraham. Discussion.

39

40 MR. DUNAWAY: Randy, would you like to
41 speak to the motion since you moved.

42

43 MR. ALVAREZ: Sure, Dan. I'm not in
44 particular favor of this proposal. It doesn't -- it
45 would only benefit a few, but, you know, there are those
46 few that do get moose for elderly people, and I do that
47 also but I also do it on a snowmachine. You know, I'd
48 rather do it on a snowmachine because you can pull right
49 along side them with a sled but if you had an airplane
50 you still have to pack them a long ways through the snow

00098

1 and I don't know, that doesn't seem like all that -- I
2 don't agree, you know, that wouldn't be a benefit in my
3 opinion.

4

5 I just don't think it's a very good
6 proposal.

7

8 MS. ALECK: I have a comment.

9

10 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Virginia.

11

12 MS. ALECK: I agree with you. I don't
13 like the proposal. I guess I'm worried for our area
14 since it's all of 9. I just can't go with it.

15

16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robert, Robin, any
17 comments regarding Proposal 44.

18

19 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
20 this is Robert. I'll be voting in favor of the motion.
21 I'll incorporate my previous comments on Proposal 43.

22

23 I maintain that same day airborne is a
24 customary and traditional practice that was prohibited by
25 State or Federal regulations. So we have non-Federally-
26 qualified subsistence users taking the resource, and I
27 think by allowing this to happen would just provide more
28 better opportunity for those Federally-qualified
29 subsistence users.

30

31 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Thank you, Robert.
32 Dan.

33

34 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, thank you. I'm
35 opposed to this proposal. It's too broadly written for
36 too much area. The ferocious competition for moose under
37 current allowed methods and means everywhere I've been in
38 my career throughout Bristol Bay up in the Kuskokwim. I
39 don't see at this point this is an appropriate method or
40 means.

41

42 I also don't think that this is the
43 appropriate vehicle to try to extend customary and
44 traditional findings. I think that should be couched in
45 terms directly to C&T. And I'll be voting against it.

46

47 Thank you.

48

49 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Any additional
50 Council discussion.

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1 (No comments)

2

3

MR. HEYANO: Question.

4

5

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Question's been
6 called. I'll go ahead and conduct another roll call vote
7 regarding Proposal 44, the motion was to adopt Proposal
8 44 as submitted by the Council which would allow same day
9 airborne hunting for moose in Units 9 and 17 seconded by
10 Pete Abraham and moved by Randy Alvarez.

11

12

First off, Virginia.

13

14

MS. ALECK: No.

15

16

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Dan.

17

18

MR. DUNAWAY: No.

19

20

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Nanci.

21

22

MS. MORRIS: No.

23

24

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Randy.

25

26

MR. ALVAREZ: No.

27

28

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Pete.

29

30

MR. ABRAHAM: No.

31

32

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. Robert.

33

34

MR. HEYANO: Yes.

35

36

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes. Robin.

37

38

MR. SAMUELSEN: No.

39

40

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: No. That
41 completes the roll call vote, the motion fails.

42

43

While we're getting ready to do Proposal
44 45, Robert and Robin, Andy has a short powerpoint
45 presentation regarding moose in 17(A).

46

47

48

49

50

MR. HEYANO: Well, I thought that was in
the report at the end of the meeting agenda.

CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Well, since this

000100

1 45, 46 and 47 address moose in Unit 17(A) and from the
2 recently concluded meeting on Monday, Andy wanted to --
3 it'll take a few minutes he said just to present a short
4 presentation.

5
6 MR. ADERMAN: It'll be about five
7 minutes.

8
9 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Do you mind if
10 Dave starts out with his analysis?

11
12 MR. ADERMAN: No, that's fine.

13
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

17
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: I move to recess until
19 8:30 in the morning. I would move to recess until 8:30
20 in the morning, I think with the presentation and the
21 lively discussion we're going to have, we're going to be
22 on this one for awhile.

23
24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: There's a motion
25 to recess.

26
27 MR. ALVAREZ: It'd be better to otherwise
28 we'll be here a long time, if we'd just do this part now
29 and then continue it in the morning, I don't know, would
30 that work?

31
32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: That's fine.

33
34 MR. ALVAREZ: Or do we have to discuss
35 the whole -- go over the whole thing?

36
37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: It's up to the
38 Council.

39
40 MR. ABRAHAM: What would be the estimate
41 time for -- what is it for tomorrow?

42
43 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We have 46 and 47,
44 they're mainly combined. And then 48 and 49.

45
46 MR. ABRAHAM: So, two, three, four, five.

47
48 MR. ALVAREZ: He's setting it up, why
49 don't we just watch that and.....

50

000101

1 MR. ADERMAN: Whatever you guys want to
2 do.

3
4 MR. ALVAREZ: I don't care, whatever you
5 guys want to do.

6
7 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Make up your mind,
8 Robin's moved to recess.

9
10 MS. ALECK: Maybe we should just start
11 tomorrow.

12
13 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: We'll just start
14 tomorrow then.

15
16 MR. ABRAHAM: Recess until to the
17 morning, Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right, Robin,
20 we'll go ahead and call you in the morning.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Robin.

25
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, thank you, sir.

27
28 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: At 3309?

29
30 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, sir.

31
32 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: All right, thank
33 you.

34
35 MR. ALVAREZ: What time, 9:00?

36
37 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: 8:30.

38
39 MR. ALVAREZ: 8:30, all right.

40
41 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Okay, we're going
42 to go ahead and recess and start the meeting at 8:30 in
43 the morning.

44
45 MR. ABRAHAM: Can we leave this stuff
46 here?

47
48 CHAIRPERSON EDENSHAW: Yes.

49
50 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

000102

1

C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)

4)ss.

5 STATE OF ALASKA)

6

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for
8 the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix
9 Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

10

11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 101
12 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the VOLUME
13 I, BRISTOL BAY FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY
14 COUNCIL MEETING, taken electronically by Salena Hile on
15 the 26th day of February 2004, beginning at the hour of
16 1:00 o'clock p.m. at Naknek, Alaska;

17

18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct
19 transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter
20 transcribed by under my direction and reduced to print to
21 the best of our knowledge and ability;

22

23 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
24 interested in any way in this action.

25

26 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 7th day of March
27 2004.

28

29

30

31

32

Joseph P. Kolasinski
Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 04/17/04 _

33

34