

1 BRISTOL BAY SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
2 PUBLIC MEETING  
3  
4

5 VOLUME I  
6  
7

8 Dillingham City Assembly Chambers  
9 Dillingham, Alaska  
10 September 27, 2004  
11 1:00 o'clock pm.  
12  
13

14 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:  
15

16 Daniel J. O'Hara  
17 H. Robin Samuelson  
18 Andrew Balluta  
19 Robert Heyano  
20 Randy Alvarez  
21 Peter M. Abraham  
22 Nanci Morris Lyon  
23 Boris Kosbruk, Sr.  
24 Dan Dunaway  
25  
26 Regional Council Coordinator, Clifford Edenshaw  
27  
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S  
2  
3 (Dillingham, Alaska - 9/27/2004)  
4  
5 (On record)  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'd like to call the  
8 meeting to order. I'll ask Cliff if he'd do the roll  
9 call, and then we'll do the welcome and introductions.  
10  
11 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  
12 name is Cliff Edenshaw. I am the regional council  
13 coordinator for the Bristol Bay Council. Andrew Balluta.  
14  
15 MR. BALLUTA: Here.  
16  
17 MR. EDENSHAW: Robert Heyano.  
18  
19 MR. HEYANO: Here.  
20  
21 MR. EDENSHAW: Daniel O'Hara.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Here.  
24  
25 MR. EDENSHAW: Randy Alvarez.  
26  
27 MR. ALVAREZ: Here.  
28  
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Pete Abraham. Mr. Chair  
30 and Council, Mr. Abraham, and he'll be here shortly this  
31 afternoon. He had a doctor's appointment. Nanci Morris.  
32  
33 MS. MORRIS: Here.  
34  
35 MR. EDENSHAW: Virginia Aleck. Mr. Chair  
36 and Council, I spoke to Virginia this morning. I called  
37 her at Chignik Lake, and weather prevented her from  
38 flying yesterday, and today there weren't any planes, so  
39 she'll be unable to attend. Robin Samuelsen.  
40  
41 MR. SAMUELSEN: Here.  
42  
43 MR. EDENSHAW: Boris Kosbruk.  
44  
45 MR. KOSBRUK: Here.  
46  
47 MR. EDENSHAW: Dan Dunaway.  
48  
49 MR. DUNAWAY: Here.  
50

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, that concludes  
2 the roll call. There is a quorum here.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'd like to  
5 welcome you to the meeting today, and as we progress with  
6 introductions, we'll start a little later on with Robert  
7 over here and come around the Council and out into the  
8 audience, if you could introduce yourself and give us  
9 your name, and what organization you're with, it would  
10 help considerably.  
11  
12 We do have some new council members who  
13 actually are not new. This is your second meeting now.  
14 Maybe I'm the new one. I haven't been here for the last  
15 council meeting.  
16  
17 But the latest that has developed  
18 probably since we last met is Robert Heyano has now been  
19 put on the Alaska Fish Board, and so we're real happy  
20 that he's going to be representing Bristol Bay. And soon  
21 to begin your work here in another week or so, Robert?  
22  
23 MR. HEYANO: Yes.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, we wish  
26 you the best. That's a tough one to deal with, so we  
27 congratulate you and we're glad you made it.  
28  
29 Okay. We'll start with Robert, and if  
30 you don't mind, we'll go around and introduce ourselves  
31 and kind of get acquainted.  
32  
33 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
34 Robert Heyano from Dillingham.  
35  
36 MS. MORRIS: Nanci Morris from King  
37 Salmon.  
38  
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Dan Dunaway, Dillingham.  
40  
41 MR. SAMUELSEN: Robin Samuelson,  
42 Dillingham.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dan O'Hara, Naknek.  
45  
46 MR. KOSBRUK: Boris Kosbruk, Perryville.  
47  
48 MR. BALLUTA: Andrew Balluta, Iliamna.  
49  
50 MR. ALVAREZ: Randy Alvarez, Naknek and

1 Igiugig.

2

3 MR. EDENSHAW: Cliff Edenshaw, I'm the  
4 coordinator. I reside in Anchorage.

5

6 MR. SANDS: Tim Sands, Alaska Department  
7 of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries in Dillingham.

8

9 MS. BROWN: Liz Brown with Marine  
10 Advisory Program, University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

11

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

14

15 MR. BERG: Jerry Berg, fishery biologist  
16 with Office of Subsistence Management out of Anchorage.

17

18 MS. PETRIVELLI: Pat Petrivelli,  
19 anthropologist with the Office of Subsistence Management  
20 in Anchorage.

21

22 MR. FRIED: Steve Fried, fishery  
23 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management,  
24 Anchorage.

25

26 MR. DENTON: I'm Jeff Denton, biologist,  
27 BLM, Anchorage Field Office at Anchorage.

28

29 MS. JERGENSEN: I'm Laura Jergensen with  
30 BBNA, anthropologist.

31

32 MR. E. LIND: I'm Elliott Lind, Chignik  
33 Lake resident, member of Chignik Seafood Alliance, which  
34 is the Chignik Co-op.

35

36 MR. WALSH: I'm Pat Walsh, I'm a  
37 biologist for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

38

39 MR. ADERMAN: Andy Aderman, wildlife  
40 biologist, also with the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

41

42

43 MR. SCHWANKE: Craig Schwanke, fisheries  
44 biologist, Fish and Game.

45

46 MR. DYE: Jason Dye, Alaska Department of  
47 Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, Dillingham.

48

49 MR. LONS: Daryle Lons, refuge manager of  
50 Alaska Peninsula and Becharof Refuges.

1 MR. EDWARDS: Mike Edwards, U.S. Fish and  
2 Wildlife Service, King Salmon Field Office, biologist.  
3  
4 MS. MCBURNEY: Mary McBurney, subsistence  
5 program manager, Lake Clark, Katmai, Aniakchak and the  
6 Alagnak Wild River.  
7  
8 MR. ELLIOTT: I'm Jessie Elliott (ph),  
9 biologist with Alaska Peninsula and Becharof National  
10 Wildlife Refuge.  
11  
12 MR. O. LIND: Orville Lind, ranger for  
13 Alaska Peninsula Wildlife Refuges.  
14  
15 MR. J. CHYTHLOOK: I'm John Chythlook,  
16 subsistence fisheries biologist with Bristol Bay Native  
17 Association.  
18  
19 MS. WESTING: I'm Charlotte Westing. I'm  
20 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Commercial  
21 Fisheries here in Dillingham.  
22  
23 MR. JOHNSON: Lionel Johnson, Egegik.  
24  
25 MR. SQUIBB: Ron Squibb, wildlife  
26 biologist, Alaska Peninsula and Becharof refuges.  
27  
28 MR. JENNINGS: Tim Jennings, I'm with the  
29 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage, division  
30 chief.  
31  
32 MR. LUNDERSTADT: Carl Lunderstadt,  
33 deputy manager for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.  
34  
35 MR. ANDERSON: Ralph Anderson, BBNA.  
36  
37 MR. LIEDBERG: Paul Liedberg, I'm the  
38 refuge manager for the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge  
39 here in Dillingham.  
40  
41 MR. WILSON: Kenny Wilson, BBNA,  
42 subsistence coordinator.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is that it?  
45  
46 MR. EDENSHAW: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Great. Well,  
49 thank you for introducing yourself.  
50

1                   Just by way of comment today, whenever  
2 the Council speaks and we make a motion, there are  
3 motions to be made today or tomorrow, in case our  
4 coordinator over here has your back turned to you, she'll  
5 need to know your name. And if you from the audience  
6 decide that you want to address the council, which you  
7 certainly can, then if you would come to the microphone,  
8 and speak in there, give your name, so they'll have a  
9 record. If you would to that, we would appreciate it  
10 very much.

11  
12                   In a way of just a comment today, when we  
13 get down probably to our Chair's report, we'll deal with  
14 it a little later on, but review and adoption of the  
15 agenda. And before we make a motion to adopt the agenda  
16 today, we have a fairly light agenda, and I know that  
17 some Council members have obligations tomorrow that  
18 they're going to have to leave, so if there's anything  
19 that you'd like to rearrange for today, now is the time  
20 to think about doing that. And if there's any of you in  
21 the audience today who are not going to be here tomorrow,  
22 should we not get to your report, we'd be glad to  
23 rearrange that, too, because I would assume we'll be out  
24 of here at least by 5:00 o'clock tomorrow. I don't see  
25 any reason why we should stay longer than that. Chief,  
26 what do you think?

27  
28                   MR. EDENSHAW: Sounds good to me.

29  
30                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Okay.  
31 Council members, how about the agenda.

32  
33                   MR. EDENSHAW: Excuse me, Mr. Chair.

34  
35                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

36  
37                   MR. EDENSHAW: Before the Council  
38 proceeds on the agenda, if they look in front of them,  
39 I've got the -- before we got on to business here, I have  
40 suggested language for an ethics disclosure. And at the  
41 last meeting, you weren't here, Mr. Chairman, we asked  
42 each of the Council members to go through this, because  
43 we're dealing with fisheries and wildlife proposals, and  
44 we want to ensure that there isn't a conflict of  
45 interest, which is the main reason for this ethics  
46 disclosure. And we asked each of the Council members at  
47 the previous meeting held over in Naknek to go through  
48 there and whichever one of these on the top here fits  
49 them best in terms of their -- what it says about their  
50 commercial -- if they hold a commercial permit or a

1 guide, to go through this disclosure and read that into  
2 the record.

3

4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is there a place  
5 where they put their name then, or does it go into the  
6 record?

7

8 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, if they could just  
9 state their name and where they're from and say, I -- for  
10 instance, at the previous meeting I recall some of the  
11 language that was used by the Council members. For an  
12 example is, my name is Clifford Edenshaw and I hold a  
13 commercial fishing permit, and none of the proposals  
14 we're to address today -- I don't have a conflict of  
15 interest with those.

16

17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

18

19 MR. EDENSHAW: So in that vein we went  
20 through with each of the Council members at the previous  
21 meeting when we addressed wildlife proposals. And this  
22 is because of the recent addition of the new Council  
23 members who are sport and commercial users, so we want to  
24 make sure that there isn't any conflict of interest.

25

26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. When do you want  
27 this thing filled out and.....

28

29 MR. EDENSHAW: Oh, no. No, we're not  
30 going to fill them out. We're going to go around to each  
31 of the Council members and we're going to look at the  
32 best statement that they think, you know. If someone  
33 holds a commercial fishing permit, they're going to sit  
34 there and state so for the record, and that the fisheries  
35 proposal that we're going to take up here this afternoon  
36 isn't in conflict with the work that they do.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So that's  
39 something you will take care of once we  
40 address any proposal that would come before us, or any  
41 policy that comes before as in the way of a conflict of  
42 interest of what we do on this board, right?

43

44 MR. EDENSHAW: That's correct, Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Okay.

47

48 MR. EDENSHAW: So we can go ahead and  
49 stand with Randy here and we can just go around, because  
50 we've mailed out the -- you know, I've discussed with --

1 they've received the books and they know what the  
2 proposal we're going to go over here this afternoon, and  
3 the only other action we're going to take is, in terms of  
4 fishery actions, is over the proposals that Steve Fried  
5 will go over in the FIS, but mainly it's for this  
6 fisheries proposal that we're going to do this afternoon.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

9  
10 MR. SAMUELSEN: I guess.....

11  
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead, Robin.

13  
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: I've got a question here  
15 on this form. The first time I've seen it. And the  
16 bottom part, suggested language for regional  
17 coordinators.

18  
19 So I guess, Cliff, you'll make the  
20 ruling?

21  
22 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.

23  
24 MR. SAMUELSEN: How come the Chairman  
25 doesn't make the ruling. It seems like we'd be changing  
26 your job titles pretty fast.

27  
28 MR. EDENSHAW: But I'm the -- under the  
29 current FACA, with the Federal Advisory, I'm the  
30 designated Federal official, so.....

31  
32 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. Okay.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Hey, I'd just as soon  
35 you be in trouble as me.

36  
37 (Laughter)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Just keep quiet, would  
40 you? That would be great. Okay. Okay.

41  
42 MR. EDENSHAW: And, excuse me, Mr. Chair,  
43 Robin, when were on teleconference this past year when  
44 you and Robert were here in Dillingham. We went through  
45 this before, and I -- my own -- unfortunately, I don't  
46 have a copy of the transcripts, but from what you and  
47 Robert considered, you know, what we're going through,  
48 the exercise here, this legal, is because, for instance,  
49 you know, if I'm a commercial sport fishing guide out  
50 there in Naknek or King Salmon, and we're addressing



1 proposals that are going to reduce or increase the  
2 harvest of rainbow trout or some other species that I go,  
3 then I would have to sit there and say, well, I'm going  
4 to abstain from this, because I have a vested interest,  
5 that I take clients out there to fish. So that's the  
6 whole reason behind wanting to have us have this  
7 disclosure.

8

9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, if I may, Mr.  
10 Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.

13

14 MR. SAMUELSEN: You know, I have attended  
15 many Board of Fish meetings and I've watched people being  
16 conflicted out, and then there are some people that are  
17 never conflicted out even though they're working on  
18 proposals that are germane to that individuals, and, you  
19 know, as long as we all adhere to it, that's fine. But  
20 the policy's only good if we all adhere to it, and  
21 everybody's got to be treated fairly, because on the  
22 Board of Fish, not everybody's treated fairly under this  
23 clause.

24

25 MR. EDENSHAW: I agree, yes.

26

27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Cliff, since you're  
28 going to be the one to determine some of these items, I  
29 was a Bristol Bay permit holder, and then I transferred  
30 my permit over to Tom, and he was killed. And we're in  
31 the process of taking that permit and putting it back in  
32 my name, because it was one of those deals where we just  
33 traded off whoever was going to use the permit, then it  
34 was no problem, the trade off. However, at the end of  
35 this fishing season, that was just an interim, or a.....

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Interim permit?

38

39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, it was like an  
40 emergency transfer type thing. And in this next year out  
41 here, 2005, they're going through the process of putting  
42 it back in my name. Tom's wife, Lucy, understood that  
43 was not -- you know, that's something between Tom and I.  
44 And so it's going to come back to me, but as of right  
45 now, I'm not a commercial fisherman, but I have  
46 commercial fished all of my life, and I commercial fished  
47 this year. But as of right now, the permit's gone away,  
48 so I just would have to be a subsistence user.

49

50 MR. EDENSHAW: I agree with that.

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yeah.  
2  
3 MR. EDENSHAW: Until the permit is  
4 legally turned over to you, and in your name, then I  
5 wouldn't be too concerned about that.  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. I don't  
8 play with my.....  
9  
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Just that disclosure here  
11 as a commercial fisherman.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I don't play with my  
14 food, so I really don't -- only kidding. Okay. Speak  
15 to us, Randy.  
16  
17 MR. ALVAREZ: My name is Randy Alvarez.  
18 I like to say I live in Igiugig and subsistence fish out  
19 of there. I own a Bristol Bay commercial entry drift  
20 permit, and that could, because of the Kvichak situation,  
21 and the escapement the last few years, over the recent  
22 years, there's some Lake Clark proposals, or some issues  
23 that could arise where that could, by me having a drift  
24 permit, affect -- have an affect on those issues, so I  
25 would like to keep that open, and then have the Chair or  
26 the.....  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Coordinator?  
29  
30 MR. ALVAREZ: .....coordinator rule on  
31 that at that time.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Andy?  
34  
35 MR. BALLUTA: I'm Andrew Balluta. I  
36 commercial fished. 14 years ago I sold out, and I'm not  
37 a commercial fisherman any more. I quit that.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Good for you.  
40 Boris, any conflict of interest statement? You hold a  
41 Chignik permit?  
42  
43 MR. KOSBRUK: Yes, I do.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Did you want to  
46 see whether you're in conflict with other issues on here?  
47 Do you understand what we're talking about?  
48  
49 MR. KOSBRUK: No, I'm not. The only  
50 problem I have is the lack of subsistence in Chignik

1 Lake, and I think I'll discuss that when that comes up.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: But you would state  
4 that you have a Chignik permit?  
5  
6 MR. KOSBRUK: Yes, I am. A permit  
7 holder, right.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. And  
10 sometimes that could come in conflict with some issues on  
11 the -- on our agenda items.  
12  
13 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, perhaps it  
14 would be easier to -- if you look on the suggested  
15 language for the coordinators, some of the language down  
16 there, for instance, in Boris'.....  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What page are you on?  
19 On the page, okay. All right. Okay.  
20  
21 MR. EDENSHAW: .....this here at the  
22 bottom.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Uh-huh.  
25  
26 MR. EDENSHAW: For instance, if Boris  
27 stated, you know, my name is Boris Kosbruk, and I'm a  
28 Regional Council member, and I own -- I forgot what he  
29 just said, but a permit.....  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: A Chignik permit.  
32  
33 MR. EDENSHAW: .....the commercial  
34 fishing permit that I own does not have any significant  
35 financial interest directly related to the matters before  
36 the Council at this meeting. I mean, if you look up at  
37 the top of the page, you know, what we ask the Council  
38 members to go through, because what we'd like for them to  
39 read into the record is, for instance, up on the top, my  
40 name is Cliff Edenshaw, and I live in, say, Sitka, which  
41 is where I was born and raised. I subsistence hunt in  
42 the Federal lands under consideration at this meeting. I  
43 do not hold any commercial permits or conduct any  
44 business activities directly related -- directly affected  
45 by any agenda items before the Council. So, in essence,  
46 what we're asking the Council is to, if some of these  
47 three -- these six statements here best fit he or she, to  
48 read that into the record and so that way we'll know if  
49 the -- for instance, we're going to -- on the books we're  
50 taking up the agenda items, there's a fisheries Proposal

1 No. 9. And I believe it's -- is that 9, Jerry?

2

3

MR. BERG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

4

5

MR. EDENSHAW: Fisheries Proposal No. 9, which is a proposal to request the requirement for subsistence fishing permits. And the other action that I see the Council addressing are FIS preproposals for the 2005 year, which is fisheries monitoring programs where individuals, some of -- the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Bristol Bay Native Association, both the refuges, are going to go out and conduct research on fishing streams on Federal waters, so that's what we'd like the Council members to do. For instance, I went ahead and gave Boris the example for the top there, and Randy already read the portion of his in there, but, you know, if you look at these six examples on here, whichever one just fits the Council member, for he or she to sit there and.....

20

21

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll take a five-minute break and we'll come back and we'll continue.

23

24

MR. EDENSHAW: Okay.

25

26

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right.

27

28

(Off record)

29

30

(On record)

31

32

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. For the record on this conflict of interest statement, it's just important that each Council member thoroughly hear and understand what the conflict of interest would be. And when we get into a proposal where, Cliff gave an example of maybe one of the Council members -- or a proposal has been made to extend the catch of salmon or something for a longer period of time, and we're commercial fishermen, we need to realize, you know, what the conflict of interest is. For instance, sitting on a Native corporation board of directors, I was an advisor on National Bank of Alaska, and when it come to loans with the Native corporation, I would have to raise my hand and say, I can't -- I won't be in the room when this issue comes up, because even your presence will change people's minds. So a conflict of interest when it comes to a court of law is pretty serious matter, and when the matters of escapement and commercial fish being caught, opening and closure, these type of things, we'll just

1 have to look at it carefully and be really open about it,  
2 so I want to make sure that we all understood where we're  
3 out, so would you -- Cliff, would you like to continue on  
4 and as Boris for his comment.

5  
6 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. And before we  
7 proceed, Mr. Chair, and Council members, the one point I  
8 wanted to drive in is that, you know, prior to the  
9 Council, you know, when we meet, most of you receive --  
10 you should receive your books to a good week to two weeks  
11 in advance, and get a chance to look over the proposals  
12 that we're going to address this afternoon, specifically  
13 is one. And it would make it I think a little bit easier  
14 for us to sit there if you knew ahead of time and you  
15 were able to sit there and look at the proposal and  
16 basically come in there and say that, because of the  
17 fishing permits, or if I'm a guide, that the actions that  
18 this Council is going to take up this afternoon, I'm not  
19 in a conflict of interest because, you know, some of the  
20 decisions that the Council may or may not make in the  
21 fishery may affect or may not affect allocation or  
22 harvest seasons for those individuals who do those types  
23 of activities on Federal lands, and again that is on  
24 Federal lands.

25  
26 Okay. So, Mr. Chair, with that, we'll go  
27 ahead and move on with Boris. I had a chance to, with  
28 your assistance, to clarify things here for Boris.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Boris, do you  
31 want to make a comment on that, whichever one you're  
32 going to address there.

33  
34 MR. KOSBRUK: Right here I've got it.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Okay.

37  
38 MR. KOSBRUK: You've got it.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, here you go. Sorry  
41 about that.

42  
43 MR. KOSBRUK: There's one type that I  
44 take.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All right. Do  
47 you want to make a comment on that? Your name is.....

48  
49 MR. KOSBRUK: No, because I'm not.

50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You just simply make a  
2 statement that you're Boris from Perryville, and hold a  
3 commercial fishing permit. Is that okay?

4  
5 MR. KOSBRUK: Yeah.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You understand  
8 that? He just simply made a statement that his name was  
9 Boris Kosbruk, he's from Perryville, and he's commercial  
10 fishing, has a commercial fishing permit.

11  
12 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And it falls in the  
15 same category as anybody else would.

16  
17 And my name is Dan O'Hara. I am a  
18 subsistence and hunting user on Federal lands. And I do  
19 not hold any of the below.

20  
21 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. My name is Robin  
22 Samuelson. I hold a commercial fishing drift permit in  
23 Bristol Bay. I also have applied for and received  
24 several subsistence permits. I have no conflict of  
25 interest with Proposal 9 that is going to be considered  
26 later on in this meeting.

27  
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Robin. Dan.

29  
30 MR. DUNAWAY: My name is Dan Dunaway. I  
31 live in Dillingham. I subsistence and sport hunt and  
32 fish on the Federal lands and waters under consideration.  
33 I don't believe I have any conflict with the proposal on  
34 the table. I have no commercial permits or conduct -- I  
35 don't conduct any business activities affected by this  
36 agenda.

37  
38 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Dan. Nanci.

39  
40 MS. MORRIS: My name is Nanci Morris  
41 Lyon. I live in King Salmon, Alaska. I hold several  
42 sport fishing permits on the Federal waters that are  
43 affected in the proposal, and I Federal hunt and fish on  
44 Federal lands in the proposal as well, but I don't  
45 believe there will be any conflict of interest.

46  
47 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Nanci. Robert.

48  
49 MR. HEYANO: My name is Robert Heyano. I  
50 live in Dillingham. I subsistence fish primarily in

1 waters draining into the Nushagak Bay. I do subsistence  
2 hunt on Federal lands. I also participate in the  
3 commercial herring fishery in Togiak. And I participate  
4 in the commercial drift gill net fishery in Bristol Bay.  
5 I also own and operate a small sport fish camp on the  
6 Nushagak River. I don't -- going through the board  
7 packet, I don't believe I have a conflict with any of the  
8 material before us at this meeting.

9  
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Robert. And  
11 before we proceed, perhaps I can go back and ask Randy if  
12 he would -- after you've heard Robert and some of the  
13 others, if you'd like to reconsider your statement you  
14 made previously, and go through that?

15  
16 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay. I -- talking about  
17 if there is any issues on Lake Clark salmon stocks that  
18 might come up, I don't believe I -- there is right now at  
19 this time where me as a drift fisherman would affect  
20 anything that we are going to be taking up.

21  
22 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Randy.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. About  
25 number 9 it became perfectly clear, so, good, thank you.  
26 I don't think we really have a problem with conflict of  
27 interest on this particular proposal

28  
29 So where we're at, unless you have more,  
30 Cliff.

31  
32 MR. EDENSHAW: No.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We're going to  
35 ask any of the Council members if they need to rearrange  
36 any part of this agenda to maybe fit your schedule since  
37 a couple of you will be leaving tomorrow. Hearing none,  
38 okay.

39  
40 MR. SAMUELSEN: I'll move to approve the  
41 agenda, Mr. Chair.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

44  
45 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Second? Under  
48 discussion, was there anyone in the audience that's going  
49 to be out of here before your report comes up? It will  
50 be a short meeting. Okay. Any discussion? Yeah.

1 MR. HEYANO: Question.  
2  
3 MS. DOWNING: Who seconded?  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Dan.  
6  
7 MS. DOWNING: The one I couldn't see.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Go ahead, Cliff.  
10  
11 MR. EDENSHAW: And also, Mr. Chair and  
12 Council members, under item number 10, under agency  
13 reports, under A with OSM, Mr. Tim Jennings or myself are  
14 available when we get to that portion on the agenda. It  
15 just has in parenthesis written briefings, so either of  
16 us are available to answer any questions the Council may  
17 have there. There won't be any formal presentation, but  
18 those are included in the Council's -- inside the  
19 booklets.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Under number 10.  
22  
23 MR. EDENSHAW: Under item number 10.A.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Number 1.A. Okay. Or  
26 number A, period.  
27  
28 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
31  
32 MR. EDENSHAW: And then just to briefly  
33 go over some of the -- I know there's a bunch of paper  
34 before you and stuff. One item that I put in there was  
35 in case you get into item number 10, there's the number 5  
36 is handicrafts made from bear fur, which may include the  
37 claws. And there's a Q and A sheet, and then I also  
38 placed in front of you a copy of a request for  
39 reconsideration from the State, so in all that paperwork  
40 that you have in front of you.  
41  
42 And also there may be a portion of the  
43 strategic planning which is also included in your  
44 booklets.  
45  
46 So I just don't want you to get confused  
47 with all the paperwork that you have in front of you.  
48 Just to let you know, you know, what those are for.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, is that the



1 August 26th, 2004, request from the State of Alaska  
2 you're talking about?  
3  
4 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Okay. Council  
7 members, any further questions.  
8  
9 MR. EDENSHAW: And that's all I have for  
10 the agenda, Mr. Chair, thank you.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Question.  
13 Somebody called for question.  
14  
15 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, Cliff, this  
16 letter dated August 31st, 2004 asking for support from  
17 the RAC by OVR research, is that somewhere in this  
18 agenda?  
19  
20 MR. EDENSHAW: Could you repeat that  
21 first one, Robin, please?  
22  
23 MR. SAMUELSEN: This letter you handed  
24 out on August 31st, 2004, addressed to Danny O'Hara from  
25 Joe Fowler.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, yeah. Yeah.  
28  
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Oh, okay, with the ATV.  
30  
31 MR. SAMUELSEN: On the ATV issue asking  
32 the RAC for support, is that somewhere in this agenda, or  
33 is that new that needs to be added?  
34  
35 MR. EDENSHAW: That should be added.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.  
38  
39 MR. SAMUELSEN: Under what section?  
40  
41 MR. EDENSHAW: I'd ask if Joe's here. Is  
42 Joe here?  
43  
44 MS. MCBURNEY: No, I'm sorry, he isn't.  
45 MR. EDENSHAW: No. All right. But if  
46 Mary can speak to that, someone from Park Service.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Put it under other  
49 business. That would be good.  
50

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Other business?  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Other business would be  
4 fine.  
5  
6 MR. EDENSHAW: Under number 12, new  
7 business, unless Mary.....  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, it's not.....  
10  
11 MR. EDENSHAW: .....Mary said Joe's not  
12 here, so.....  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's not new business.  
15 It's just an update, so other business would be fine.  
16  
17 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you mind putting it  
20 down there?  
21  
22 MR. SAMUELSEN: 13.C., Mr. Chairman.  
23 Okay.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Park Service, or it's  
26 call -- what issue is that?  
27  
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: ORV.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: ORV. Okay. For the  
31 purpose of the audience, the ORV thing is the  
32 recreational vehicles that might be going into the Katmai  
33 Park and Preserve, or into the Preserve in the  
34 Igiugig/Kakanok area. And we have a letter from the  
35 superintendent of the Katmai National Park, and we'll  
36 deal with that.  
37  
38 If there's anything else that needs to be  
39 changed around.  
40  
41 (No comments.)  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question. All those in  
44 favor say aye.  
45  
46 IN UNISON: Aye.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed.  
49  
50 (No opposing votes)

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. The ayes have  
2 it.  
3  
4 Okay. Screaming right along here now,  
5 minutes of the last meeting, which was February 26th and  
6 27th. Council members. Have a motion, put it on the  
7 floor.  
8  
9 MR. DUNAWAY: Move to adopt.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Dan Dunaway made  
12 a motion to adopt the minutes.  
13  
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Second by Robin  
15 Samuelson.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robin Samuelson. Any  
18 corrections or deletions, Council members, from the  
19 minutes of the last meeting.  
20  
21 (No comments.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question.  
24  
25 MR. HEYANO: Question.  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All those in favor say  
28 aye.  
29  
30 IN UNISON: Aye.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed.  
33  
34 (No opposing votes)  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. The ayes have  
37 it.  
38  
39 The Federal Subsistence Board meeting, we  
40 pretty much -- we got everything we wanted actually that  
41 this Council put in for. And it was a little bit of a  
42 stretch to get the items that we wanted for -- that you  
43 were going to use for -- the one on bear parts for  
44 commercial use, such as claws or teeth or skin or any  
45 type of things. And I think, Council members, it's kind  
46 of interesting that with the 10 Councils that we have in  
47 Alaska, 7 of them were not interested in this particular  
48 proposal. And what the Federal Subsistence Board said,  
49 you'll notice in your report there -- what does that page  
50 start on, Cliff?

1 MR. EDENSHAW: The 805 letter starts on  
2 Page 18.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: 18. It shows you there  
5 the action of the Federal Board in relationship to the  
6 proposals as addressed to me by Mitch Demientieff. And  
7 the three Councils, Southeast, Eastern Interior it was  
8 called, and Bristol Bay got what they requested from  
9 that. And that was fine.  
10  
11 So I was surprised though. They were a  
12 little opposed to us doing that. We didn't object to  
13 them not doing it. And usually most of the time we have  
14 pretty much cooperation between Councils. But we managed  
15 to pull it off, so the Council did a good job of what you  
16 wanted, and we got the work done there.  
17  
18 What about the letter, B., Cliff? Number  
19 B under Chair's report.  
20  
21 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's just all the  
24 information given to us from the Federal.  
25  
26 MR. EDENSHAW: It's just -- yes, Mr.  
27 Chair, it s.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You can browse that if  
30 you like.  
31  
32 MR. EDENSHAW: Mainly the 805 letter is  
33 for the Council. As the Council is aware, that the  
34 Chair, Mr. O'Hara, represents the Council at the Board  
35 meetings, and carries forth the Council's recommendations  
36 of these wildlife proposals.  
37  
38 And I didn't have anything else other  
39 than what's under the tab there.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
42  
43 MR. EDENSHAW: Other than -- excuse me,  
44 Mr. Chair, other than the -- to point out the statewide  
45 proposal on this 805 letter, and that's the same thing as  
46 this RFR that I provided copies to Council for which is  
47 -- which was submitted by the State. And the three  
48 Councils that Mr. O'Hara mentioned, I think it was just  
49 Southeast Council, the Bristol Bay Council, and.....  
50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Eastern Interior.  
2  
3 MR. EDENSHAW: Eastern Interior Council.  
4 And the analysis, a threshold analysis is being conducted  
5 by our Staff back in Anchorage, and a decision should be  
6 forthcoming in terms of what the Board will do in terms  
7 of accepting or rejecting the RFR.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Under 18, too, just one  
10 proposal that was made from one of our advisory types to  
11 the advisors down in Chignik area, is they wanted to  
12 eliminate all the beavers, and we really couldn't quite  
13 do that. I mean, you know, the beavers may be a problem,  
14 but we can't kill everything in sight, and so the Federal  
15 Board aligned that with Proposal No. 46, like you would  
16 have in State regulations and other parts that we have,  
17 so.....  
18  
19 Council members, do you have any comments  
20 under Council member reports? Anybody want to make a  
21 comment. Nothing?  
22  
23 (No comments)  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Call for  
26 proposal to change federal subsistence wildlife  
27 regulations. Cliff, would you walk us through that?  
28  
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and  
30 Council members. Between now -- it's been open I believe  
31 since August, but the call for wildlife proposals is open  
32 until October 22nd. And to this date for the Bristol Bay  
33 region, we've received one proposal. So normally we'll  
34 receive an influx of those towards the end of -- or  
35 closer to October 22nd.  
36  
37 So at this time, if any of the Council  
38 members had a proposal they would like to be submitted  
39 for a change in how the wildlife is handled here in the  
40 region, we can do so at the meeting here today, or else  
41 the way we've done it in the past is the Council's also  
42 presented motions and I've drafted up the wildlife  
43 proposals. But we have until October 22nd to do those as  
44 well, too, so the Council can always call me at the  
45 office, whether it's one or both of you, and the way I've  
46 done it in the past also is to poll the Council members,  
47 call them up and I've drafted proposals and faxed them to  
48 all the Council members for their review and -- and if  
49 they agreed with what was drafted up, then I just got  
50 back with Dan and Dan will normally sign off on those.

1 So we have until October 22nd.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I don't if the Council  
4 members have heard any interest or concerns in the region  
5 since the last meeting that might be in the form of a  
6 proposal or a concern that you might have as Council  
7 members.

8

9 I heard one really interesting one the  
10 other day, or that I don't if it was just the weather  
11 this year, or sometimes the lack of water in some of the  
12 streams, but it was extremely hard to get a moose. And  
13 one person said he was going to make a proposal to the  
14 State of Alaska to change the regulations from 50 to 60-  
15 inch. In other words, to restrict more the recreation,  
16 non-resident type hunter. And I thought that was rather  
17 interesting. We can watch that over a year's period of  
18 time and see what happens with our moose population.  
19 We'll be having more reports later on on moose as we go  
20 along here today, so you might keep that in mind, Council  
21 members, as we go along.

22

23 I have nothing further on this at this  
24 time, Cliff.

25

26 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, Dan?

29

30 MR. DUNAWAY: Kind of to go along with  
31 that, and I don't feel ready to even make a proposal, but  
32 I have had friends express concern about the availability  
33 of moose in the Igiugig area, and difficulty to get meat.

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

36

37 MR. DUNAWAY: So that I just wanted to  
38 make sure that got aired here.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Real close to federal  
41 lands, too.

42

43 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah.

44

45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robin, did you have a  
46 comment?

47

48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. A lot of people  
49 expressed concern about the over-escapement in the Branch  
50

1 River and the effects on not only salmon, but the fresh  
2 water species. And I guess we'll be getting that report  
3 from somebody out here? It don't look like it.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Branch?  
6  
7 MR. SAMUELSEN:  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Alakanuk? Okay. Well,  
10 we can make comment on that later.  
11  
12 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, it was, what, 5.4?  
13 What was it, Tim, 5.4, 5.3 million fish?  
14  
15 MR. SANDS: Two-million-five.  
16  
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: Up that river system?  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's two-thirds  
20 Federal and one-third State? That's managed by the  
21 Department of Fish and Game?  
22  
23 MR. SANDS: The tower you mean?  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, the river.  
26  
27 MR. SANDS: The river. I don't know.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, I do. That's  
30 two-thirds Federal I think and one-third State, but I  
31 think the State has pretty much control over all the  
32 regulations of the Branch and the Alakanuk.  
33  
34 Good comment. We'll keep that in mind as  
35 we go along.  
36  
37 Okay. Nothing else, Council members?  
38  
39 (No comments)  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Something may spark  
42 your interest as we go along through the report today,  
43 too. Keep in mind the October 22nd date.  
44  
45 Next one there, Cliff.  
46  
47 MR. EDENSHAW: We'll go ahead and move  
48 into the fisheries proposal that Jerry Berg, our  
49 fisheries biologist will present to the Council.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, Jerry, welcome  
2 back. There was a time when the tables were turned here  
3 a little bit, wasn't it? You were our coordinator, and  
4 now you come back as our biologist.

5  
6 MR. BERG: Yes. Yes, thank you, Mr.  
7 Chair. It's good to be back. I always enjoyed working  
8 with the Bristol Bay Council and the people of this  
9 region.

10  
11 As you may know, we had some change over  
12 in Staff at our office. Larry Bucklis, who was the  
13 regulatory fish biologist for Bristol Bay, has taken the  
14 job that Helga Eakon had in our office, who I think many  
15 of you know Helga, and she retired from our office about  
16 six months ago, so Larry moved into that position, so I  
17 got reassigned.

18  
19 I've been recently working on the  
20 Kuskokwim and the Yukon Rivers for the past three or four  
21 years, but I'm glad to be back working with the folks in  
22 Bristol Bay.

23  
24 Proposal 9 was submitted for the Bristol  
25 Bay area. It starts on Page 23 in your book, this green-  
26 colored book that you guys have been working on.

27  
28 Proposal 9 was submitted by the Bristol  
29 Bay Native Association, and it requests the removal of  
30 the Federal subsistence permit to harvest char in the  
31 Bristol Bay area. In 2003 the Alaska Board of Fisheries  
32 eliminated a similar requirement for the State-issued  
33 subsistence permits to harvest fish for char or trout in  
34 the Bristol Bay area.

35  
36 The proponent states that most  
37 subsistence users are not aware of the char permit  
38 requirement, and are unknowingly at risk of violation.

39  
40 The proponent chose not to include the  
41 elimination of the Federal rainbow trout subsistence  
42 permit requirement for the Bristol Bay area, stating that  
43 they thought it would make the proposal too  
44 controversial. So that's why they left the rainbow trout  
45 of it out.

46  
47 For over 20 years as you know the State  
48 subsistence regulations for Bristol Bay required a permit  
49 to harvest char and trout. However, that permit  
50 requirement was not fully utilized and wasn't really



1 fully implemented for the Bristol Bay area.

2

3

4 When the Federal program first began, the  
5 Federal regulations mirrored those of the State for  
6 subsistence regulations in Bristol Bay, so basically from  
7 1999 through 2002 they mirrored those regulations of the  
8 State. And then in March of '03 Federal regulations  
9 deviated from the State as many of you are aware by  
10 allowing the subsistence harvest of rainbow trout. It  
11 was a big issue a couple years ago. Actually just a year  
12 ago. Since the State does not allow the take of rainbow  
13 trout under subsistence regulations, this action resulted  
14 in the creation of a Federal subsistence permit to  
15 harvest rainbow trout in the Bristol Bay area.

15

16

17 Then just in 2000 -- December of 2003,  
18 State regulations were modified to no longer require the  
19 subsistence permit to harvest char or trout. So as a  
20 result in '04, so for this part summer season, the  
21 Federal rainbow trout permit was amended to also include  
22 the subsistence harvest of char from Federal public  
23 waters in the Bristol Bay area.

23

24

25 Rainbow trout harvests are a small  
26 portion of the non-salmon harvest in the Bristol Bay  
27 area, while dolly varden account for a more substantial  
28 portion of the overall non-salmon harvest. Examples are  
29 provided on Page 3 in your analysis. In general, the  
30 harvest of rainbow trout account for eight percent of  
31 some of the highest use in some areas, while dolly varden  
32 account for 76 percent of the estimated non-salmon fish  
33 harvest in Togiak, which is also one of the higher use  
34 villages for dollies in Bristol Bay.

34

35

36 If this proposal were adopted as written,  
37 subsistence users would still need a federal permit to  
38 harvest rainbow trout from Federal public waters in the  
39 Bristol Bay area.

39

40

41 State regulations allow the retention of  
42 rainbow trout if incidentally taken in other net  
43 fisheries or through the ice. By comparison, Federal  
44 regulations allow rainbow trout to be harvested by rod  
45 and reel in addition to the same methods allowed by the  
46 State, although the Federal harvest limits are much the  
47 same as those of the sports fish harvest limits for  
48 rainbow trout.

48

49

50 There have been no Federal permits  
requested or issued to harvest rainbow trout in Bristol

1 Bay over the past two years since that requirement was  
2 put in place. And since no Federal permits have been  
3 issued, the Federal permit requirement is not providing  
4 the harvest data as intended when it was first  
5 established two years ago.

6  
7 The Federal permit requirement does place  
8 subsistence users at risk of violation, and is currently  
9 detrimental to subsistence user needs. This could be  
10 changed with a more aggressive effort to notify  
11 subsistence users of the permit requirement. Basically I  
12 think most people don't know that that requirement is in  
13 place. However, Federal public waters in Bristol Bay are  
14 limited and would only provide subsistence trout and char  
15 harvest data for a portion of Bristol Bay area.  
16 Basically for the Federal public waters. Periodic  
17 household surveys would be a more effective -- or more  
18 efficient and cost effective method of collecting this  
19 same harvest data.

20  
21 If the proposal were modified to also  
22 eliminate the requirement for a Federal permit to harvest  
23 rainbow trout on Federal public waters, then this would  
24 align Federal and State subsistence permit requirements,  
25 and would benefit subsistence users who harvest non-  
26 salmon fish.

27  
28 Federal regulations would continue to  
29 allow the use of rod and reel as legal gear to harvest  
30 rainbow trout. However, the current harvest limits in  
31 place for rainbow trout are conservative enough to  
32 protect the rainbow trout populations in the Bristol Bay  
33 area.

34  
35 So with that, Mr. Chair, the preliminary  
36 conclusion is to support the proposal with the  
37 modification to also eliminate the requirement for a  
38 rainbow trout permit.

39  
40 That's all I have. I'd be happy to try  
41 to answer any questions.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any questions from  
44 Council members? Okay.

45  
46 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, sure, Dan.

49  
50 MR. DUNAWAY: I'm not sure if Jerry can

1 answer this, but you said it would be more efficient to  
2 do the household surveys. How much does it cost to  
3 administer and analyze the current subsistence salmon  
4 permit program? This might be more of a question for  
5 State folks.

6  
7 MR. BERG: Yeah, I'm not aware of what  
8 that dollar figure is. I know it's -- I know there's a  
9 substantial amount of effort, and I would guess dollar  
10 figures goes into that. I don't know if anybody from the  
11 State is here that could help us answer that.

12  
13 I did talk briefly with Jim Fall, and he  
14 just said it was -- you know, it's a substantial effort  
15 that they put into gathering that data for salmon, and  
16 that they just never had the resources to put that much  
17 energy and resources into collecting the information for  
18 non-salmon fish, and that it was just more cost effective  
19 to do the household surveys periodically rather than  
20 trying to collect all that data every year.

21  
22 MR. DUNAWAY: I wonder if anybody would  
23 know what the cost of that.....

24  
25 MR. BERG: Yeah, I.....

26  
27 MR. DUNAWAY: .....house-to-house program  
28 is. I'd like to see if Ted might know or if you  
29 don't.....

30  
31 MR. BERG: Can you comment on that, Ted.

32  
33 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg with Subsistence  
34 Division, Fish and Game.

35  
36 I can't really give you any figures. I  
37 could find out and probably bring them back tomorrow, or  
38 if you wanted them now, I could go try to get them right  
39 now.

40  
41 MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, I'm not going to do  
42 that.

43  
44 MR. KRIEG: Yeah.

45  
46 MR. DUNAWAY: Figures about -- I tried to  
47 find out a little bit this last week. I didn't try real  
48 hard, but one or two biologists I talked to that couldn't  
49 really tell me either, so.....

50

1 MR. KRIEG: Because I know like at this  
2 time of year and in the summer a substantial amount of  
3 Eunice's time goes into, you know, following up on the  
4 permits that have been issued, you know, sending out  
5 letters and calling people, so she gets some of that --  
6 you know, a lot of the responses. At least at this time  
7 of the year. A lot of people send them in. They send  
8 out a reminder letter that people can send back, and then  
9 she starts making calls. So that's -- you know, the  
10 success rates is usually 90 percent or better I think. I  
11 know it's sometimes.....

12  
13 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, sometimes it's 100 in  
14 some villages, so.....

15  
16 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. And a lot of effort  
17 goes into that.

18  
19 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah. Do you know what it  
20 costs just like from one community interview project that  
21 you've done? Do you have a ballpark for it?

22  
23 MR. KRIEG: You know, sorry, if I talked  
24 to my boss, Jim Fall, I'm sure there's probably a, you  
25 know, ballpark figure that he uses, but, you know, I mean  
26 it all depends on where it's at, the travel, you know, we  
27 usually, you know, involve local people. A lot of these  
28 projects, you know, we cooperate with BBNA, and, you  
29 know, work together, use their resources with tribal  
30 councils and.....

31  
32 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. One more, Mr.  
33 Chairman.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure. Yeah.

36  
37 MR. DUNAWAY: About how many community  
38 surveys do you do annually in Bristol Bay?

39  
40 MR. KRIEG: Lately it's dependent on  
41 funding. We have a fresh water fish subsistence harvest  
42 project that's coming up for Togiak, Manokotak, and Twin  
43 Hills. And the last time one was done there was, a  
44 similar type of survey, was 1995. You know, and we've  
45 got down in the Chigniks, Perryville, they were included  
46 in Exxon Valdez oil spill funding surveys that we did  
47 last year. You know, the fish -- I mean, normally,  
48 unless it's -- well, it depends. We've done some large  
49 land animal surveys, household surveys, but those  
50 obviously don't include fish. And then we've done like

1 baseline in Togiak in 2000 I think it was. 2000, 2001 we  
2 did what we call our baseline subsistence harvest  
3 surveys, and that included fish and fish harvests.  
4 Subsistence harvests.

5  
6 So I guess I can't give you -- we try to  
7 do as often as we can, but like I said, it's -- lately  
8 it's dependent on funding and then, you know, we could  
9 put in proposals to FIS for funding for those types of  
10 projects. So if there's -- I mean, I guess that's one  
11 avenue. If there's an area that needs some direction,  
12 you know, if the Council wants to suggest that, that  
13 usually helps, you know, get the funding for that also.  
14 At least, that's been my understanding or observation so  
15 far with this process.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Did you have a  
18 question, Robin?

19  
20 MR. SAMUELSEN: No.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Anything else,  
23 Dan? Go ahead, Robert.

24  
25 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
26 How about the quality of the information you get from the  
27 salmon permits reports compared to the household surveys?

28  
29 MR. KRIEG: Well, I think it's -- you  
30 know, my opinion is it's pretty good quality information.  
31 I think -- I mean maybe people will, you know, estimate a  
32 little bit more on salmon than -- you know, put in a  
33 round figure than try to be exact. I don't know. I  
34 mean, I've heard people are documenting on a daily basis  
35 as the permits are set up for. You know, it should be  
36 real accurate, but -- I think, you know, with all the  
37 follow up and -- I think the numbers are pretty accurate.  
38 I know my boss always -- you know, that's one of -- it  
39 goes through these different checks and balances so to  
40 speak. If there's something that really seems out of  
41 whack, you know, we do some additional checking on it.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else, Robert?

44  
45 MR. HEYANO: No. Thank you.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members,  
48 do you have any questions of Craig?

49  
50 (No questions.)

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Thanks. Okay. Jerry,  
2 you made a comment there, and I didn't get it quite fast  
3 enough. You had rainbow, dolly and char, and you had  
4 percentages there. What were you referring to on that?  
5 Was that taking of the animals or was? Or use?

6  
7 MR. BERG: That was the percentage of  
8 non-salmon, the harvest of rainbow and char as a  
9 percentage of non-salmon harvest for the Bristol Bay  
10 area. So if you look on, what is it, the third page I  
11 think, which is.....

12  
13 MR. EDENSHAW: 26.

14  
15 MR. BERG: Yeah, Page 26. I gave some  
16 numbers in there kind of to give you an idea of what the  
17 harvest levels were for the Bristol Bay area. So for  
18 rainbow trout, some of the highest harvest in that -- in  
19 the Bristol Bay area of rainbow trout is in Nondalton,  
20 and it's about eight percent of the non-salmon harvest  
21 for all of Bristol Bay. And that's the highest harvest  
22 was back in 1983. You can see that the data is, you  
23 know, kind of spotty, some of the data that we have for  
24 some of the villages, as opposed to dolly varden. Some  
25 of the highest harvest rates of non-salmon fish for dolly  
26 varden can be as high as 76 percent, and that's in Togiak  
27 where they harvested, you know, over 14,000 fish in 1995.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What kind of effect is  
30 this having on the spawners or recruitment stock, or do  
31 you know that?

32  
33 MR. BERG: I think it.....

34  
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are they maintaining  
36 their levels?

37  
38 MR. BERG: I think in general, yeah, the  
39 populations are healthy. You know, I -- you know,  
40 certainly I've talked to some of the biologists in the  
41 area, and you know, I don't think that the -- the  
42 subsistence harvests are not having a detrimental effect  
43 on the populations. You know, certainly that is, you  
44 know, a lot of fish, 14,000 dollies taken out of the  
45 Togiak area, but those are -- you know, that's a really  
46 good, strong dolly population, and the Togiak as well.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: When the Council put in  
49 a proposal to make rainbow trout a subsistence fish, and  
50 it worked fine in the region. Then we went to the Board

1 level, and, of course, the media went nuts. They just  
2 came in, they stuck a camera right in my face and said,  
3 you know, and I said, just move that thing back far  
4 enough so I can at least see the Chairman of the Board,  
5 you know.

6  
7 And they said actually it doesn't have  
8 any effect on them. I mean, we're so far away from  
9 Federal lands on most of our rainbow thing that, you  
10 know, it boiled down to a cultural issue of some guy  
11 saying, you know, I've used rainbow trout up there, and  
12 I'll get a permit and go up and get that. And he may get  
13 it and he may not. But as far as devastating the  
14 population, which is what the media was trying to do, it  
15 just hasn't changed a thing. So I guess that's the  
16 reason I was asking this question.

17  
18 Thank you. Okay.

19  
20 Who's the next level of reporters here?

21  
22 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chairman and Council,  
23 we'll go ahead and go down through with the ADF&G  
24 comments.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

27  
28 MR. EDENSHAW: If there's someone from  
29 ADF&G making comments.

30  
31 MR. DYE: Jason Dye, Alaska Department of  
32 Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish.

33  
34 Mr. Chair, the Department's comments have  
35 been incorporated into the Staff comments that have  
36 already been covered here, and are included with your  
37 packets. Our comments essentially mirror those Staff  
38 comments. We support the proposal with modification to  
39 eliminate the requirement for the rainbow trout permit  
40 and permit conditions.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any questions of  
43 Jason today.

44  
45 (No questions)

46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is that it?

48  
49 MR. DYE: That's it.

50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, that's  
2 very brief.  
3  
4 Thank you.  
5  
6 MR. DYE: You bet.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The next level there.  
9  
10 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chairman, I'll go  
11 ahead and move on. If there's any other Federal, State,  
12 tribal agency comments.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.  
15  
16 MR. KRIEG: Ted Krieg, Subsistence  
17 Division with Fish and Game.  
18  
19 I just wanted -- I was thinking about  
20 Robert's question, and I guess I wanted to clarify a  
21 little bit that I was thinking more from the numbers that  
22 people are giving us. but there are -- a lot of it from  
23 the subsistence salmon permits, you know, we only get the  
24 data from the people that are actually getting a permit,  
25 so -- and not everybody gets permits, so, you know, it's  
26 only as accurate as the ones we're getting back, if that  
27 helps any. But that's where -- in the past with  
28 documenting, you know, household surveys, we can kind of  
29 supplement that information and say, okay, well, for a  
30 certain community it looks like maybe, you know, the  
31 harvest may be 20 percent more than what we're getting  
32 for the subsistence salmon permits. I might be putting  
33 my foot in my mouth, but I'm just trying to be honest,  
34 because, you know, it's only -- it's set up for people to  
35 participate, and we do have, you know, people working in  
36 the villages to try to -- vendors, and they really don't  
37 get -- I mean, the amount of money they get paid is  
38 virtually nothing, and some of them decide not to even  
39 take it, but they're the people issuing the permits, and  
40 some of them will go -- put in the effort to go out and  
41 try to contact people. So, you know, it is a voluntary  
42 type of thing, but we feel like we have pretty good --  
43 you know, there's been a lot of effort that's gone into,  
44 so we feel like we bet -- you know, get pretty good  
45 participation in that. I mean, some place like  
46 Dillingham, everybody's pretty much, you know, bought  
47 into that, and will get permits. You know, in some of  
48 the villages if it's -- you know, there may be, you know,  
49 some lag there where people aren't getting them.  
50



1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yes, Dan.  
2  
3 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, a couple things  
4 there. If you don't get a permit around here, you run a  
5 good chance of getting a ticket. So now this is a --  
6 have you ever seen in a community some significant  
7 difference between the total number of salmon say  
8 reported from a villages by the permit system versus your  
9 household survey?  
10  
11 MR. KRIEG: You know, not a significant  
12 number, and I'm just kind of pulling this off of the top  
13 of my head, but, you know, because of the return in the  
14 Kvichak, we did do some calls to Nondalton to find out,  
15 you know, with people that either had permits, and then  
16 some people that, you know, we just called around and  
17 found some people that didn't have permits, and they were  
18 more than willing to, you know, provide us with their  
19 harvest data. So, you know, we have come up with, you  
20 know, additional harvest in Nondalton I know for sure for  
21 that, like I said, with the returns the last few years,  
22 we have checked on that. But, you know, I don't think  
23 it's -- in the whole scheme of things, I don't think it's  
24 ever a substantial number that's missed.  
25  
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Not biologically  
27 significant?  
28  
29 MR. KRIEG: Yeah. Yeah, thanks.  
30  
31 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay. Thank you. Thank  
32 you, Mr. Chair.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yes, thank you.  
35 Okay. No other organizations then from the Federal,  
36 State side, so what's the next step there.  
37  
38 MR. EDENSHAW: The next one is Inter  
39 Agency Staff Committee comments, and I'm not sure if  
40 Jerry had any comments from the Staff Committee?  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. Okay.  
43  
44 MR. EDENSHAW: All right. No. All  
45 right. And is there anyone in the audience here  
46 representing a fish and game advisory committee, and, if  
47 so, would you like to present comments on the proposal.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. None.  
50

1                   MR. EDENSHAW: On the summary of written  
2 public comments, there wasn't any written public  
3 comments, Mr. Chair.  
4  
5                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
6  
7                   MR. EDENSHAW: And then for public  
8 testimony, if there's anyone, and I encourage you to fill  
9 out a form over here.  
10  
11                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We probably should have  
12 encouraged that a long time ago. You have to hurry now  
13 if you're going to get it.  
14  
15                  MR. EDENSHAW: If there's anyone who'd  
16 like to provide public comments regarding the proposal.  
17  
18                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now's the time to  
19 speak. Okay. Council members now.  
20  
21                  MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. Yes.  
22  
23                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members,  
24 do you have any comments on the proposal?  
25  
26                  MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.  
27  
28                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.  
29  
30                  MR. ALVAREZ: Randy Alvarez. I also  
31 serve on -- besides this committee here, I serve on the  
32 Lake Iliamna Fish and Game Advisory Committee for the  
33 State. And I've been on the committee for about 10 years  
34 now.  
35  
36                  And it's -- I've come to realize that,  
37 you know, before there was a problem with the Kvichak  
38 getting it's escapement for salmon especially. Well, for  
39 salmon. The subsistence -- I think the subsistence  
40 harvest or the information that was getting in probably  
41 wasn't as good as it is now, because ever since the  
42 Kvichak has been having a failure on the escapement,  
43 people realize that and I've been telling other members  
44 that people need to fill out their subsistence reports  
45 and get them back in. Otherwise, if it comes to be a  
46 time, if it ever got to Tier II, if they didn't have any  
47 history usage of the fishery, they might not be able to  
48 get a permit to harvest fish. So I think it might -- in  
49 my opinion, it's probably better now than it used to be,  
50 the reporting. It might be more accurate. I don't know

1 if it's accurate, but like Mr. Krieg said, it was  
2 probably more of an estimate I think. But I think in my  
3 opinion that the -- more people are probably realizing  
4 that they have to do their subsistence reports as, you  
5 know, compared to 10, 15 years ago when there was a lot  
6 of fish, they just didn't. And it was harder to get a  
7 permit I think back then, too, because not everybody had  
8 them readily available in the villages, where they had to  
9 get them from King Salmon, and some people didn't do  
10 that.

11  
12 I think back then, too, they probably had  
13 somebody else travel around and ask them how many -- what  
14 their subsistence harvest was, because if you look at the  
15 records going back into the 70s, it was a lot different  
16 in harvest than it is now, mainly because of dogs, when  
17 people had a lot of dogs. And I'm not familiar with how  
18 they did it back then, but it is different.

19  
20 And with this proposal, I would support  
21 it.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other  
24 Council member? Yes, Dan.

25  
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, Mr. Chair, thank you.  
27 I was opposed to the State eliminating this requirement.  
28 I viewed it as a real lack of will on the Department's  
29 part to try to make it work. And I'll oppose this one  
30 for a variety of reasons.

31  
32 It's becoming an extremely.....

33  
34 MR. SAMUELSEN: Wait.

35  
36 MR. DUNAWAY: Pardon?

37  
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.

41  
42 MR. SAMUELSEN: I think we need to get  
43 the proposal before us.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

46  
47 MR. SAMUELSEN: So I'll move for adoption  
48 of FP05-09.

49  
50 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

1 MR. DUNAWAY: And I'll second it.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm sorry.  
4  
5 MR. SAMUELSEN: Now you can oppose it.  
6  
7 MR. DUNAWAY: Okay.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you like to  
10 address the proposal now?  
11  
12 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I'm sorry.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead, Dan.  
15  
16 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, thank you, Robin.  
19  
20 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you. I was wondering  
21 if I was a little out of line here.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.  
24  
25 MR. DUNAWAY: But to carry on here, we've  
26 got -- the State has coming some extremely stringent  
27 guide reporting requirements. And I believe most of the  
28 Federal lands already have a pretty stringent daily,  
29 weekly sport harvest reporting.  
30  
31 The State current salmon permitting  
32 system I think works pretty darn good, and this is the  
33 first time I've heard there's been noticeable  
34 differences, and even then that it's not so significant  
35 that it's been a concern. It's been a hugely important  
36 tool for managers in the area.  
37  
38 I understand the arguments for getting  
39 rid of it for simplicity, and generally I'm in favor of  
40 that. But there's also been a long and on-going clamor  
41 and discomfort among many subsistence users with the data  
42 that sport fisheries personnel have collected on sport  
43 harvest and catches throughout the area.  
44  
45 There's also been some increasing  
46 restrictions made on especially grayling and char  
47 specifically as a result of some of these subsistence  
48 harvest data showing how important some of these species  
49 are to subsistence users.  
50

1                   And this inconsistent data collection on  
2 a cyclical basis or a geographical basis around the area,  
3 and the threat of continually reduced funds to State  
4 agencies, and at the same time it's my impression a  
5 number of communities close to or within Federal waters  
6 are growing. And the potential increased use of these  
7 species is there I think.

8  
9                   For those reasons, I think it's a mistake  
10 to eliminate one possible avenue for documenting  
11 recurrent use, possible future needs, and I don't think  
12 it would be near as onerous as it's been played up to be.

13  
14  
15                   These community surveys have to cost  
16 probably 50 to \$80,000 apiece, and you already have a  
17 mechanism in place with salmon permits. You could do a  
18 quarterly or semi-annual calendar type of reporting. I  
19 have been in a number of villages where folks religiously  
20 have their salmon permits tacked up on the refrigerator  
21 or over their coffee table. they check their net in the  
22 morning, and write down every fish they got. They're  
23 very good about it.

24  
25                   So for all those reasons, I think it's a  
26 mistake to discard an important data collection tool, and  
27 I'll be opposed.

28  
29                   Thank you.

30  
31                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Anything else,  
32 Council members. Any other comments. Yes, Robert.

33  
34                   MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
35 Robert Heyano.

36  
37                   You know, I've heard it said in other  
38 public meetings that the State's salmon subsistence  
39 reporting requirements is extremely accurate, and a very  
40 good methodology for documenting subsistence take of  
41 salmon.

42  
43                   I guess the concern I have with this  
44 proposal is that, if you would go to Page 35, I think  
45 that's the first one I want to reference, in regards to  
46 issues and informational needs on monitoring plans for  
47 Southwest Region. You know, there's an item here that  
48 says documenting subsistence fishing activities within  
49 Federal conservation units including improving harvest  
50 monitoring for dolly varden and fresh water resident

1 species. That's been identified as a concern and a  
2 priority.

3  
4 And then the other thing that concerns me  
5 is that there's -- under the projects for funding is the  
6 Lake Clark whitefish watershed, which we're going to be  
7 considering, you know, and it says Lake Clark whitefish  
8 has been identified as an issue and informational need by  
9 Regional Advisory Council for this area. Then under the  
10 -- flipping back to the issue statement, it says,  
11 continued declines in sockeye salmon abundance in the  
12 region may have affected whitefish population by reducing  
13 nutrition inputs from salmon carcasses, and increasing  
14 subsistence harvest pressure. The request for funding  
15 for that study wants to document and monitor the  
16 resource.

17  
18 So unless I'm convinced there's another  
19 mechanism that's going to better and cheaper document the  
20 subsistence harvest, I'm more inclined to stick with a  
21 system that seems to be working. And I understand it  
22 takes time within the office to get 100 percent and you  
23 have to keep following up, but I haven't heard that  
24 there's another method out there that's going to do a  
25 better job. And if we identify it as an issue, we might  
26 be contradicting ourselves if we take it off the table,  
27 the existing method.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Anything else,  
30 Robert?

31  
32 MR. HEYANO: No.

33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Council members,  
35 any other comments before we call for the question. Yes,  
36 Robin.

37  
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you. I'm going to  
39 be in support of the proposal, Mr. Chairman. We've tried  
40 to align to the best of our ability our regulations with  
41 our mandate, Federal mandate, to the State regulations.

42  
43 Right now what I see out in Bristol Bay  
44 is many times is can you keep a rainbow or can't you keep  
45 a rainbow. A lot of our village people up in Iliamna  
46 Lake will set their net, they target other species. An  
47 incidental catch is a rainbow in the net. Well, you  
48 don't throw it away, you take it home and eat it.

49  
50 The State of Alaska with its dwindling

1 budget, you know, surveys are just about out of the  
2 question. The Subsistence Division especially has been  
3 targeted real heavily by this administration and the  
4 Alaska Legislature. In fact, every year they want to  
5 zero out the Office of Subsistence.

6  
7 I also have attended Board of Fish  
8 meetings where Mr. Fall has given overviews in the last  
9 20 years probably on Bristol Bay and the harvest surveys  
10 for not only fresh water fish, but also salt water fish.  
11 And steadily you see the compliance and the confidence  
12 that subsistence users have in working with the State and  
13 reporting their data.

14  
15 And as Randy has pointed out, we had a  
16 wake-up call here when our caribou herd, South Alaska  
17 Peninsula Caribou Herd crashed and we went to a Tier II,  
18 and that really drove home the point of reporting your  
19 subsistence, whether it's caribou, moose, fish species or  
20 not, because in the day and age of computer, you know,  
21 you're a number in there, and that's going to dictate  
22 what you're going to get in the future.

23  
24 So we're bringing our regulation in line  
25 with the State of Alaska. It's pretty important here,  
26 since there have not been any Federal permits issued and  
27 the State no longer requires a permit, so the Feds have  
28 issued no permits. The State no longer requires a  
29 permit to harvest char, the Federal permit requirement is  
30 not providing subsistence harvest data which was intended  
31 for the purpose. The Federal permit requirement does  
32 place subsistence users at the risk of violation, and is  
33 currently detrimental to subsistence users needs.

34  
35 Because Bristol Bay I think we have a  
36 rainbow trophy management plan in Bristol Bay. Is it  
37 throughout Bristol Bay, or is it.....

38  
39 MR. DUNAWAY: It's just a rainbow  
40 management plan.

41  
42 MR. SAMUELSEN: Just a rainbow  
43 management. You know, I support that plan. Always  
44 supported the plan. But for a person in a village, it  
45 isn't a trophy rainbow, it's a rainbow, and it's good to  
46 eat.

47  
48 Again, they don't target them. They  
49 catch them in incidental catches. But there's a lot of  
50 confusion out there amongst the village people. A lot of

1 times people would hide them, because they figure an  
2 over-zealous protection officer is doing to nail them for  
3 a rainbow. There's so much confusion out there. I think  
4 this takes away the confusion.  
5

6 I don't know what's going to happen with  
7 the Federal budget, but we can't continue on the rate  
8 we're going. In fact, the hurricanes in Florida now are  
9 syphoning a lot of Federal dollars and Federal programs  
10 from Alaska down to that disaster that the President  
11 declared. And after this election, you know, we may not  
12 be doing surveys on a Federal level, so we'll be adopting  
13 a regulation that will have no money backing it up. And  
14 I'm not in favor of implementing regulations that you  
15 can't back them up and do surveys to find out what is  
16 actually happening out there.  
17

18 There will still be -- there will still  
19 be in certain streams through State management we have  
20 concerns for rainbow trout. There's size limits and  
21 amount that a person's able to take, and those  
22 regulations don't go away. Just because you're a Federal  
23 subsistence user, or a State subsistence user doesn't  
24 mean that you go out there and set a net across a stream  
25 and wipe out the whole stream of char -- I mean of  
26 rainbow. Those safeguards for that resource are in  
27 place.  
28

29 So for those reasons I'll be in favor of  
30 the motion. I think it makes us align with the State and  
31 clears up a lot of misconceptions for the subsistence  
32 users within the region.  
33

34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other Council  
35 comments before we call for the question. Council  
36 members. Yes. And we'll take the lady first here.  
37 Nanci, yeah.  
38

39 MS. MORRIS: Thank you. Nanci Morris  
40 Lyon. I feel like I'm probably -- I'm not going to vote  
41 for this for a couple of different reasons.  
42

43 I don't feel that discarding a tool when  
44 we have gone to a lot of effort just as Robert said to  
45 put a Southwest rainbow management plan to use in this  
46 area is a reason to vote for this. I think that that's a  
47 very valuable tool. It does not take away the ability to  
48 subsistence fish for these fish. That's still available  
49 out there, and yet by accepting this proposal, I would be  
50 discarding a tool. And I feel like in some ways in the



1 future should the rainbow trout management system, should  
2 any of the implementations be kicked into effect, I think  
3 it will be very helpful to have documented uses of the  
4 abundance of the rainbow trout in the subsistence  
5 fisheries so that we would have some numbers to go off  
6 of. And those will be my reasons for voting against this  
7 proposal.

8

9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other --  
10 Robert.

11

12 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
13 Robert Heyano.

14

15 Yeah, I don't -- you know, the proposal  
16 doesn't address the confusion in regulations of who can  
17 keep a rainbow trout and where you can keep it and what  
18 size. Those are going to still be there. What this -- I  
19 look at more of this as a reporting requirement, trying  
20 to document subsistence harvest of a fresh water species.  
21 And as I mentioned before, trying to get a better handle  
22 of that has been identified as a priority. And it seems  
23 to me is that without somebody convincing me that there's  
24 a better method out there than the reporting requirement  
25 that is currently on the books, I'll have a hard time  
26 voting to get of something. And it's the only tool we  
27 have, and I think it's extremely important to document  
28 subsistence harvest not only for the subsistence user,  
29 but also for the resource. And what I have heard before  
30 is depending on funding, which we know is all declining,  
31 that will depend on whether they do community and how  
32 many community household surveys. I think the reporting  
33 system that's in place with a little bit of tweaking and  
34 a little bit of more informational in the salmon shows it  
35 works, and the information is very reliable. So why  
36 throw it out and have nothing.

37

38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You're repeating  
39 yourself now, so -- yeah, Boris.

40

41 MR. KOSBRUK: I'd like to comment briefly  
42 on that study there and reporting, and I just want to  
43 caution the members here of the inaccuracy we're getting  
44 from it. You know, it got pointed out last year that the  
45 report of Ted's is way off base. And whether they've  
46 corrected that or not I've yet to see. I'm real leery of  
47 that after that experience I went through. But it's  
48 needed, that's for sure. I agree with Robert.

49

50 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other

1 Council members' comments.  
2  
3 (No comments.)  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We're going to  
6 decide whether or not we want to accept the proposal. If  
7 we vote yes, we will eliminate the permitting require.  
8  
9 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chair.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, go ahead, Robin.  
12  
13 MR. SAMUELSEN: Could I ask Staff a  
14 question.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.  
17  
18 MR. SAMUELSEN: If this proposal passes,  
19 are they going to plan to do a household survey, periodic  
20 household survey in the next five years?  
21  
22 MR. BERG: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Samuelsen,  
23 I'm not aware of any studies on the books right now, but  
24 I'm sure if the Council put forth a recommendation, you  
25 know, that would certainly fit within the FIS program  
26 within our office, you know, to make that a priority  
27 coming from this Council. You could certainly make that  
28 recommendation.  
29  
30 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.  
31  
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yes.  
33  
34 MR. BERG: Mr. Chair, if I can, I just  
35 want to clarify. The motion was to adopt the proposal --  
36 my understanding was to adopt it as written, and the  
37 preliminary conclusion was to support it with the  
38 modification to also eliminate the rainbow trout permit.  
39 So if you adopt it as written, that would only eliminate  
40 the char permit requirement.....  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So we have to.....  
43  
44 MR. BERG: .....not the rainbow trout  
45 portion.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We're only dealing with  
48 the char issue?  
49  
50 MR. BERG: Right. And that's -- okay.

1 Yeah.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. That's right,  
4 Council members? Robert? Robin?  
5  
6 MR. HEYANO: Well, I.....  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert, yeah.  
9  
10 MR. HEYANO: Robert Heyano. I think  
11 you're right, Mr. Chairman, as the motion is stated for  
12 the record, but I think in deliberations you heard a lot  
13 of reference to rainbow trout, so I would offer the maker  
14 of the motion a friendly amendment to include rainbow  
15 trout, the deletion of rainbow trout for reporting.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Your motion is a  
18 friendly amendment to delete the permitting system for  
19 rainbow trout.  
20  
21 MR. HEYANO: Correct.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. And is there a  
24 second to that?  
25  
26 MS. MORRIS: Second.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Second. Okay.  
29 So.....  
30  
31 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.  
34  
35 MR. HEYANO: I just offered it as a  
36 friendly amendment to the maker of the motion.  
37  
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: Oh, yes. I thought Dan  
39 made it.  
40  
41 MR. DUNAWAY: No, you got me in line.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, I got -- yeah.  
44 Okay.  
45  
46 MR. DUNAWAY: I seconded it to keep you  
47 happy.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Does that change  
50 the discussion any more as far as permitting goes here,

1 friends.  
2  
3 (No discussion)  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If not, if you don't  
6 have any more discussion, we'll ask our narrator over  
7 here, our director, to do a roll call vote.  
8  
9 MR. EDENSHAW: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As  
10 I read it, the Council is -- the motion before the  
11 Council, which they'll vote on, is to adopt the proposal  
12 as amended. And I'll go ahead and do a roll call vote  
13 here.  
14  
15 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Wait a minute, we have  
16 a new Council member coming in here.  
17  
18 (Peter Abraham arrives - off record  
19 conversation)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, would the Council  
22 mind if we took a 10-minute break here and.....  
23  
24 MR. HEYANO: Can't we vote and then  
25 break?  
26  
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, okay. It's up to  
28 Pete, if he -- Pete, do you want to vote on the issue?  
29 Sit down and we'll explain it to you.  
30  
31 MR. ABRAHAM: All right.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm really glad we  
34 don't have two proposals this time, or we would not be  
35 out of here in two days. Okay.  
36  
37 We have a proposal before us. Pete, it's  
38 nice to have you with us today. And it starts over here  
39 on Page 23, and it's dealing with this char issue on  
40 Federal lands, Pete. And the recommendation of the  
41 proposal is to eliminate the permitting system on Federal  
42 lands for the catch.....  
43  
44 MR. ABRAHAM: On page what?  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: 23. And it's dealing  
47 with -- right now in order to, along with a salmon  
48 permit, you would have to have a permit for char as well.  
49 And the motion right now on the floor is to eliminate  
50 permitting for char, and then Robert made a friendly

1 amendment to eliminate permitting for rainbow trout on  
2 Federal subsistence users. It was seconded by Nanci. So  
3 that's where we're at. And I guess what it boils down to  
4 is whether you want to have a permit for char and rainbow  
5 or you don't want a permit for char and rainbow on  
6 Federal lands.

7  
8 MR. ABRAHAM: No. That's going to cause  
9 a lot of confusion especially for subsistence users,  
10 because we never have any -- or used any permit system on  
11 any kind of fish. Yeah.

12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Roll call vote  
14 there if you would, please.

15  
16 MR. EDENSHAW: Okay. Mr. Chair, as I  
17 mentioned previously what's before the Council is a  
18 motion to adopt the proposal which would remove the  
19 requirement for use of a char.....

20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And rainbow as amended.

22  
23 MR. EDENSHAW: As amended.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now, wait a minute. We  
26 vote on the amendment first, or just voting on one.....

27  
28 MR. DUNAWAY: No, just the main motion.

29  
30 MR. HEYANO: No, we amended the.....

31  
32 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

33  
34 MR. EDENSHAW: No, Robert offered his  
35 amendment to the original motion, which Robin and the  
36 Council approved it. So what we're doing is voting on  
37 the motion to adopt the proposal as amended.

38  
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

40  
41 MR. EDENSHAW: And I'll go ahead and go  
42 down. Randy Alvarez.

43  
44 MR. ALVAREZ: Aye.

45  
46 MR. EDENSHAW: Pete Abraham.

47  
48 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah.

49  
50 MR. EDENSHAW: Andrew Balluta.

1 MR. BALLUTA: Yeah.  
2  
3 MR. EDENSHAW: Is that an aye or no.  
4  
5 MR. BALLUTA: Aye.  
6  
7 MR. EDENSHAW: Aye. Dan Dunaway.  
8  
9 MR. DUNAWAY: No.  
10  
11 MR. EDENSHAW: Robert Heyano.  
12  
13 MR. HEYANO: No.  
14  
15 MR. EDENSHAW: Boris Kosbruk.  
16  
17 MR. KOSBRUK: No.  
18  
19 MR. EDENSHAW: Nanci Morris.  
20  
21 MS. MORRIS: No.  
22  
23 MR. EDENSHAW: Dan O'Hara.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes.  
26  
27 MR. EDENSHAW: Robin Samuelsen.  
28  
29 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.  
30  
31 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, the ayes have  
32 it five/four. The motion passes.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: This is not a rubber  
35 stamp board. Wow. We'll take a 10-minute break.  
36  
37 (Off record)  
38  
39 (On record)  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll -- we have  
42 two things we need to do here that we've kind of  
43 overlooked. One is, since Pete has come in a little  
44 late, and we had Council comments, he would like to give  
45 a report on what has gone on in the Togiak area over  
46 there as a Council member. Pete.  
47  
48 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah. Well, I think we  
49 finally -- the people that work in the office over there,  
50 the refuge office kind of trust me for a little bit, so

1 they put me out as a river ranger this summer. And I had  
2 an enjoyable time over there during the summer.

3

4 But I took time to study catch and  
5 release on king salmon and silver salmon. And I check  
6 out the numbers of what I done over there. I didn't take  
7 my written report on it, but I was in pain since  
8 yesterday morning. I keep forgetting things. But anyway  
9 I checked the numbers out of king salmon the sportsmen  
10 keep over in Togiak only. At least 1,025 average every  
11 year. And catch and release, the release part of it is  
12 3900 of release over there. So just to be sure, I  
13 checked with ADF&G. I was very close. So at least, you  
14 know, I did something right with the numbers.

15

16 But I tell you river ranging is a fun  
17 thing to me over there. I get to meet a lot of people  
18 over there from different countries, different languages,  
19 and they are super people, and very interesting people.

20

21 And as for silver salmon, I did the same  
22 thing with the king salmon. I got estimates on it, but I  
23 can't quite remember what it was, but it was over about  
24 2,000 silver salmon they kept, and about 4500 released,  
25 some place in that neighborhood. I've got written  
26 reports. They will be going to -- I'm still working on  
27 my report, because I still type with my two fingers. I'm  
28 still going at it. When I'm done with my reporting over  
29 here, I'll have to go see the doctor about my fingers  
30 over there.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 MR. ABRAHAM: And as for moose hunting  
35 season over there, because the river was very dry, it was  
36 dry everywhere. The brown bears concentrated in the main  
37 river, because all the tributaries are shallow, hardly  
38 any fish on them. And so the moose are way back there.  
39 And last year we had 59 permits issued, and this year we  
40 have about 52 permits issued. Last year we had I think  
41 close to -- or from 9 to 15 moose killed over there.  
42 This year I think 7 to 13. One illegal, but that was  
43 through -- I heard that through the grapevine of illegal  
44 kill. But anyway the moose has more chance this year  
45 than before, because the tributaries are shallow  
46 everywhere.

47

48 That's all I've got, but even I'm in pain  
49 right now, I'm trying to smile a little, because the  
50 potent stuff is affecting me right now, the medicine he

1 gave me.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Thank you.

4 Thank you, Pete.

5

6 We usually have a place in here where we  
7 have public comment, and I don't know how we -- a  
8 misprint or something here or what, but we have an  
9 individual who wanted to testify on an issue from Chignik  
10 Lakes. So if it's okay with the Council members, we'll  
11 ask Elliott Roger Lind who wants to address a subsistence  
12 issue in the Chignik, and we do have some paperwork on  
13 this we might want to follow up on a little bit later on  
14 in the meeting. No objection?

15

16 (No objection.)

17

18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Elliott.

19

20 MR. E. LIND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
21 Council members. Thank you for giving me some time here  
22 to respond to some affidavits that you should have  
23 probably read, that was turned in to you concerning the  
24 Chignik Co-op leads.

25

26 Well, first of all, I am a subsistence  
27 user, commercial fisherman and a long-time resident of  
28 Chignik Lake. For those that do not know the facts about  
29 how the Chignik Co-op and all the subsistence users in  
30 the Chignik area are benefiting by being able to get  
31 their subsistence fish a lot easier than in the past if  
32 they choose to do so.

33

34 From the Co-op set leads down to the  
35 fishing area of Chignik, if you prefer to catch your own  
36 subsistence fish at any time you choose, or if you want  
37 to, you can get your subsistence fish from the Co-op  
38 tender or catcher boat during an open fishing period.  
39 You may do so and you are -- you may do so, and are urged  
40 to do so. Even though the Co-op fish that are given away  
41 to the subsistence users during an open Co-op fishery are  
42 taken out of the allocation allotted to them from the  
43 State of Alaska. So this means that the Chignik Co-op is  
44 making every effort on their part to help any subsistence  
45 user in the area to get the fish that they need for their  
46 subsistence use during the fishing season.

47

48 Now, another fact concerning subsistence  
49 above the Co-op leads from the Alaska Department of Fish  
50 and Game's counting station located in the river up to



1 Chignik Lake. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has  
2 full control of the amount of fish they want past the  
3 counting station upriver, and if they are not able to  
4 meet their escapement goals, Fish and Game will have the  
5 Co-op pull their leads out of the water, or lift the lead  
6 lines up to let the fish pass through below the counting  
7 station to meet their escapement goals upriver, or they  
8 shut the fishery down until they meet their escapement  
9 goals.

10

11 So if there is a subsistence problem  
12 above the counting station, the Co-op or the leads are  
13 not causing the problem of not enough fish past the  
14 counting station.

15

16 So with all these facts in mind, there  
17 should be no doubt as to where the problem points. Not  
18 to the Co-op, but to the Fish and Game management of the  
19 Chignik area and their escapement goals upriver. In  
20 simple terms, the buck stops at the counting station run  
21 by the management of the State of Alaska Fish and Game  
22 Department.

23

24 By no means are the declining stocks of  
25 the commercial or subsistence fish caused by the Chignik  
26 Co-op. I believe the problem lies in the intercept of  
27 fish returning to the Chignik area east and west of  
28 Chignik.

29

30 Thank you for your time, and I hope that  
31 the picture of the problem that we face is much clearer  
32 to everyone. And I would like to answer any questions  
33 that you might have concerning our part in helping out  
34 the subsistence users in Chignik.

35

36 What I'm saying here is that if they have  
37 a problem above the weir, the counting station, is that  
38 we've got no say on how much fish that should be up in  
39 those spawning rivers. Fish and Game has control of  
40 those. And if they don't have enough fish up the river,  
41 they will let us pull the leads. And the lead isn't all  
42 the way across. Pretty much if you read your affidavit,  
43 it sounds like the whole river is blocked off. It isn't.  
44 There's an opening of about -- I'd say 100 feet opening  
45 between two leads where it's constantly open so traffic  
46 could go up and down the river. But Fish and Game does  
47 have control of that. If they don't meet their  
48 subsistence goals, they'll have us pull the leads. So  
49 basically the arguments that we're causing the problem  
50 doesn't hold water, period.

1                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You have in your  
2 packet, it was given to you, passed out, Dan, if you've  
3 got a problem there of finding.....  
4  
5                   MR. DUNAWAY: I haven't found one.  
6  
7                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Sorry about  
8 that. We all pretty much had one here. Sorry if you  
9 didn't have one. That's okay.  
10  
11                  And I think -- Cliff, do we have this  
12 some place later on here, or is it on the agenda, or did  
13 we.....  
14  
15                  MR. EDENSHAW: No.  
16  
17                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
18  
19                  MR. EDENSHAW: That was only brought up  
20 by Elliott wanting to provide testimony.  
21  
22                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, I meant.....  
23  
24                  MR. EDENSHAW: No, I put this -- I  
25 provided this in there for the Council's information.  
26  
27                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, just for  
28 information, okay. That's fine. Okay.  
29  
30                  MR. E. LIND: And according to -- excuse  
31 me, Mr. Chair, but according to affidavits, this is the  
32 first time I've seen them. I heard, you know, that they  
33 were out, but this is the first time I've had a chance to  
34 take a look at them.  
35  
36                  And I lived in Anchorage here about 12  
37 years ago. I moved back to Chignik Lake. I lived in  
38 Anchorage probably about six years maybe, then I moved  
39 back to Chignik Lake. But when I moved back 12 years  
40 ago, there was a subsistence problem in Chignik Lake, and  
41 the Co-op didn't even exist. So according to the  
42 affidavit, until the leads were in place it says, they  
43 didn't -- we didn't have a subsistence problem. We did  
44 more than once have a subsistence problem before the  
45 leads were even brought into Chignik. So even though  
46 it's stamped by a notary public, and also identify as the  
47 person that is the notary public is also anti-Co-op. And  
48 just about every one of the people that signed these  
49 affidavits have gotten fish from either the harvesters of  
50 the Co-op or the tenders of the Co-op, so I don't

1 understand why they even -- you know, the antis, we call  
2 them the antis, the people that are against.  
3  
4 Right now we're 87 strong out of 98  
5 permits in Chignik. You know, 87 members out of the 98  
6 permits have joined the Co-op.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, thank you  
9 very much, Elliott. Any questions you might have.  
10  
11 Randy.  
12  
13 MR. ALVAREZ: I'm not familiar with this,  
14 what happened. I just probably like some of you, just  
15 got this when we sat down here, but apparently it sounds  
16 like there's an organization complaining that there's not  
17 enough subsistence fish going up the -- getting by the  
18 Co-op's operation?  
19  
20 MR. E. LIND: Yes, and really to  
21 understand the problem you'd have to talk to Fish and  
22 Game, because we've argued it when we had -- you know,  
23 the past problems with not getting any fish in October,  
24 our subsistence fish is usually caught in October month.  
25 But by that time the station's already pulled like a  
26 month. They say it takes 30 days for fish to go up  
27 there, then start turning red and stuff. But you'd have  
28 to actually talk to them and get the facts.  
29  
30 But, you know, if you have an earlier  
31 run, the end results are going to come early. That's the  
32 way I look at it. But they're using subsistence as a  
33 backbone to -- the antis are using, you know, subsistence  
34 as a backbone to try to break down the Co-op. Whatever  
35 the Co-op does, they've got to try to find an argument to  
36 try to break it down, and, you know, it's.....  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, we'll just.....  
39  
40 MR. E. LIND: It's such a simple thing,  
41 you know.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. We'll just stick  
44 with you giving us the information, and.....  
45  
46 MR. E. LIND: Okay.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: .....we'll go from  
49 here, when they determine how that fall out's going to go  
50 on it. Yes, Cliff.

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, Mr. Chair, just for  
2 the Council's information, if they look, on the first  
3 portion of the -- the first four pages I put were the  
4 response from OSM, and then what Mr. Lind is referring to  
5 is on the last three pages, which was a letter submitted  
6 by, the affidavits on there, and the law firm. So it's  
7 just backwards. The original correspondence is the last  
8 three pages, and the first four are the response.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: In other words, that's  
11 the way you put it together. Okay. All right. Any  
12 other questions?  
13  
14 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, sure, go ahead.  
17  
18 MR. ALVAREZ: Are we going to discuss  
19 this later?  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I don't think so. This  
22 is informational type thing for us, and I don't know  
23 where it's going to go from here.  
24  
25 MR. ALVAREZ: I've got another question  
26 then.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure. Go ahead.  
29  
30 MR. ALVAREZ: So does the -- the State of  
31 Alaska monitors or manages this fishery. Did they get  
32 enough escapement in there to have -- you know, they  
33 manage the fishery, so they need to get -- the first  
34 thing is to get enough escapement, then have the fishery.  
35 So the.....  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Escapement,  
38 subsistence, commercial.  
39  
40 MR. ALVAREZ: Yes. So did the -- I was  
41 kind of wondering if the State got enough escapement for  
42 the -- to maintain a sustainable fishery in their  
43 opinion.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I don't know. Does  
46 anyone at Alaska Department of Fish and Game? Our  
47 biologists don't go down that far?  
48  
49 MS. WESTING: Well, the Chignik fishery  
50 is.....

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I'm sorry, if you're  
2 going to talk, you get to come sit by Roger.  
3  
4 MR. HEYANO: Elliott.  
5  
6 MS. WESTING: My name is Charlotte  
7 Westing. I'm with the Department of Fish and Game.  
8  
9 The Chignik fishery is managed out of  
10 Kodiak.....  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.  
13  
14 MS. WESTING: .....with George Papas, and  
15 so we don't any of that information here. I could go try  
16 to get some for you if that would help with the  
17 discussion.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You know, if you could  
20 have that by tomorrow, that might be good.  
21  
22 MS. WESTING: Sure. Yeah.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What is your name?  
25  
26 MS. WESTING: Charlotte Westing.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Just so the lady  
29 here -- Robin, did you have a comment?  
30  
31 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. We  
32 have nothing in front of us.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No.  
35  
36 MR. SAMUELSEN: We have a letter in front  
37 of us. There's no special action request. There is the  
38 letter from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service laid out a  
39 course of action either through us or through the Alaska  
40 Board of Fish. It looks like there's a couple agenda  
41 change requests, 43 and 45, and maybe another one, that's  
42 going to be dealt with in October or November to the  
43 Alaska Board of Fisheries. But we have nothing in front  
44 of us.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No. We just took that  
47 information from Elliott. And did you still want to have  
48 something tomorrow on that figures for your own  
49 information?  
50

1 MR. ALVAREZ: If it was possible, but,  
2 you know, it's.....  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
5  
6 MR. ALVAREZ: I'm under this -- with the  
7 understanding that the Department manages all these  
8 fisheries, and if there's going to be any left over, then  
9 they can take those -- you know, harvest for commercial  
10 use. I don't understand what the people that filed this  
11 -- if they have a leg to stand on.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: It's going to go to the  
14 Fish Board. I don't really think it's -- is that on  
15 Federal waters we're dealing with there?  
16  
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: Both.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Both.  
20  
21 MR. E. LIND: According to the letter, it  
22 says they are.  
23  
24 MR. SAMUELSEN: Both.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Both. Okay. All  
27 right. Okay. It will -- well, he's come a long ways,  
28 and we thank you for the information, and now we have the  
29 affidavits before us and your comments, and if they were  
30 here and they wanted to make a comment, they could make  
31 the same comment in fairness to them. So we do  
32 appreciate you coming before the Council.  
33  
34 MR. E. LIND: Okay. Mr. Chairman, would  
35 it be in order for me to leave a copy of this in response  
36 to what you've got in front of you? My comments, so it  
37 could be filed?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure, that's fine.  
40 Yeah. Yeah, we'd be happy to have a copy made, and we'll  
41 do it. Okay.  
42  
43 MR. E. LIND: Okay. Sure. Thank you.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No other questions you  
46 have? Okay. All right. Okay. We're down to Fisheries  
47 Information Services, and it's my understanding that  
48 Steve Fried is going to handle this for us, if you would,  
49 please? Steve, how are you today?  
50

1 MR. FRIED: Oh, pretty good.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Good. Give us a page  
4 number, and we're ready to roll.  
5  
6 MR. FRIED: Okay. It starts on Page  
7 number 29 is the cover page. Actually I was going to  
8 present this along with Amy Craver who is our social  
9 scientist, but she doesn't get in until 4:15. She  
10 unfortunately missed her flight this morning.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll be here  
13 tomorrow.  
14  
15 MR. FRIED: Right. So I can probably  
16 cover most of it myself.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure. Go for it.  
19  
20 MR. FRIED: And she'll be here for  
21 questions or clarification tomorrow.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
24  
25 MR. FRIED: Essentially what I'd like to  
26 bring before the Counsel is the 2005 fisheries monitoring  
27 plan, which basically contains the proposed studies that  
28 would be funded in 2005. So what we're -- right now  
29 we've got some recommendations from the Technical Review  
30 Committee on what to fund, and whether or not there's any  
31 changes needed in some of these studies. And the process  
32 goes that then we bring it in front of the public and the  
33 Counsel for their comments. And then in January it will  
34 go in front of the Federal Subsistence Board, and they  
35 will adopt a final funding plan for these studies.  
36  
37 Briefly, mostly for the benefit of the  
38 new Council members, this program started in 2000, and it  
39 was -- the main purpose of the program is to identify and  
40 provide information that can be used for management of  
41 Federal subsistence fisheries. And it's a collaborative  
42 approach. There's five federal agencies involved in the  
43 program: Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land  
44 Management, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian  
45 Affairs, and the Forest Service, and we also work very  
46 closely with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and  
47 various rural and native organizations to put the program  
48 together.  
49  
50 The first step in the process is a call

1 for proposals, which usually goes out in November, and  
2 the proposals come in usually around February. They're  
3 reviewed by this Technical Review Committee, which is a  
4 committee of scientists from the five agencies and the  
5 Department of Fish and Game, and they look at the  
6 proposals, decide whether or not they have a connection  
7 to the Federal program, you know, and then based on the  
8 amount of money available that year, they try to select a  
9 suite of programs that they would think best fit within  
10 the confines of the program, and they will then ask the  
11 investigators to take these two-page proposals and to  
12 provide some more detailed information, which we call an  
13 investigation plan. And these are the investigation  
14 plans that would be before you now for these studies.  
15

16                   And we base the -- the Technical Review  
17 Committee bases their review on the strategic priority,  
18 whether or not it fits the program, whether or not  
19 there's a conservation problem, whether or not there's  
20 information, there's a data gap that needs to be filled  
21 by these things, the technical, scientific merit. You  
22 know, can the program as -- can the proposal for this  
23 study actually provide the information given the methods  
24 that they are presenting in the proposal. We look at the  
25 investigators and their agencies, and decide whether or  
26 not they're capable of conducting the study.  
27

28                   And another aspect of this is the  
29 partnership capacity building, to make sure that there  
30 are appropriate partners in the study, and it contributes  
31 to the ability of rural organizations, local community  
32 residents, to actually participate in the program.  
33

34                   There's about I think it's \$7.25 million  
35 available each year for the program. Some of that  
36 actually goes towards funding the proposals from previous  
37 years, because proposals are funded for up to a three-  
38 year period every time. So not all that money's  
39 available for new studies every years.  
40

41                   There are some guidelines that have been  
42 placed on the program, making sure that the money is  
43 distributed among all the regions within the State, that  
44 it's just not all used in one place, so all the problems,  
45 you know, can be addressed throughout the State, and also  
46 that the money is allocated among data types. Stock  
47 status and trend study is one data type, and that  
48 addresses the fisheries populations, and the other data  
49 type are the harvest monitoring and traditional  
50 ecological knowledge. So this is all done to make sure



1 that the program's balanced.

2

3 On Page 33 there's a couple of tables  
4 that show how many investigation plans were submitted,  
5 and the data types, the totals by regions, the guideline  
6 funding amounts, just to give you an idea of what the  
7 statewide program looks like.

8

9 Essentially this year there was about \$2  
10 million available for new studies, and the other monies  
11 were being used to fund on-going studies, and also for  
12 the partners program. Yes.

13

14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead.

17

18 MR. SAMUELSEN: Steve, on Page 31 there,  
19 at a minimum on that number 1, strategic priorities.....

20

21 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

22

23 MR. SAMUELSEN: .....I'd like your  
24 definition of a Federal nexus or interest.

25

26 MR. FRIED: Oh, yeah, I'd like that word,  
27 too. It's basically how connected it is to the Federal  
28 program, so, you know, say a study that focuses on a  
29 fishery within a Federal conservation unit. In other  
30 words, within Federal lands where we have authority to  
31 manage it would definitely have a very strong connection.  
32 And as you kind of get further and further away, it gets  
33 a little bit weaker, but it still might have a  
34 connection, because it might, you know, still have a  
35 bearing on that fishery or on that resource.

36

37 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. It seems like we'd  
38 only fund programs that are adjacent to or within the  
39 watershed.

40

41 MR. FRIED: Not necessarily. That's what  
42 gives a lot of people, you know -- I mean, those would  
43 have the strongest -- that's actually the strongest  
44 connection there is. It's in the watershed, you know, we  
45 manage it as -- you know, the Federal Government manages  
46 it, and, you know, if there's a problem with that, then  
47 that would float right up to the top.

48

49 But then there's also, you know, these  
50 things that are various shades of gray that might also

1 fall within the program. And some of those, you know,  
2 what we might look at is looking for matching funds.  
3 Maybe this program shouldn't fund the whole thing,  
4 because there's also effects with, you know, maybe some  
5 State or some other organization's program also. So it's  
6 not quite a nice on/off switch that, you know, oh, boy,  
7 you know, this fishery's on Federal land, that's all  
8 we're going to fund, because that's not quite the way it  
9 works.

10

11 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.

12

13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Let me -- that  
14 leads to an interesting point then, because where the  
15 funding's going to go and some thoughts we might have.  
16 Of course, we'll be coming back in February to deal with  
17 this, right, as far as final recommendation, is that what  
18 you said?

19

20 MR. FRIED: Well, actually the Federal  
21 Subsistence Board in January when they meet will make a  
22 final -- will adopt the final plan.

23

24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

25

26 MR. FRIED: Now, basically what we put  
27 before them is the recommendations from the Technical  
28 Review Committee, any kind of public comments, the  
29 Council's recommendations, and usually what they're  
30 interested in seeing is the places where maybe the  
31 Technical Review Committee didn't agree with the decision  
32 or the recommendation made by the Council or the public.

33

34

35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So what we say here now  
36 is going to affect what possibly could happen in January  
37 then or December?

38

39 MR. FRIED: That's correct. Yeah.

40

41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So we need to  
42 make comment on filling in the blanks right here now when  
43 you give us this report?

44

45 MR. FRIED: That's correct. Yeah.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Now, Robin  
48 brought up an interesting point here of reaching out over  
49 to an area that might not be in your watershed, but is  
50 going to affect, you know, the recruitment stock in Lake

1 Clark, or where you have your park.  
2  
3 MR. FRIED: Right.  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So five years,  
6 Bristol Bay has been shut down. There's been no harvest  
7 whatsoever on Lake Clark stocks.  
8  
9 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Period. We've fished  
12 inside the rivers every year for five years. And this  
13 year we came out and we still didn't fish the Kvichak,  
14 but Area M was -- all the restrictions were lifted.  
15  
16 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And we went out to the  
19 regular boundaries in all the river systems all the way  
20 up, but did not fish in the Kvichak, which is your  
21 fishery, because that goes to Lake Clark. Okay?  
22  
23 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Now, setnetters put a  
26 few fish out there, and August 2nd they opened it up to  
27 commercial fishing, and then there was pinks. That's all  
28 that was left, so there really wasn't anything on in the  
29 way of reds. And yet, you know, the decline has been so  
30 great that we haven't had a commercial effort for five  
31 years on that river system. And it seems to me like you  
32 would be putting some money into the out-migration of  
33 smolt to find out why you're not getting back the fish  
34 that you need to sustain numbers for escapement,  
35 subsistence, and we hope commercial harvest. So what do  
36 you think?  
37  
38 MR. FRIED: One, I think that would be a  
39 valid -- you know, it's a valid study. Whether or not  
40 this program would fund the, you know, whole thing or  
41 part of it.  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Part of it or  
44 something, yeah.  
45  
46 MR. FRIED: It depends on where it was.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, the out-migration  
49 of smolt, we've got to know where they go, and why  
50 they're not coming back.

1                   MR. FRIED: I mean, they used to do a  
2 smolt project down in the Kvichak River, which doesn't  
3 really tell you, you know, production in any of the  
4 lakes, but.....  
5  
6                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, once they go out  
7 the Kvichak and they start out across the ocean, we don't  
8 know what those fish are doing, and, you know, you can  
9 have all the studies you want in Lake Clark.  
10  
11                  MR. FRIED: Right.  
12  
13                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: If you don't bring them  
14 back from the high seas, you're not going to have a  
15 return.  
16  
17                  MR. FRIED: Right.  
18  
19                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: And they're not coming  
20 back. Either the belugas are eating at the mouth of the  
21 river, which is a big Federal program about touching the  
22 beluga. You can't even put a killer whale sound up any  
23 more, because the judge said you won't. And then they go  
24 on out and they come back, and when they come back in,  
25 the belugas are sitting there this way, catching them  
26 when they come back to Lake Clark. So I guess the point  
27 is, and Robin's I think is a good one, just sitting here  
28 thinking a little bit about we may have to move some of  
29 those funds around some place to see if we can get the  
30 recruitment stock back up to Lake Clark and Lake Iliamna.  
31 Just a thought.  
32  
33                  MR. FRIED: Yeah. And I guess as you  
34 move further away from Lake Clark and down into the  
35 ocean, I mean, it's pretty obvious we're going to need  
36 other sources of funding.  
37  
38                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.  
39  
40                  MR. FRIED: Because, I mean, you could  
41 take that whole \$7 million dollars and use it for marine  
42 research. I mean, it gets pretty spendy.  
43  
44                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. I think  
45 you could get fooling around with stuff up there that's  
46 not producing anything, why do it, you know. I mean.....  
47  
48                  MR. FRIED: Yeah. I mean, like the point  
49 is, I mean, it's just -- it's nexus. The connection gets  
50 a little bit weaker, but it doesn't mean you can't fund

1 it, it just means that.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. Caroline  
4 Woody's told us for five years that she knows where all  
5 the escapement's taking place, and they're fairly happy  
6 with that, but it's not good enough to what we feel is a  
7 healthy system yet. But anyway, thank you. I just  
8 wanted to make that comment.

9

10 Robin.

11

12 MR. SAMUELSEN: Just to follow up on  
13 that. On the second, proposed studies must have a direct  
14 association to subsistence fishery, and either the  
15 subsistence fishery or fish stocks in question must occur  
16 in waters within or adjacent to Federal public lands.

17

18 And I look at the Yukon River, a  
19 transboundary river. We've got agreements with a foreign  
20 country, with Canada on it. We have a highly  
21 commercialized, industrial fishery, a trawl fishery in  
22 the Bering Sea that's had major effects on chum salmon  
23 returning to Western Alaska. It's been documented at 60  
24 percent of the chums caught in the trawl fishery are  
25 Western Alaska origin, including Bristol Bay.

26

27 And let's just say we're on the mouth of  
28 the Yukon and our stocks have collapsed, and we've seen  
29 the genetic work done that shows that most of the fish  
30 that are caught in the trawl fisheries are chums bound  
31 for the Yukon. It seems that just because it isn't  
32 adjacent to Federal land, we wouldn't participate.

33

34 Maybe we won't go out there and fund it  
35 all, but it's in the resource and the people that we  
36 represent's best interest to do a collaborative approach  
37 to rebuilding that stock. I mean, you could do all the  
38 rebuilding you want in the river, but if the valve is  
39 turned off on the offshore fisheries, you know, you could  
40 throw \$12 million away and still end up with nothing.

41

42 And I think that's where this Council was  
43 talking is that we've got to go not only look at our  
44 river systems or our lake systems on Federal conservation  
45 units, we have fisheries in Federal waters, managed by  
46 the National Marine Fisheries Service that we need to  
47 collaborate on and take a holistic approach throughout  
48 the whole ecosystem, not just in our little part of the  
49 world.

50

1 MR. FRIED: Yeah. No, I definitely agree  
2 with that. I mean, just with this -- you know, the  
3 program, you look at it. I mean it's got -- first I  
4 mean, I guess you'd look for information that a manager  
5 could use right away to open/close fisheries and set  
6 areas. And then you need to start, you know, working  
7 your way out, because -- and that's part of the problem  
8 with some of the fisheries is that there's just too many  
9 different agencies and there's too many managers and it's  
10 just hard to coordinate. But we are trying to do that.  
11  
12 And for the Yukon, there is more of a  
13 coordinated effort that's going on right now, and we're  
14 kind of hoping to dovetail into that at some point once  
15 they get their plan in place, so -- yeah.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Good. Okay. Anything  
18 else, Robin?  
19  
20 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, just that we didn't  
21 want to look at just our, as you used, the Lake Clark  
22 scenario.  
23  
24 MR. FRIED: And I'll talk a little  
25 bit.....  
26  
27 MR. SAMUELSEN: The fishermen outside  
28 of.....  
29  
30 MR. FRIED: .....about the strategic  
31 planning.....  
32  
33 MR. SAMUELSEN: .....the Kvichak River.  
34 Yeah.  
35  
36 MR. FRIED: .....effort we've got under  
37 way, so that -- I think that starts to touch on this  
38 thing, too.  
39  
40 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.  
41  
42 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Carry on.  
43  
44 Thank you, Steve.  
45  
46 MR. FRIED: Anyway, that's -- I don't  
47 know if anybody's got questions just in general in the  
48 monitoring program before I move on to, you know, the  
49 Bristol Bay/Chignik region, or, you know, kind of  
50 clarification of other information you need.

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead.  
4  
5 MR. SAMUELSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
6 On Page 32, with all this talk of super mines coming in  
7 and I see habitat protection, we're not going to fund  
8 anything for habitat protection? On Page 32, activities  
9 not eligible for funding under the monitoring program  
10 include habitat protection. It would seem that if we  
11 don't have habitat, we're not going to have a resource.  
12  
13 MR. FRIED: You're right. And these  
14 activities not eligible for funding, that was actually a  
15 decision made by the Federal Subsistence Board. They  
16 felt that there were some activities that the land  
17 management agencies should be doing, and already were  
18 doing, and that, you know, given the amount of money we  
19 have for subsistence, that it probably should focus on  
20 other things. I mean, you're right, no habitat, no fish.  
21 Look at the Columbia River. But, I mean, this is -- it  
22 doesn't mean the Board couldn't change its mind, but  
23 that's the decision they have made. It was not to fund  
24 habitat protection, restoration, enhancement, not to fund  
25 hatchery propagation, restoration, enhancement,  
26 supplementation, and not to fund contaminant assessment  
27 evaluation and monitoring. Not that it wasn't important,  
28 they just thought there were some other programs already  
29 on line that would probably do better to do that.  
30  
31 MR. SAMUELSEN: But would -- that's under  
32 funding, but I guess this issue could raise the issue  
33 under them headings and try to get some collaboration  
34 amongst the Federal agencies to take place.  
35  
36 MR. FRIED: Oh, yeah. Yeah. And it's  
37 not that -- you know, as far as habitat goes, I mean,  
38 we've funded studies to identify, you know, spawning  
39 habitat, rearing habitat, try to make some estimates of  
40 what system's capacity could be for producing salmon,  
41 but, you know, according to this guideline, we wouldn't  
42 fund a study that would, you know, build a spawning  
43 channel or something or.....  
44  
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.  
46  
47 MR. FRIED: .....fertilize a lake.  
48  
49 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay.  
50

1 MR. FRIED: But we could do the studies  
2 leading up to some of that stuff.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thanks.  
5  
6 MR. ALVAREZ: Mr. Chairman.  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert. Randy.  
9  
10 MR. ALVAREZ: Before we move on to  
11 Chignik like you said a minute ago, while we're still on  
12 Bristol Bay salmon, on Page 37, the first one on top,  
13 Lake Clark sockeye salmon run timing based on results of  
14 mixed stock genetic analysis.  
15  
16 MR. FRIED: Okay.  
17  
18 MR. ALVAREZ: The run timing. Does the  
19 -- do they know exactly when in the run that the Lake  
20 Clark fish are passing through the Bay and going up the  
21 river, Kvichak River?  
22  
23 MR. FRIED: No, that's what this lady  
24 would do.  
25  
26 MR. ALVAREZ: Okay.  
27  
28 MR. FRIED: And in fact they were going  
29 to do the study within the fishing district, but because  
30 fishing's been so curtailed in Kvichak, what they're  
31 going to do is they're doing this study up at the test  
32 fishing site just below Levelock, and they're going to  
33 look to see if there's any differences in the fish  
34 passing that site, you know, for the different stocks.  
35 They've got a pretty good base line, and a lot of the  
36 Lake Clark stocks really stand out. They're very easy to  
37 detect.  
38  
39 MR. ALVAREZ: This issue is pretty  
40 important to me, because I live out there in Igiugig, and  
41 I'm also the chairman of the Lake Iliamna Fish and Game  
42 Advisory Committee for the State. And, you know, this is  
43 the fifth year that the Kvichak River has failed to meet  
44 its escapement, even though we had over five million, but  
45 the Department was trying to get six million this year  
46 because of a pre-peak run. This was pre-peak in the  
47 cycle.  
48  
49 And with five years, you know, the salmon  
50 are on five-year cycles, so that means that all five



1 years now have failed to meet the escapement goal. And  
2 now the Department is -- our fish biologist in King  
3 Salmon, he doesn't know, he told me he doesn't know,  
4 because next year is supposed to be the peak, but in 2000  
5 it failed, and he doesn't know what to forecast for next  
6 year. And so now I think we're in a pretty good  
7 predicament here, and so that's going to be pretty  
8 important, doing, you know, the Lake Clark genetics when  
9 the fish are going through the -- are passing through the  
10 Bay.

11  
12 And then on Page 43, below the diagram up  
13 there, you know, it says here at the top of the writing,  
14 in conjunction with Lake Clark sockeye salmon entry  
15 pattern information from project 04-411, escapement  
16 information may allow management agencies to develop  
17 strategies that reduce commercial exploitation levels on  
18 Lake Clark stocks that have declined in abundance.

19  
20 Well, as Mr. Chairman had said a little  
21 while ago, you know, because of the escapement failing to  
22 -- you know, the Kvichak failing to make the escapement  
23 levels the last few years, all the fishing districts on  
24 the east side have been pulled in-river to -- so that  
25 they minimize the Kvichak harvest. And in my opinion,  
26 any -- to reduce it any more would be no fishing at all.  
27 And last spring when the Board of Fish decided to open  
28 the Area M wide open, and this board at the March  
29 meeting, this committee here, we asked the Federal  
30 Subsistence Board and the ruling by the Secretary of the  
31 Interior that they weren't going to do anything about the  
32 Area M, and in my opinion, to reduce us any more would be  
33 to slap us in the face without closing those, the first  
34 area where they target them first. And, you know, it  
35 just isn't -- it hasn't yet come about, this infor --  
36 what this talks about, I'm real concerned of what is  
37 going to happen. What is the Federal government going to  
38 try to do to get the Lake Clark stocks back.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's a really good  
41 question.

42  
43 MR. ALVAREZ: Thank you.

44  
45 MR. FRIED: I think hopefully people are  
46 thinking that the Kvichak run is going to rebuild, and so  
47 at some point.....

48  
49 MR. ALVAREZ: I hope so.

50

1 MR. FRIED: .....you know, but.....  
2  
3 MR. ALVAREZ: But it doesn't look like  
4 it, because of the last five years of escapements failed  
5 to meet the minimum, so now what are we faced with? And  
6 I'm worried that to try to reduce the commercial fishery  
7 in Bristol Bay any more in my opinion would be to --  
8 would be to eliminate, just shut off the commercial  
9 fishing all together.  
10  
11 MR. FRIED: Well, this particular study  
12 wouldn't even -- I mean, doesn't even look at Bristol Bay  
13 as a whole. Right now it's just looking in the river,  
14 and I think when it first started, it was only going to  
15 look like in Kvichak section, so.....  
16  
17 MR. ALVAREZ: But it says reduced  
18 commercial exploitation levels of Lake Clark stocks.  
19 Well.....  
20  
21 MR. FRIED: Right. But there isn't any  
22 now there. I mean, Kvichak section's been closed.  
23  
24 MR. ALVAREZ: It's been minimized in my  
25 opinion as much as it can be.  
26  
27 MR. FRIED: Yeah.  
28  
29 MR. ALVAREZ: The only way to minimize it  
30 any more would be not fishing, no commercial fishing at  
31 all. And we all realize what that would do to the  
32 region, and what they didn't, the Secretary of the  
33 Interior didn't want to do with Area M this last season,  
34 so that's all I wanted to comment on, Mr. Chairman.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. Go ahead,  
37 Steve.  
38  
39 MR. FRIED: I'll get into the regional  
40 program here for Southwest, which includes Bristol Bay  
41 and Chignik. And let's see, there's a couple of tables  
42 on Page 38, 39 that show the studies that have already  
43 been funded under the program, and they're kind of  
44 grouped by Bristol Bay salmon, Chignik salmon, Bristol  
45 Bay fresh water species, and then there's the Kodiak/  
46 Aleutians I put in there just for your interest.  
47  
48 And just to give you an idea of over the  
49 years since 2000 what's been funded. And you can see  
50 that quite a bit of the money in Bristol Bay has gone

1 towards salmon. There have been about 13 studies that  
2 have been funded so far. There have been -- in Bristol  
3 Bay there's been three studies on Chignik salmon, and  
4 then on fresh water species there have been five studies.  
5 And there's -- you know, a few of those studies are still  
6 ongoing for, you know, 2005 and 2006. The Lake Clark  
7 sockeye run timing we were just talking about. There's a  
8 study on sharing, bartering, trading subsistence  
9 resources in Bristol Bay, which was in response to some  
10 regulations on customary trade. There's a coho salmon  
11 study in Perryville, which is basically helicopter  
12 surveys, to look at those stocks down there that have  
13 been depressed.

14  
15 And as far as fresh water species go,  
16 they're all completed this season. That includes those  
17 two rainbow trout studies that were done in response to  
18 those rainbow trout regulations that were passed that the  
19 Council, you know, discussed a little bit earlier.

20  
21 That's the current program.

22  
23 For 2005, as far as new studies that have  
24 been proposed that would be before you, there are four  
25 stock status and trends studies and one harvest  
26 monitoring study. And there's a map on Page 40 that  
27 shows where those studies would be located. And there's  
28 some tables that show the cost of the studies, on Page 43  
29 for the stock status ones, and Page 44 for the harvest  
30 monitoring/TEK studies.

31  
32 Essentially these -- the stock status  
33 studies I guess I'll take up first. And on Page 42 they  
34 were listed in the priority that the Technical Review  
35 Committee thought they should be in. And first in  
36 priority was the Lake Clark sockeye salmon escapement,  
37 which would run a tower at Lake Clark. That's been done  
38 in the past through this program. It's actually a fairly  
39 inexpensive program considering what a tower usually  
40 costs.

41  
42 Second was the Lake Clark whitefish  
43 assessment. There have been some reported problems up  
44 there with whitefish harvest, subsistence whitefish  
45 harvest, that people were having trouble harvesting  
46 enough fish, plus the fish they were harvesting appear to  
47 be smaller than they had been in the past, which could  
48 indicate some sort of problem with the population. We  
49 don't know. We don't have a lot of information up there.

50

1                   Next in importance was the  
2 Perryville/Chignik coho and late run sockeye salmon  
3 aerial surveys, which would be helicopter surveys in  
4 streams adjacent to Perryville for cohos and also up in  
5 the Chignik to the late run sockeye, which has been a  
6 problem in the past.

7  
8                   There was also a Togiak River chinook  
9 escapement study that was proposed, and the TRC didn't  
10 recommend that one be funded, not because it's not useful  
11 information, but it was lower priority and there wasn't  
12 enough money to fund all those studies, and they figured  
13 that the other ones were more important to fund. Part of  
14 the reasoning on that is that Togiak chinook, there  
15 didn't seem to be any problem with subsistence harvest in  
16 relation to the size of the stock, even though the  
17 information which is mostly based on aerial surveys is,  
18 you know, not very precise.

19  
20                   I don't know if anybody has questions  
21 about any of these studies that I could answer. Sure.

22  
23                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

24  
25                   MR. ABRAHAM: Mr. Chairman.

26  
27                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, go ahead.

28  
29                   MR. ABRAHAM: You mentioned TEK. TEK  
30 Togiak.

31  
32                   MR. FRIED: Yeah, I hadn't quite got to  
33 that one yet.

34  
35                   MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah. I'm one of the  
36 people that is working on TEK over there, translating. I  
37 had a guest from Washington, D.C. a couple of weeks ago.  
38 You guys probably heard. Steve Williams. He's the head  
39 over United States refuge managers here I guess. And  
40 Gary Edwards.

41  
42                   Steve Williams was very interested in  
43 what we're doing on TEK projects. I told him that we  
44 were running out of money to complete our work here.  
45 Well, you know, I guess I was stronger than them. Well,  
46 maybe I threatened them. I don't know. Leave them up  
47 Togiak River or feed them to the brown bears or  
48 something. That scared them I think a little bit.

49  
50                   Right now we are working to get more

1 information on our project over there. I got all the  
2 information. I turned it over to the people that work in  
3 our office over here. We are getting more money for TEK  
4 project even though we weren't accepted last winter, I  
5 don't know what this -- but TEK to me is very important,  
6 because we're losing a lot of elders right now. Their  
7 knowledge. Once they're gone, I mean, they're gone.

8

9 I have studied the TEK with four villages  
10 along with other couple of RITs. I translated eight or  
11 nine stories in life stages. Three life stage. When the  
12 person became first aware. When a person became a  
13 provider. And when a person became an elder. From those  
14 stories, when I seen a big picture, there's tremendous  
15 change in the fishery, weather, birds. I mean, name it.  
16 When you see a big picture, I mean, you can tell what  
17 kind of impact we had throughout the years, while we're  
18 losing a stock, a fish stock in river, salmon. The  
19 factors are like beaver or human. Many things. By study  
20 from these people over here, there's lots of information  
21 that they're giving us. And I like to continue work on  
22 what we're doing before we lose all the elders we have in  
23 the region over here. Let's not just work Bristol Bay,  
24 let's do, you know, somewhere else, because this  
25 information is very useful to our refuge, to our  
26 classrooms and schools, or interested parties from  
27 different regions. All they have to do is click, click  
28 the computer right there. You get all information about  
29 the history of Quinhagak, Togiak, name it, right there.  
30 Especially the schools.

31

32 Not only that, the native people are  
33 losing their identity. That TEK is a key to our  
34 identity, where we come from, who we are. And I think  
35 it's very important for us to continue that.

36

37 Like Naknek here. Andrew had a similar  
38 project over there for four years. When I go through  
39 that book, when I read that book, I mean, there's a lot  
40 of information that I didn't know, or we didn't know.

41

42 And I'd like to encourage all the refuge  
43 managers to look into this over here, or not just -- park  
44 rangers, anybody. I mean, this is vital information that  
45 we need to get before we lose it.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Thank you.

48

49 Go ahead, Steve.

50

1 MS. MORRIS: I've got a question.  
2  
3 MR. FRIED: And then there is.....  
4  
5 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Sorry, Nanci has  
6 a question here if you don't mind.  
7  
8 MR. FRIED: Oh, okay.  
9  
10 MS. MORRIS: Sorry. Mr. Chairman, thank  
11 you.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.  
14  
15 MS. MORRIS: I'm just questioning some of  
16 these figures that I'm seeing here. I see \$44,000 that  
17 is being estimated to use for a Lake Clark sockeye salmon  
18 escapement and \$71,000 for the whitefish assessment?  
19  
20 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)  
21  
22 MS. MORRIS: I'm just wondering how you  
23 came about the priority for the whitefish over the  
24 sockeye salmon in your funding as far as the number goes.  
25  
26 MR. FRIED: Actually sockeye -- I mean,  
27 it's not mine, it's the Technical Review Committee, but  
28 they thought that the sockeye was a little bit more  
29 important than the whitefish.  
30  
31 MS. MORRIS: Well, and I guess that's why  
32 I'm questioning why is the.....  
33  
34 MR. FRIED: It's just the -- the money  
35 difference?  
36  
37 MS. MORRIS: Yeah, what, if there's  
38 bigger.....  
39  
40 MR. FRIED: It's methods.  
41  
42 MS. MORRIS: .....importance assessed to  
43 the sockeye, how come it has.....  
44  
45 MR. FRIED: Yeah. One's a tower and one  
46 is radio tracking and some harvest assessment I think.  
47  
48 MS. MORRIS: So it's the methodology  
49 cost?  
50

1 MR. FRIED: It's methodology. Radio tags  
2 are expensive. Yeah.  
3  
4 MS. MORRIS: Okay.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Anything else,  
7 Nanci?  
8  
9 MS. MORRIS: No, thank you.  
10  
11 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We need to kind  
12 of hurry along here now.  
13  
14 MR. FRIED: Yeah.  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, wait a minute,  
17 we've got another -- well, there's nothing wrong with  
18 these questions, Steve. We'll make sure we get through  
19 the program, because if we're going to have a say-so on  
20 maybe passing information on, then it's important that we  
21 -- go ahead, Robert.  
22  
23 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
24 The question I have is in the proposal for Lake Clark  
25 sockeye salmon escapement and population monitoring. I  
26 see it has a cost estimate all the way up to 2007. Is  
27 there any completion date to this program, or to this  
28 project? I think we've been funding this since what,  
29 '95?  
30  
31 MR. FRIED: This one's been funded -- I  
32 think it was funded for -- first they put in for two  
33 years, and then they got another third year, so this  
34 would make six years of funding if they got all this.  
35  
36 MR. HEYANO: So the question is, in the  
37 proposal is there an end to the information gathering, or  
38 it goes on indefinitely as long as funds are available?  
39  
40 MR. FRIED: No, it's reconsidered every  
41 -- I mean, we don't fund anything more than three years.  
42 At the end of three years we thought, you know, it's time  
43 to sit down and decide whether or not it's worth while to  
44 get, you know, three more years of data, or if there's  
45 something else that's more important, or -- so, you know,  
46 some data, it's good to get a long time series, but, you  
47 know, nothing's -- yeah. It's a good question, because  
48 we struggle with that, too. I mean, do you want new  
49 studies, do you want this just to end up being kind of a  
50 basic monitoring program in some systems and that's it?

1 You know, three years of counts on salmon, I mean,  
2 doesn't really give you even a whole brood year cycle,  
3 so.....  
4  
5 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think the follow up  
6 to that is, and Dan hit on it a little bit, is we're  
7 monitoring what goes into the system, but we're not  
8 monitoring what comes out. And the basic assumption is  
9 that something happens to them after they leave the  
10 system. What happens? The basic question should be, are  
11 they surviving within the system. To me, that's a key  
12 component to the Lake Clark sockeye.  
13  
14 MR. FRIED: Yeah. Yeah. I mean, it's  
15 one of these.....  
16  
17 MR. HEYANO: So, you know, and I don't  
18 know how do we get there, but I think we need to start  
19 monitoring what the smolt out-migration is from the Lake  
20 Clark sockeye escapements.  
21  
22 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, I think you ought  
25 to monitor it from about where the belugas start eating  
26 them, because there's probably not going to be too much  
27 to monitor after that.  
28  
29 MR. FRIED: Yeah.  
30  
31 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think.....  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They came back this  
34 year, you know.  
35  
36 MR. HEYANO: Well, the first place you  
37 should monitor them is right where they come out of the  
38 Newhalen River I guess, so that you'll know what your  
39 brood stock is producing in the fresh water anyway.  
40  
41 MR. FRIED: Yeah, it's a chicken and an  
42 egg thing. I mean, you want all that information. You  
43 know, it's easier to do the adult counts in most places.  
44 It's hard to do a good job on smolt. I mean, the  
45 Department's had some mixed -- it's not -- you know,  
46 it.....  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: They've got some  
49 methods that they know about that they probably can do  
50 water marking to find out what comes back, according to



1 Dr. Caroline Woody. Anyway, you know, that's something  
2 to be looked at between now and.....  
3  
4 MR. FRIED: I don't know. I mean, like I  
5 said, if we got, you know, proposals, and if that's  
6 something that seems feasible. I mean, in some place in  
7 Kodiak you can do mark, recapture and get a good estimate  
8 on some of the smaller ones. Bristol Bay is a little bit  
9 more difficult to use than just bigger rivers. Sonar --  
10 I don't know if it works well or not. They've tried it  
11 for a long time.  
12  
13 I agree, I mean, the more information you  
14 have on these populations, the better you understand  
15 them, and studying it through the life history, you know  
16 where the problems were.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Give us the next  
19 bright point of hope there.  
20  
21 MR. HEYANO: One more follow-up question,  
22 Mr. Chairman.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.  
25  
26 MR. HEYANO: On the justification, part  
27 of the reason why the.....  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What page are you on  
30 there, Robert?  
31  
32 MR. HEYANO: I'm on Page 47.  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Almost done with  
35 the report.  
36  
37 MR. HEYANO: And discontinuance of the  
38 Tazimina counting tower component in reference to Lake  
39 Clark sockeye salmon escapement.  
40  
41 MR. FRIED: It did. It just doesn't --  
42 this would just be Lake Clark. Just a tower on Newhalen.  
43 They wouldn't run a tower on Tazimina. That's one of the  
44 cost savings on this one. It proved pretty difficult to  
45 try to do a good tower operation on Tazimina, because of  
46 the flooding and just the way the river is. But they did  
47 get, you know, a few years of data out of that.  
48  
49 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Are you happy? Okay.  
50

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Don't ask him that.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Stay unhappy.  
4  
5 MR. HEYANO: Well, I guess the reason I  
6 asked the question, Mr. Chairman, the Tazimina River has  
7 been a concern of this committee.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Who?  
10  
11 MR. HEYANO: The Tazimina River.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, yeah.  
14  
15 MR. FRIED: Right.  
16  
17 MR. HEYANO: And, you know, just because  
18 it's difficult we take the tower out? It don't make much  
19 sense to me. So if you ask if I'm happy, no, I'm not.  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Sorry.  
22  
23 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Chairman.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, go ahead, Nanci.  
26  
27 MR. FRIED: Well, you know, I mean, part  
28 of it has to do with the proposals we get. I mean, you  
29 can't.....  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Go ahead, Nanci.  
32  
33 MS. MORRIS: Mr. Chairman, I guess my  
34 comments fall somewhere along the same line as yours and  
35 Roberts. I feel like the studies that we've had  
36 currently for the past several years have not given us  
37 answers, period. So I do not think that we need to quit  
38 studies. I think we need to study something else to see  
39 if we can't begin to get some answers somewhere. And it  
40 leads back to my questioning of a \$44,000 allocation for  
41 sockeye salmon escapement studies versus 71,000 for  
42 whitefish studies when -- if a tower costs a little bit  
43 more on the Tazimina, but it gets us a study that will  
44 begin to give us further answers, then I question that  
45 maybe the allocation should be re-looked at.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You know, it's just  
48 really interesting Steven when you fly that river,  
49 Tazimina River, and I have for years and years and years,  
50 and the tremendous amount of fish that you see there just

1 -- they're not thick like you would see in the mouth of  
2 the Lower Talarik, you know, where they kind of  
3 accumulate there, and because it's not that kind of a  
4 system, it's a straight shot that comes down. And for  
5 the last five years you don't see any fish there at all,  
6 and not even the floaters. I mean, the people aren't  
7 even floating the streams any more. You know, those  
8 systems just somewhere along the line have got to come  
9 back.  
10  
11 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So I guess we're all  
14 struggling for the same thing, to bring that river  
15 system, those systems back. People in a subsistence area  
16 of Lake Iliamna have had to move around and get into each  
17 others subsistence fishing just because there wasn't  
18 enough even in Lake Iliamna itself. And that's a State  
19 problem. You know, that stares at us, so anything we can  
20 do to make it come back, and this Council is going to  
21 work hard to do that. We sure appreciate that.  
22  
23 So if you have no further comment, we'd  
24 like to finish up on this. Yes. Okay.  
25  
26 MR. ABRAHAM: Maybe a solution to this  
27 over here is very simple. I met an old guy in Igiugig.  
28 We talked about fish a little bit. And he says, you know  
29 why Naknek, Kvichak is lowing fish? I was just saying on  
30 -- well, because they changed the gears over there years  
31 ago from bigger mesh to smaller mesh. And he says,  
32 because they were killing too many females that would  
33 spawn up there, he says it's going to take a long time to  
34 build up that fisheries again. I mean, maybe he -- you  
35 know, he's an old guy. I can't remember his name. Maybe  
36 that's their problem right there. Who knows. Old folks  
37 like is over here, they're very observant, maybe that's  
38 the answer, but nobody knows.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
41  
42 MR. FRIED: Well, I know the Department  
43 has done studies on mesh size years ago to look at that.  
44 And I know that all the towers that they run and the ones  
45 that we run, we look at the sex ratio of the females and  
46 males, so I'm not sure there's been a big difference, you  
47 know. Some of these towers have been running since the  
48 60s and before that, so -- I mean, it's something people  
49 are concerned about. It's important.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Do you want to  
2 go ahead.  
3  
4 MR. FRIED: Yeah. Well, there's  
5 basically five studies. I mean, Page 45 might be -- on  
6 the bottom you can see them lined up. And the Technical  
7 Review Committee is recommending funding for four out of  
8 the five, which basically takes up most of the available  
9 funds. There's like I think \$8,000 that would remain  
10 after you funded these.  
11  
12 And I guess the question to the Council  
13 is, you know, do you agree with funding those studies, or  
14 do you think the Togiak chinook is more important to fund  
15 than one of the studies that the TRC recommended. Or,  
16 you know, just because the money's there, I mean, if you  
17 don't think a study is worthwhile, you don't need to  
18 recommend it for funding. You know, the money could be  
19 used some place else, so.....  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Right. So I'd swap  
22 whitefish for sockeye if it were up to me. I'd give you  
23 a dollar amount. The chairman does not make motions by  
24 the way. However, I could step aside from the chair,  
25 too.  
26  
27 MR. SAMUELSEN: Uh-huh.  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Anything else,  
30 Steve.  
31  
32 MR. FRIED: I mean, whitefish is very  
33 important for subsistence in a lot of areas.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert.  
36  
37 MR. HEYANO: Well, I guess then the  
38 question I would have is that the task before us is just  
39 to either approve or reject the recommendations?  
40  
41 MR. FRIED: Well, you can make your own  
42 recommendation. I mean, you can pick a different  
43 combination of projects, you might want to suggest that,  
44 you know, some of these projects be modified. I mean, if  
45 you really feel strongly Tazimina, then I guess you could  
46 suggest that, you know, the investigation plan be  
47 modified to include Tazimina counting tower on it. I  
48 mean, that's, you know -- yeah.  
49  
50 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert.

1 MR. HEYANO: Well, I think it's a little  
2 difficult to make that intelligently without seeing the  
3 proposal and the budget associated with it. So we might  
4 make it in a void here and actually take the meat and  
5 potatoes out of it, or.....  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Do you have any further  
8 information for us, Steve?  
9  
10 MR. FRIED: Well, I mean, we can look  
11 back at that other table to see what, you know, the total  
12 project cost when Tazimina was in there.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What Page was that?  
15  
16 MR. FRIED: That would be on Page 38.  
17 Let me see which one is it here. Lake Clark assessment,  
18 that would be 0042. It's like the fourth one down from  
19 the top on the Bristol Bay salmon, and it ran anywhere  
20 from 78, 129. I mean, it's 44 now. I mean, maybe the  
21 price would have doubled to 80,000 or something like  
22 that.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah, go ahead, Robin.  
25  
26 MR. SAMUELSEN: I guess to get us  
27 focused, Mr. Chairman, I will move that the 2005  
28 monitoring plan projects be 05-402, 403, 452, and 405.  
29  
30 MR. DUNAWAY: So you move to support  
31 them?  
32  
33 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah. Move to -- moving  
34 them out as our proposed projects.  
35  
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is there a second to  
37 that motion?  
38  
39 MR. DUNAWAY: Second.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Second by Dan. Robin,  
42 did you want to speak to your motion?  
43  
44 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, I think that gets the  
45 issue of these before us now, if there's Council members  
46 that want to amend it and delete some and add some.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You made a  
49 recommendation just as you see it here on Page 45?  
50

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yes.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. All right. So  
4 what it boils down to is if there's some amendments or  
5 moving these numbers around.....  
6  
7 MR. SAMUELSEN: We can revise them.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any comments from  
10 Council members? We have a motion and a second.  
11  
12 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I seconded it.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, Dan would be the  
15 second. Okay.  
16  
17 MR. DUNAWAY: Well, I have a question.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure.  
20  
21 MR. DUNAWAY: So before us though are  
22 just the total number of proposals that were submitted,  
23 and of those, the four you recommend for funding is.....  
24  
25 MR. FRIED: Actually there were more  
26 proposals submitted than were recommended for  
27 investigation plans by the committee. But for Bristol  
28 Bay, I'm trying to remember, I think there was like a  
29 northern pike proposal that wasn't advanced. There  
30 weren't any proposals advanced for Kodiak, which will  
31 make them really thrilled. So, I mean, these are the  
32 proposals that the Technical Review Committee decided  
33 were of the greatest use and interest to the program,  
34 that were technically sound, that, you know, the  
35 investigators were qualified to do the work, et cetera,  
36 et cetera, so.....  
37  
38 MR. DUNAWAY: Was that -- the pike was  
39 the only other one you can think of?  
40  
41 MR. FRIED: I think so, and I don't know  
42 if there was -- there was a harvest monitoring program  
43 that didn't move forward, and I don't remember off hand  
44 whether that was in Bristol Bay or Kodiak, but.....  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Randy has a  
47 comment over here.  
48  
49 MR. DUNAWAY: Thank you.  
50

1 MR. ALVAREZ: Is this proposal for just  
2 2004 or is it also in 2005, 6 and 7? Or we have to take  
3 this up every year?  
4  
5 MR. FRIED: No, some of these would be up  
6 to three years. Some of them are only one or two-year  
7 studies, so it's what the investigator, you know, asked  
8 for.  
9  
10 MR. ALVAREZ: Well, on 243 it shows you  
11 the budget numbers. It -- most of them stay high -- or  
12 stay about the same or go down, but the.....  
13  
14 MR. FRIED: Yeah, the three.....  
15  
16 MR. ALVAREZ: .....2006 for Lake Clark  
17 whitefish, that's 101,000. Is this -- like Robert Heyano  
18 had mentioned earlier, how long are some of these  
19 programs going to go on? Is this the end of them, or is  
20 it going to keep going to keep.....  
21  
22 MR. FRIED: Well, the sockeye escapement,  
23 the whitefish assessment, and the Perryville/Chignik  
24 aerial surveys were all submitted, requested for three  
25 years. And the Togiak, Manokotak, Twin Hills harvest  
26 monitoring, TEK study, the budget request for that was  
27 two years. And those would go for those amount of years  
28 unless there was a problem with the study, either, you  
29 know, nonperformance or some other problems. I mean,  
30 once the Board -- you know, once the Subsistence Board  
31 would approve it, they would approve it looking at, you  
32 know, the amount that's requested unless, you know,  
33 there's a problem with the study or somehow funding --  
34 there was a problem with the funding, and it wasn't  
35 available.  
36  
37 MR. ALVAREZ: Thank you.  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other question  
40 comments. We have got a motion on the floor. Yeah,  
41 Robin.  
42  
43 MR. SAMUELSEN: I guess the process, Mr.  
44 Chairman. I think Steve, what I'd like to see, and what  
45 we did before, is we seen the list of all the projects,  
46 and then we looked at the recommendations for funding and  
47 why.  
48  
49 MR. FRIED: Uh-huh.  
50

1 MR. SAMUELSEN: And it seemed like it was  
2 a more transparent process. It seemed like this time  
3 we've got just a set amount. We've got six proposals,  
4 and four are recommended. And my memory doesn't serve me  
5 of all the other proposals. Maybe we did have it at the  
6 last meeting, but.....  
7  
8 MR. FRIED: Well, there might have been  
9 more proposals.  
10  
11 MR. SAMUELSEN: .....when we made the  
12 final cut, we've always seen all the proposals.  
13  
14 MR. FRIED: All the proposals meaning  
15 statewide or.....  
16  
17 MR. SAMUELSEN: No, the proposals within  
18 our region.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Southwest region.  
21  
22 MR. FRIED: This is it.  
23  
24 MR. SAMUELSEN: Is this it?  
25  
26 MR. FRIED: Yeah, this is it.  
27  
28 MR. SAMUELSEN: Oh, okay.  
29  
30 MR. FRIED: Yeah.  
31  
32 MR. SAMUELSEN: I thought you said there  
33 was a pike proposal and some others.  
34  
35 MR. FRIED: No, I think Dan was asking  
36 about -- see, we're getting confused with I think what we  
37 proposals and investigation plans. Because if you'll  
38 recall, proposals come in and they're like one or two  
39 page descriptions of a proposed study, and it's the  
40 Technical Review Committee takes a look at those, and  
41 they actually make a decision on which ones to put  
42 forward for further funding consideration, and which ones  
43 just die right there. So there were more proposals than  
44 you see here. But they weren't advanced by the Technical  
45 Review Committee.  
46  
47 And part of the -- some of the comments  
48 we've gotten from this Council and other ones was the  
49 fact that, well, maybe there should be a public process  
50 on the proposals as well as the investigation plans, and



1 we're actually looking into doing something like that.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Any other questions.  
4 Robert.  
5  
6 MR. HEYANO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. To  
7 follow up to Randy's question then, these proposals, take  
8 like the whitefish study, the proponent says that within  
9 three years at this funding level, they will have some  
10 answers?  
11  
12 MR. FRIED: Right.  
13  
14 MR. HEYANO: The study will be completed?  
15  
16 MR. FRIED: Right. Yeah. This one would  
17 be.  
18  
19 MR. HEYANO: And the same thing for the  
20 Lake Clark?  
21  
22 MR. FRIED: Well, yeah, you know, it's  
23 completed in that you have three years of counts. You  
24 know what the age composition is, so you know, you know,  
25 the abundance by age, and eventually when you have that,  
26 you could match up the returns to the spawning  
27 population.  
28  
29 MR. HEYANO: Three additional years,  
30 right? There's been some work going on already.  
31  
32 MR. FRIED: Right. Yeah, I think they've  
33 got -- that would give them six years.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Any other  
36 questions. Robin.  
37  
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, usually -- what  
39 I've come up against, usually when you do three years of  
40 research, you get some answers, but there's a hell of a  
41 lot of questions generated from the data that you gather.  
42  
43 MR. FRIED: Oh, yeah.  
44  
45 MR. SAMUELSEN: Is it -- I mean, they've  
46 been studying the Kvichak 20 years, and we've watched  
47 that thing just go down to nothing. I don't know what  
48 they're going to be studying up there pretty soon. So  
49 just because you're funding a project doesn't mean you're  
50 going to get the answers.

1                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You know, when you --  
2 for instance, let's take down here at Perryville where  
3 they're -- well, let's see. The Perryville one is more  
4 of an observation of what's in the streams?  
5

6                   MR. FRIED: Yeah, it's an aerial survey  
7 study, and the concern down there was -- well, the  
8 Kametolook River I mean has been basically closed to  
9 fishing actually by the Village of Perryville, because  
10 the returns have been so abysmal. But people have been  
11 moving out into these other systems that are closer by to  
12 harvest their coho for subsistence use. And so there's  
13 been some concern down there that those runs are tiny  
14 also, and maybe, you know, keep an eye on them to make  
15 sure that they don't end up like Kametolook, or at least  
16 have some idea what's in there and -- because right now  
17 there really wasn't any information on those. So that's  
18 all this is, is looking at those other streams, try to  
19 get an idea where people are fishing, and try to get an  
20 idea of what the general run size of those coho runs are  
21 in those streams. And they also tacked on the late run  
22 sockeye in Chignik, to take a look with the helicopter to  
23 get an idea of what the minimum numbers are there.  
24

25                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: How long have you been  
26 looking at these streams down there in this particular  
27 area?  
28

29                  MR. FRIED: They've got -- we funded them  
30 for two years prior to this.  
31

32                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The last two years  
33 you've done it?  
34

35                  MR. FRIED: The last two years, yeah.  
36

37                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. And what have  
38 you found in the last two years by looking at a river?  
39

40                  MR. FRIED: They've got some numbers, you  
41 know, for those systems. They've also found that they  
42 didn't always -- they wanted to do two series of surveys,  
43 one a little earlier in the season, one later, and  
44 they're having problems with weather even with a  
45 helicopter. They had some logistic problems with fuel as  
46 far as the range of the chopper goes, so they need to  
47 have some fuel stashes so that they can extend the range  
48 of that. So they've got some numbers for some of the  
49 systems they want to look at, but not for all of them.  
50

1 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, I just kind of  
2 wonder. I don't know, I'm not real familiar with the  
3 area although, you know, I've been through the area a lot  
4 and talked to guys like Boris, and if they're catching  
5 the fish out in the Cape or some place else, it's not  
6 going to do much good to look in a river. It's the same  
7 old story. I mean, you can bring the smolt down the  
8 Kvichak, and if we don't know what happens to them after  
9 that, it's goodbye Lake Clark and commercial fishing. So  
10 I don't know, I think we're just spending monies.

11  
12 Dr. Caroline Woody says after two or  
13 three years you've got some scientific information. If  
14 it comes back the same, it's done. There's no sense  
15 looking at it any more. I mean, she's told us that, but  
16 that's fact. She's had to repeat, repeat, repeat,  
17 repeat, hey, this is the way it is. Let's go to the next  
18 step.

19  
20 MR. FRIED: This is -- like I said, this  
21 is the recommendation from the Technical Review  
22 Committee. You don't have to agree with it. You can  
23 make your own recommendation.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Sure. Yeah. And, you  
26 know, if we don't.....

27  
28 MR. FRIED: Yeah.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: .....rearrange these  
31 figures here, then this is going to be a recommendation,  
32 because we're going to vote on it here shortly. Yeah.

33  
34 MR. SAMUELSEN: So if the advisory board  
35 recommends that we do a smolt migration study to the tune  
36 of 71,000 instead of whitefish, recommendation to the  
37 Technical Review Committee.

38  
39 MR. FRIED: That gets a little bit more  
40 difficult, since there wasn't a proposal in the first  
41 place to do that, so.....

42  
43 MR. SAMUELSEN: Oh. So it's we're  
44 confined to the.....

45  
46 MR. FRIED: It's more.....

47  
48 MR. SAMUELSEN: .....what's been  
49 proposed?

50

1 MR. FRIED: Yeah. Once you start --  
2 yeah, I mean, who knows what the price tag could be of  
3 that, and whether or not that investigator would even  
4 want to do that, so.....  
5  
6 MR. SAMUELSEN: Because the whitefish  
7 study says there's two causes, either overfishing or lack  
8 of salmon or feed for them.  
9  
10 MR. FRIED: Yeah.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Well, let's take a  
13 break -- or, excuse me, are you -- well, we've got a  
14 motion on the floor. We'll just take a break and come  
15 back and we'll vote. Take a 10-minute break.  
16  
17 (Off record)  
18  
19 (On record)  
20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We'll call the  
22 meeting back to order, if you would please come in, sit  
23 down. Everything is back in order, and we'll -- looking  
24 at a motion on the floor, and since we have a motion on  
25 the floor, gentlemen, you want to join us? We'll take  
26 away your rivers if you don't watch it, what little you  
27 have left. You want a paycheck?  
28  
29 (Laughter)  
30  
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. We have the four  
32 numbers there made in a motion. But at this time we'll  
33 ask the Council what their thoughts are on these numbers.  
34  
35  
36 MR. HEYANO: Mr. Chairman.  
37  
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you like to  
39 rearrange them, make recommendations. Yes.  
40  
41 MR. HEYANO: I would like to amend the  
42 motion, Mr. Chair, to delete the Lake Clark whitefish  
43 assessment, 05-403, and my preference would be that those  
44 funds be used, or funding be used for a higher priority,  
45 and that would be the smolt out-migration count for Lake  
46 Clark sockeye.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Is there a  
49 second to that motion?  
50

1 MS. MORRIS: Second.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Robert, could I  
4 ask you a question, did you want that at Igiugig, did you  
5 want that at Newhalen, do you want it at Levelock, or on  
6 the high seas or where do you want it? Yeah.  
7  
8 MR. HEYANO: I'm a commercial and a  
9 subsistence fisherman, so I know everything.  
10  
11 (Laughter)  
12  
13 MR. HEYANO: But I think I would rather  
14 leave that to the scientific community on where that's  
15 best suited.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. Thank you.  
18 Any further discussion on the motion.  
19  
20 (No discussion)  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Question.  
23  
24 MR. KOSBRUK: Question.  
25  
26 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All in favor say aye.  
27  
28 IN UNISON: Aye.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed.  
31  
32 (No opposing votes)  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. You have your  
35 marching order, Steve, and what else do you have for us  
36 today.  
37  
38 MR. SAMUELSEN: Well, we've got the main  
39 motion.  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, the main motion.  
42 All those in favor say aye.  
43  
44 MR. SAMUELSEN: Wait.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Oh, go ahead.  
47  
48 MR. SAMUELSEN: Mr. Chairman, I think  
49 what we've done is we have just substituted Lake Clark  
50 whitefish assessment with Mr. Heyano's proposal. That

1 one passed. Now we have the three others to deal with.  
 2 402, 452 and 405. That's still before us.  
 3  
 4 MR. HEYANO: So I call for the question.  
 5 on the main motion, Mr. Chair.  
 6  
 7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Wait a minute, I may be  
 8 confused here. Robin, we.....  
 9  
 10 MR. SAMUELSEN: Okay. This one we  
 11 substituted.  
 12  
 13 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
 14  
 15 MR. SAMUELSEN: So we've got 402, 452 and  
 16 405 before us.  
 17  
 18 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So they're okay.  
 19  
 20  
 21 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah.  
 22  
 23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
 24  
 25 MR. SAMUELSEN: And he so called for the  
 26 question on the main motion.  
 27  
 28 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. On the main  
 29 motion then, all those in favor say aye.  
 30  
 31 IN UNISON: Aye.  
 32  
 33 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Opposed.  
 34  
 35 (No opposing votes)  
 36  
 37 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.  
 38  
 39 MR. DUNAWAY: As amended, right?  
 40  
 41 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, as amended.  
 42  
 43 MR. SAMUELSEN: Yeah, the amendment  
 44 passed.  
 45  
 46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The amendment passed,  
 47 and then we voted on the main motion.  
 48  
 49 What about the two remaining items down  
 50 there, 406 and 406, do you want to leave that like it is

1 or -- okay. I guess we will.

2

3

Steve, do you have anything else for us?

4

5

MR. FRIED: Well, I've just got a question. There's that interregional study that is on page, let's see, 58. There's one interregional study that's up for consideration that the Technical Review Committee recommended funding for. I'm not sure it really has anything to do with Bristol Bay. It's the genetic study on Alaska whitefish species. I don't know if you need any more information, or if you even want to take it up or do anything with it.

14

Basically it's looking at population differences on a pretty broad scale within the State for whitefish. It would look at some smaller scale population differences I think within the Yukon River, and then it will also look to see if -- at species differences, genetic species differences so that they could use those to identify juvenile white fish, because they have trouble on a lot of the juveniles of different species.

23

24

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's the wish of the Council.

27

28

(No comments)

29

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Hearing none, what else do you have?

32

33

MR. FRIED: Done with that?

34

35

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's it?

36

37

MR. FRIED: Oh, no.

38

39

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Carry on.

40

41

MR. FRIED: Basically one more thing.

42

43

CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay.

44

45

MR. FRIED: Which should be of interest after listening to all this discussion, is that what we're trying to do is do some strategic planning for the monitoring program. And we began this for Southcentral, and also for Bristol Bay Chignik last May. And unfortunately I guess there weren't any Council members

50

1 that were at the workshop we held. I don't know if May  
2 was just a bad time, plus there were some other things  
3 that came up.

4  
5 But if you look at Page 64, there's an  
6 executive summary, and I think the Council members also  
7 should have a full report on what was done.

8  
9 And really the idea behind this was to  
10 take the Council's issues and information needs list,  
11 which the Council updates every year, and we use that  
12 during the call for proposals so people can see what we  
13 might be interested in funding. And, you know, the TRC  
14 looks at that to see, you know, what issues are important  
15 within regions.

16  
17 But really it's been pretty hard to  
18 prioritize the list, and it's not really been a very  
19 formal process. There's been some difficulties with it.  
20 And we thought that it might be very helpful to get all  
21 the different players involved in at least a couple  
22 workshops to sit down and go through and decide, you  
23 know, what sort of information do we really need to  
24 manage these fisheries best. You know, whether it's  
25 smolt, whether it's tower counts for adults, or, you  
26 know, ecosystem studies. You know, what is it, and  
27 what's important.

28  
29 And, you know, we tried to do this for  
30 first -- the first thing we did was try to set what we  
31 call fishery units. And we basically just combined  
32 salmon for Bristol Bay into one unit, which, you know, we  
33 all know is a bunch of different fisheries, but they  
34 probably have a lot of commonality among them. The same  
35 thing for Chignik salmon. And then for fresh water  
36 species, we just grouped Bristol Bay and Chignik together  
37 and looked at it.

38  
39 And we had a facilitator, Peggy Merit  
40 (ph), run the meeting. We invited people from all the  
41 Federal and State agencies, from a lot of the rural  
42 agencies and Native agencies. We had people from BBNA.  
43 We had the Bristol Bay Science and Research Institute  
44 represented. We had somebody from the University of  
45 Alaska Fairbanks come down. So we had about 15  
46 participants or so. And there's a list in the report  
47 that shows who came. And I think we're -- you know, it's  
48 too bad for that first meeting we didn't have any -- you  
49 know, we were looking for one or two Council  
50 representatives, and that didn't work.



1                   We're going to hold another meeting in  
2 December, on the 1st and the 2nd. Hopefully we'll have  
3 Council representation on that one.

4  
5                   I guess the interesting thing that's come  
6 out of this so far is, if you look at Page 70, for the  
7 information needs that these people came up with for  
8 Bristol Bay salmon, which is really the only one that got  
9 close to getting, you know, at least the first cut on.  
10 You'll see from the top to the bottom are what came out  
11 as being the most important things for information needs.  
12 That sort of gives you an idea of what the process might  
13 look like.

14  
15                   And interestingly enough, I mean, at this  
16 point, escapement, catch, abundance of total run by  
17 species, you know, just the basics there seem to be  
18 coming up on top. But there's also a lot of other things  
19 that are coming out, too, where people are looking at,  
20 you know, designing better tools to manage and things  
21 like that that they realize are important.

22  
23                   And the Bristol Bay workshop actually  
24 thought that it would be very useful to actually put some  
25 other money aside to look at just totally different ways  
26 of managing fisheries, you know. They called it a new  
27 paradigm, but basically, you know, a new way of thinking.  
28 You know, it might be time to break out of, you know, the  
29 simple catch and escapement mode and go onto something  
30 else.

31  
32                   But I think the people that attended it  
33 found that it was, you know, pretty useful.

34  
35                   I think if you look at the list that, you  
36 know, has been generated by the Council, that the list  
37 that the workshop generated includes, you know, a lot of  
38 those same issues and needs.

39  
40                   I don't want to go into great detail on  
41 that. I think hopefully the summary was kind of self-  
42 explanatory, but I -- I don't know if anybody has  
43 questions. I certainly hope that there's Council  
44 representation at the next meeting on December 1st and  
45 2nd.

46  
47                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. That's what I  
48 was going to make comment to. There are some other  
49 things going on. Where's that meeting going to be held?  
50

1 MR. FRIED: Anchorage, this one here.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anchorage. There's  
4 other things going on in Anchorage that pertains to  
5 fisheries or Bristol Bay that maybe Council members might  
6 be in town for. It would be good to attend this.  
7  
8 MR. FRIED: Oh, yeah.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: We'll try to have Cliff  
11 direct us, and maybe before we leave tomorrow to even  
12 assign some Council members to be there. It would be  
13 kind of nice if you had Togiak and Chigniks and Bristol  
14 Bay.  
15  
16 MR. FRIED: Oh, yeah. And, you know,  
17 travel would be covered under Council travel.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Christmas shopping,  
20 guys. Any -- yes.  
21  
22 MR. ABRAHAM: I have known that humpback  
23 white -- I mean whitefish, because I'm actually from  
24 where they are up in Bethel area. I fish them and I eat  
25 them. And the one we call humpback over here is a  
26 different species than up north. I know for a fact, and  
27 possibly Joe Chythlook knows about it, too, because this  
28 Bristol Bay area, that humpback whitefish has a different  
29 scale, different meat, and leaner. But up north it was  
30 smaller scale, lighter color, and different meat. Maybe  
31 because of the feed they're feeding on. They're not  
32 scavengers. They don't -- they're not like blackfish or  
33 pike. They're entirely different species of fresh water  
34 whitefish.  
35  
36 The study you're doing over here, they're  
37 -- the look-alike is there, but the species are  
38 different.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else, Pete?  
41  
42 MR. ABRAHAM: Yeah.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Steve, do you  
45 have any more? Sorry, Dan.  
46  
47 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, I was trying to read  
48 some of this. Why were no Council members at that May  
49 meeting?  
50

1                   CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What time in May was it  
2 anyway?  
3  
4                   MR. FRIED: Well, part of the problem was  
5 the herring fishery, which we hadn't thought about, you  
6 know. But Dan actually was in town, and then he had --  
7 he was called away on some personal matters.  
8  
9                   MR. DUNAWAY: Oh, okay.  
10  
11                  MR. FRIED: That same morning of the  
12 meeting, so we were going to have at least one, and then  
13 it ended up none, so, you know. And this was just, you  
14 know, a first go-around. They got through, you know, one  
15 of the three fishery units, you know, Bristol Bay salmon,  
16 and got to prioritize it, but really they didn't really  
17 have time to sit down and look at the priorities and say,  
18 well, you know, this really makes sense, or is this  
19 really what we wanted. But, you know, everybody reviewed  
20 it afterwards, you know, before we sent it out. We had  
21 all the participants look at it again. But it's a start.  
22 It's kind of interesting.  
23  
24                  But it does -- you know, it would help,  
25 because there's a lot of these things that get discussed,  
26 you know, predators, and juveniles, and smolt. And just  
27 how important is that compared to a tower or, you know,  
28 getting that sort of information, and this is kind of a  
29 good way to get a lot of people, you know, that know and  
30 have been involved in this area for a while to discuss  
31 that and come up with something that hopefully, you know,  
32 makes sense and can help, you know, guide the program  
33 into the future.  
34  
35                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Anything else, Council  
36 members. And, Steve, did you have anything else?  
37  
38                  MR. FRIED: I don't have anything else.  
39  
40                  CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yes, Cliff.  
41  
42                  MR. EDENSHAW: Yeah, Mr. Chair, Dan asked  
43 if there were any other Council members. I was at the  
44 Council meeting. So I knew what was going on in terms of  
45 how this planning process unfolded.  
46  
47                  But just to probably give Dan Dunaway a  
48 little background, a couple years ago this Council asked  
49 to be involved in the planning process and it was more  
50 towards the criteria that the Federal Subsistence Board

1 utilizes when they go and pick and choose in terms of the  
2 FIS monitoring projects. And if you looked on Page 70,  
3 the table that Steve was going down, why we think it's  
4 important for us to have some Council members, is because  
5 they're residents that live outside -- live out here in  
6 the region.

7  
8 For instance, the motion that we just --  
9 that the Council just made and passed, which was to ask  
10 that the FIS Staff put together a preproposal to study  
11 the out-migration of smolt. Well, if you look on the top  
12 of this, reliable estimates of spawning escapement. The  
13 individuals that attended this meeting in Anchorage were  
14 land managers and others who submit preproposals that get  
15 reviewed by the TRC as well as this Council in turn, so  
16 we wanted someone, you know, probably two or three  
17 individuals from this Council to be at the meeting so  
18 that we'll know in the future when preproposals are  
19 submitted that they're pretty close to the mark in terms  
20 of, you know, what should be ongoing out here in terms of  
21 studies.

22  
23 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, thank you,  
24 Steve, we appreciate that. Strategic plan, do you have  
25 time for that tonight? We're leaving here at 4:45, and  
26 we'll meet tomorrow morning at 8:00 o'clock, so get your  
27 breakfast early.

28  
29 MR. FRIED: This was strategic planning.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What's that?

32  
33 MR. FRIED: This was the strategic plan  
34 that we just went over.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: The whole thing is  
37 strategic plan. Okay.

38  
39 MR. FRIED: Right. I mean, the only  
40 thing we've got left now that we wanted to talk about  
41 were partners, and I guess Amy could talk about that  
42 tomorrow a little bit.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, Charlotte,  
45 I didn't get your last name, I apologize for that, but  
46 could you just come on up there and sit down, if you  
47 would, please, and give us a little bit of a report on  
48 what the ADF&G -- are you done?

49  
50 MR. FRIED: I'm done unless you have any

1 more questions.  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: All right. No, you can  
4 go. You can go.  
5  
6 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair. Come on back,  
7 because maybe I didn't understand, but the Council didn't  
8 make a recommendation on the interregional?  
9  
10 MR. FRIED: Right. They didn't, no.  
11  
12 MR. EDENSHAW: They didn't. Okay.  
13 Sorry.  
14  
15 MR. FRIED: Right.  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: No, we didn't make one.  
18 No one made a comment. Come on up, Charlotte.  
19  
20 MR. FRIED: All yours, all warmed up.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Is it ever.  
23  
24 MS. WESTING: My name is Charlotte  
25 Westing. I work for Commercial Fisheries, Department of  
26 Fish and Game.  
27  
28 And I called Ken Bowman, he's the area  
29 management biologist for Chignik, and he was reluctant to  
30 give me too many details about the status of their  
31 spawning escapement, but he did want me to say that all  
32 their escapement goals have been met, and that they have  
33 been managing the fishery within the management plan, and  
34 that any issues related to Chignik will be addressed at  
35 the Board meeting for the Chignik cycle, which is in  
36 November. And so it will all be addressed in that time.  
37  
38 They recognize, the Department recognizes  
39 that there have been changes that are a result of the  
40 Chignik Co-op forming, but, you know, for right now what  
41 we know is we're in the management plan, and we're  
42 meeting the biological escapement goals that have been  
43 established. So at the Board of Fisheries they can  
44 assess whether or not those biological escapement goals  
45 are adequate for what everyone needs.  
46  
47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Good. Thank you  
48 very much, we appreciate that. I don't think we're going  
49 to have time for -- we're down to the agency reports.  
50 Who's handling the predator control program?

1 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chairman, number 10, 1  
2 through 5 here where it has in parenthesis, those are  
3 just written briefings. Those were informational. And  
4 if the Council when we address those, or if they read  
5 those and had some questions, then we, Tim and I, would  
6 be available to answer any questions.....  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: So you and Tim would  
9 be, if there any questions. Okay.  
10  
11 MR. EDENSHAW: .....that the Council has  
12 regarding any of those written briefings.  
13  
14 MR. SAMUELSEN: Under what?  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Under any of the number  
17 10. Okay. So this is just for our information then, one  
18 through five?  
19  
20 MR. EDENSHAW: Yes.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Committee  
23 members, did you have any thoughts or concerns here.  
24 Yeah, Daniel.  
25  
26 MR. DUNAWAY: Kind of quick. I didn't do  
27 my homework as well as I should have, but I did try  
28 looking at this correspondence policy and got a little  
29 bit confused. If you could just tell me in a nutshell  
30 what you're trying to tackle there, or what was -- I  
31 realize I've been out of the bureaucracies for a while,  
32 and all of a sudden a lot of this stuff gets tougher  
33 reading than when I was in practice.  
34  
35 MR. EDENSHAW: Well, I think what the  
36 correspondence policy does, in the past the Council used  
37 to make motions to draft up correspondence to send to  
38 agencies. And, you know, I or -- I can use myself as an  
39 example. In the past, I would go back to my office and  
40 I'd draft up the letter or correspondence from the  
41 Council, and send it back to Dan for review, because it  
42 was agreed upon by the Council, and the motion, and you  
43 guys made copies of it to review. And if there wasn't  
44 any concerns, then it would be finalized and Dan would  
45 sign off on it and I would send it to the respective  
46 State or Federal agency.  
47  
48 Nowadays, if the Council chooses to  
49 address or submit the correspondence to a State or  
50 Federal agency regarding a resource issue that this

1 agency -- that the Council addresses, specifically  
2 subsistence fishing, hunting, trapping regulations or  
3 other information related to that, what I will do is, as  
4 it states in the correspondence policy, I'll go through  
5 steps to have it reviewed by not only myself, but my  
6 supervisor, and then to the deputy and OSM Staff. So  
7 it's just a way of making sure everyone's -- you know, if  
8 there's information from the Councils regarding  
9 correspondence that they know what's being written and  
10 what's been sent out.

11

12 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. So, Council  
13 members, do you have any comments or need any  
14 information, one through five, under U.S. Fish and  
15 Wildlife Service, Subsistence Management, any of these  
16 items.

17

18 MR. HEYANO: Dan.

19

20 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

21

22 MR. HEYANO: On the same agenda item, I  
23 guess a concern I have is for review prior to mailing.  
24 Your explanation is, to me, if they had a copy cc'd to  
25 them, then they would be aware of what's going on. This  
26 for review prior to mailing seems to me is a form of  
27 censorship.

28

29 MR. EDENSHAW: What part are you on,  
30 Robert?

31

32 MR. HEYANO: I'm on Page 45, number 5,  
33 and then it also addresses it in number 8.

34

35 MS. MORRIS: 75.

36

37 MR. HEYANO: I mean 75, excuse me. Thank  
38 you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: What number?

41

42 MR. HEYANO: Page 75.

43

44 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. 75.

45

46 MR. HEYANO: Item five and item eight.  
47 They both reference a review process.

48

49 MR. EDENSHAW: Well, I just know that  
50 some time ago there was some correspondence that was --

1 and it may be, you know, you can interpret that as  
2 censorship, but I know that some ago there was some, not  
3 from this Council, but from another, there was some  
4 correspondence that was done without notice of the  
5 director for OSM and such, so hence the correspondence  
6 policy that came out of that.

7  
8 MR. DUNAWAY: Mr. Chair.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yes, sir.

11  
12 MR. DUNAWAY: So I think that's the --  
13 Robert jogged my memory. There was a problem with their  
14 -- say like if I were to write something as a Council  
15 member say the Board of Fish or something.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Or the Federal Board.

18  
19 MR. DUNAWAY: Yeah, or any government  
20 agency, that should be running it through you, but that  
21 doesn't affect if I as an individual were to write say  
22 comments to the Board of Fish.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That's very true.

25  
26 MR. EDENSHAW: If you're -- I would  
27 highly recommend that you not write anything with the  
28 signature that you're a part of this Council, because it  
29 should be done as a whole. And then if you're a private  
30 citizen and you're sending comments to the Board of Fish,  
31 by all mean, you could sign it as citizen Dan Dunaway.

32  
33 And I don't believe that, you know, from  
34 attending the Staff Committee and the Board meetings,  
35 Robert, in terms of the Board's correspondence, I don't  
36 believe that -- I think if this Council were to -- in a  
37 motion they asked me to write some highly demonstrative  
38 words about some action that was being proposed, and they  
39 wanted to provide comments to it, I don't believe that  
40 the intent of the Office is to censor and stuff, but I'd  
41 certainly just from my experience with this Council and  
42 Dan as the Chair and stuff, I'm certain that there would  
43 be some dialogue exchanged between Tom Boyd over in OSM  
44 and Dan in terms of the language and stuff, if this --  
45 you know, as an example, if there was some  
46 correspondence, whether it was sent to the board or the  
47 agency or the refuge. So I don't believe that the intent  
48 of OSM is to censor, you know, strong feelings that this  
49 Council may have on particular issues. I think they  
50 would just rather have some dialogue exchanged between



1 them if it is indeed some contentious issues.

2

3 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: I think that's true,  
4 too. You know, and as a Chair, I wouldn't write a letter  
5 on any issue representing the Council without having  
6 polled the Council by phone, and checked with Cliff to  
7 make sure that everything I was doing is according to all  
8 the policies set in place. I've never felt like they  
9 were really monitoring it.

10

11 But I think when we got to some of the  
12 Chairs meetings, Robert, some of the things that happened  
13 there was not representative of the Council, just maybe  
14 individual and their own personal feelings, and that  
15 doesn't work that way.

16

17 MR. HEYANO: Well, just to follow up,  
18 it's pretty clear to me that we as individuals, or you as  
19 a Chair, can't be making -- sending letters on behalf of  
20 the Council. It has to be a Council in its whole.

21

22 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah.

23

24 MR. HEYANO: But this policy addresses  
25 the Council in its whole drafting letters or  
26 correspondence.

27

28 MR. EDENSHAW: Correct.

29

30 MR. HEYANO: And they're being subject to  
31 review and approval.

32

33 MR. EDENSHAW: Correct. I mean, the  
34 example I gave, if, you know, I leave here tomorrow, and  
35 Dan wants, you know, the Council in a motion says they  
36 would like me to draft some correspondence to the Board  
37 or the Togiak Refuge regarding some actions they were  
38 taking, I would go back to the office and do the writing  
39 and stuff, and with Dan, and just as it says in the  
40 policy, of how it's outlined, I would sit there and run  
41 it through those, ask Dan, and certainly all of you guys  
42 would see the correspondence, and say is this what you  
43 guys wanted me to write. Is this accurate, and then I  
44 would just go through the review process and afterwards  
45 stamped and sent off.

46

47 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Robert, did you have  
48 any kind of a recommendation that you wanted to maybe  
49 modify that in some way? And how long do you have?

50

1 (Laughter)  
2  
3 MR. HEYANO: Well, Mr. Chairman, I guess  
4 it concerns me, review and approval, words like that.  
5 You know, I think that.....  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Would you like this  
8 Council to ask Cliff for maybe a little more of a  
9 definition on that at the next meeting?  
10  
11 MR. HEYANO: I think a clear intent  
12 language would be helpful.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Yes, Randy.  
15  
16 MR. ALVAREZ: That's what I was going to  
17 suggest, too, because I've got the feeling that review  
18 it, they wanted to make sure it was accurate and what it  
19 was -- I guess what it's intended to say, not to change  
20 it, not to review it and censor or change it. That was  
21 what I got out of it, but it doesn't really say that. So  
22 maybe we need to have it clarified that it does.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: That will be an issue  
25 for -- if they can get back with us by the February or  
26 March meeting. Okay, Cliff? Okay. You've got your --  
27 any other comments, one through five. Yes, Jerry.  
28  
29 MR. BERG: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to  
30 bring to the attention of the Council members a briefing  
31 that was not put in your book that I gave handouts to  
32 everybody, and it's on the Chisik Island, Status of  
33 Federal Jurisdiction on Chisik Island. It's just a  
34 written briefing that didn't get printed in time to get  
35 put in the book, so I just wanted to make sure the  
36 Council members were aware of that. It's just a change  
37 in jurisdiction.  
38  
39 Chisik Island, as you may remember, is  
40 actually over in Cook Inlet, but it's within the Bristol  
41 Bay area, and basically Fish and Wildlife Service does  
42 not have -- or actually the Federal subsistence  
43 regulations do not apply on Chisik Island any more as  
44 they used to. So just for your information. Thanks.  
45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Good. Thank  
47 you. Yes. I think we have seven or eight reports  
48 tomorrow morning, so maybe 8:30 would be okay, since  
49 we've gotten through this biggest part. The remaining  
50 reports, we're not going to be shortening them up. In

1 the past we've always said, okay, summarize, don't repeat  
2 yourself, get with the program, let's get out of here.  
3 We'll have time tomorrow to go through these reports,  
4 just as we did with Steve today. We went through it and  
5 really went through the whole thing. So I think maybe  
6 8:30 would be good.

7  
8 Robert, are we satisfied by giving this  
9 proposal and the rearrangement of the money for smolt  
10 project back to the Staff, or did you want to give it to  
11 any specific individual to follow through up on it, or  
12 how did you -- just give it back to the planning team?  
13 Would that be the best way to do it?

14  
15 MR. HEYANO: I don't know.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: You don't know.

18  
19 MR. HEYANO: What the best approach it.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, we'll  
22 discuss it tomorrow.

23  
24 MR. HEYANO: Maybe we can get some help  
25 on that.

26  
27 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. Okay. Yes.

28  
29 MR. EDENSHAW: Mr. Chair, I just wanted  
30 to point out to Robert and the other Council members, on  
31 Page 76 and 77, because the correspondence policy is  
32 already -- it's already been passed by the Board as  
33 policy, and on Page 76 and 77 there is Q and A, and on  
34 the second bullet there, or the bullet, it says what is  
35 the intent of the new correspondence policy, and one big  
36 long sentence there.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Okay. Well, you can go  
39 to your counselor and have him revise that and come back  
40 with some reply on a short sentence. We'll get a good  
41 explanation, Robert.

42  
43 MR. DUNAWAY: Introduce him to a couple  
44 of periods.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN O'HARA: Yeah. For example,  
47 he'd go ahead and take a look at it and get back with us.  
48 He'll write a page.

49  
50 Counsel members, we don't have anything

1 else. We will recess until 8:30 tomorrow morning.  
2  
3 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA                    )  
  )ss.  
STATE OF ALASKA                                )

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for  
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October 2004.

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Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
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