

1 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA ALASKA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE
2 REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6
7 VOLUME II

8
9 Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center
10 Bethel, Alaska

11
12 October 11, 2012
13 9:00 a.m.

14
15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 16
17 Lester Wilde, Sr., Chairman
18 Robert Aloysius
19 John Andrew
20 Noah Andrew
21 William Brown
22 James Charles
23 Mary Gregory
24 Evan Polty
25 Greg Roczicka
26 Harry Wilde, Sr.
27
28
29 Regional Council Coordinator, Alex Nick

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 10/11/2012)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Call the meeting to order. It's now 9:00 o'clock.

MR. RIVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair. Council members. Again my name is Don Rivard. I'm a fish biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.

I had chance -- in fact, let me get the list here. I had a chance to get the list, a preliminary list of potential Board of Fisheries proposals that you may want to weigh in on as a Council. And there are several, so it's just a matter of how much you want to go into these particular proposals. I know Mr. Roczicka is probably the author of some of these, and he may want to be in on some of these discussions. So we can probably start with a couple of them.

You've got your blue books in front of you. These are the Board of Fisheries proposals that have been submitted to the Board.

The first one is number 95 on Page 96, at the bottom of the page.

And I'm just going to -- your Council does not have to take action on any of these; it's if you wish to take action, so it's not something that's required from the Federal Subsistence Program, but in the past your Council has weighed in and provided recommendations as a Council. And if a member of this Council attends the Board of Fisheries meeting in January, they can represent your Council and provide your Council's recommendation. If you don't form any recommendations as a Council in this public meeting, then they can only go, if somebody does go from this Council, they can only go as an individual. They can't represent your Council per se. So it has to be -- any recommendations that come up have to be done now in a public forum as part of this meeting.

So I haven't had a chance to look really in depth at a lot of these, but I can kind of

1 introduce them, and you could decide whether you want
2 to weigh in and give a formal recommendation or not.

3

4 So the first one was 95, Proposal 95,
5 and that's prohibiting the use of bait in the
6 Kuskokwim. So it talks about by using bait, it's kind
7 of -- they call it chumming, and that it attracts fish
8 and makes them easier to be caught. I think in this
9 particular one they were talking mainly about rainbow
10 trout and Arctic char I think is what I saw here.

11

12 So does your Council wish to provide a
13 recommendation on prohibiting the use of bait.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is this for
16 commercial or subsistence?

17

18 MR. RIVARD: I believe it's for sport
19 fishing mainly, so it's not necessarily subsistence
20 itself, but, you know, it could have some effect on
21 subsistence resources.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anybody want to
24 make any comment on 95. Mr. Charles.

25

26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 We use bait all the time for pike fishing, using black
28 fish parts and other fish parts when we jig for pike
29 for subsistence. That's what we use. Some people
30 don't use that, but we use them down at close to the
31 mouth of Kuskokwim.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: But not necessarily
34 chumming.

35

36 MR. CHARLES: No.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We just use it on a
39 single hook, a single bait.

40

41 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
44 on this.

45

46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Bob.

49

50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I'd just like to

1 back up what James said, that at home I know we use
2 some of the prohibited parts, like eggs or using them
3 as bait for rainbows, Dollies, grayling in the
4 tributaries that have those fish especially in the
5 wintertime. So I don't see what the.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If I may, this
8 proposal would prohibit putting fish parts in the water
9 where use of bait is already prohibited anyway. It
10 says, prohibit putting fish parts in water where use of
11 bait is prohibited. Is there any area where -- I don't
12 think it affects us in any way, because all the
13 subsistence fishing areas that we have do not have any
14 prohibited -- where bait isn't prohibited. We don't
15 fish in areas where bait is prohibited anyway, do we?
16 I don't think so. So go ahead and go to the next one I
17 don't think we need -- Bob, go ahead.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. It just doesn't
20 make sense that whoever authored this is -- you know,
21 and one of the ways that we attract the fish, if you
22 take the eggs, squeeze them and let them down in the
23 ice hole and let them -- let the current bring them
24 down forever, and that attracts and bring the fish to
25 where we want them.

26

27 MR. RIVARD: Pippa. You need to mute
28 your phone. Okay. Go ahead.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
31 on this Proposal 95.

32

33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mary.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You were saying?
36 Oh, Mrs. Gregory.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Thank you, Chairman. I
39 would like not to be prohibited from going after my
40 food again. I don't want to be -- I'm 75 years old,
41 and I've lived and fished and did these things all this
42 time. I don't want to be regulated in my old age,
43 because it's the only way I know how to get fish. If I
44 don't have bait, they don't like me. For pike (In
45 Yup'ik).

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, if I may. I'll
48 clarify this again a little bit. Again, I'm just
49 bringing this to your attention as a possible issue you
50 might to weigh in on. You don't have to, so you don't

1 even have to form any kind of recommendation. You
2 don't have to say yeah or nay.

3

4 But again the issue on this is, it
5 says, on many of the fresh waters of the
6 Kuskokwim/Goodnews area it has become a common practice
7 for individuals, often working as sport fishing guides
8 or sport fishing assistant guides to place substances
9 defined as bait into the water in an effort to attract
10 fish by scent.

11

12 So it does say that it's already --
13 bait is already prohibited, but they're kind of getting
14 around it by putting fish parts and stuff into the
15 water as scents to attract fish. So that's the issue
16 here. So it mainly has to do with sport fishing.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And chumming.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: And chumming. Okay. And
21 this is just something that may affect subsistence
22 users in some way or another. That's why I'm just
23 bringing that to your attention. So you may or may not
24 want to weigh in on it at all.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.

29

30 MR. J. ANDREW: Yes.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew.

33

34 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
35 Chairman. In my experience and people I've seen in my
36 own area, this is a common practice to use fish parts,
37 black fish or smelt if you can, or even cut up herring,
38 cut up fish parts. It's probably the easiest way to
39 catch fish, because, you know, that have no bait,
40 you'll hardly get any. And it will be a hardship for
41 subsistence users, but if you apply it for a sport fish
42 only, that might be acceptable.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You're welcome.

47 Thank you. Any other comments. Mrs. Gregory.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: I concur with Mr. Andrew.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I don't like this
4 at all. And I'm going to voice my opposition to it,
5 because once they start meddling with the sport
6 fishermen, they're going to turn to us who depend on
7 the fish for subsistence. And however we get them is
8 however we get them. We attract them to come to the
9 place we're fishing, and that's always been a practice
10 for centuries. And I'm not going to let them bite into
11 something that I've been doing all my life. I've seen
12 it being done before, and I'm not going to give them a
13 chance to start with the sport fishermen, and then
14 eventually they'll come around and prohibit us from
15 doing the same thing.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments,
18 Council members. Mr. Andrew.

19

20 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. In my
21 village we use bait, and we've exercised that for a
22 long time. Just about now you're going to start using
23 bait for lush. And this thing saying that it should be
24 prohibited, you can probably put that on the sport
25 fishing side, but not to us who are subsisting with the
26 bait.

27

28 Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments.

31

32

33 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Wilde. Your
36 microphone.

37

38 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. I got a
39 son who like to go out there and he fish pikes even
40 right now, right this time. And he dry it up and
41 they're eating it with seal oil. They really love
42 them, my grandchildren. My children as they grow up,
43 like my grandchildren, they love those, even though
44 have fish available. We don't have no one to work on
45 our fresh fish, but my grandchildren, they grow up. My
46 oldest one, 14 years old, he hook, and after he hook
47 and we sometime make it for four, he bring them home
48 and cut it up and hang them. I think it's very
49 important something like that and it shouldn't be just
50 wasted up.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

4

5 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6

7 You know, just first reading this, I
8 was kind of feeling going towards supporting it, but
9 after hearing some of the comments of the other members
10 here, it really does raise the uncertainty on how it
11 might affect subsistence. I see it as directed at
12 commercial activities primarily, and, you know, there
13 -- in several of the areas, like I think Kisaralik is
14 one as well, where it's catch and release only, and you
15 have to use barbless hooks and bait is not permitted in
16 the sport fishery already. And that's kind of what
17 this proposal is targeted towards. But given the level
18 of uncertainty and the broad application of this the
19 way it's written, I guess I'm just having -- well, now
20 knowing how that's -- between the commercial and the
21 subsistence application of it, I guess I couldn't
22 support it either.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So how does the
25 Council feel about 95. Would you like to weigh in on
26 this in the Board of Fish proposal time, the Board of
27 Fish meeting? Mr. Charles.

28

29 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 That would help us AC members, because we're going to
31 meet and talk about these first part of next month.
32 And we like to have input from the users, and that way
33 we can oppose or go for the proposals, because there's
34 a bunch of them. And me or somebody will go to the
35 Board of Fish to testify and that way when we have
36 helper in the back or users help us, it's always good.
37 Because when I testify in front of the Board of Fish
38 that helps me see what the RAC or users have in mind to
39 -- or have in mind what they think about the proposals.
40 Because there's a bunch of them. Some we'll go for and
41 some we'll be opposed to them. So that's how it works.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, a good number
44 of proposals that affect our area, so if we get stuck
45 on one, we'll be here all day.

46

47 Mr. Rivard, go ahead.

48

49 MR. RIVARD: Well, if you do decide --
50 and I guess I'd counsel you a little bit, if you feel

1 strong enough to make a recommendation, I'm going to
2 keep notes and at a minimum, your Counsel could then
3 send a letter through our office to the Board of
4 Fisheries with your recommendations.

5
6 In the past the Office of Subsistence
7 Management has funded a member from your Council as
8 well as the other two Councils on the Yukon and
9 Kuskokwim to send a member to the Board of Fisheries.
10 And I've asked my office to look into that today. I
11 don't know if we'll get an answer today, but that's
12 still a possibility that one of your members might
13 attend on your behalf. And again, in order for them to
14 present your Council's recommendations, you have to
15 actually make a recommendation on some proposals.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
18 of the Council on Proposal 95. Mr. Roczicka.

19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, just to
21 move it forward, I would move to support Proposal No.
22 95 and, reflecting my earlier comments, if we get a
23 second, that given the uncertainty, I would -- it would
24 be my intent to vote against, vote in opposition.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Second.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
29 Gregory -- I mean Ms. Gregory.

30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Did he make a motion?

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He made a motion to
34 support Proposal 95, seconded by Ms. Gregory.

35
36 Any other discussion on this.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 MR. CHARLES: Question.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
43 called for. All in favor say aye.

44
45 (No affirmative votes)

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed say
48 nay.

49
50 IN UNISON: Nay.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. This is
2 oppose 95. Go ahead, Mr. Roczicka -- too many names in
3 my head.

4
5 MR. RIVARD: It's right there, Mr.
6 Chair. That's why we have name plates here.

7
8 Okay. The next two are 97 and 98, and
9 they're starting on the top of Page 99. And these are
10 the companion proposals on northern pike that we
11 discussed yesterday that your Council opposed, putting
12 a bag and possession limit on northern pike in the GASH
13 area. So these are the companion proposals to the
14 Board of Fisheries. So again it's the same thing of
15 putting a bag limit three per day, three in possession,
16 and only one of which could be 30 inches or greater for
17 northern pike.

18
19 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion
22 on.....

23
24 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

27
28 MS. GREGORY: What do you mean by 30
29 inches?

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's the length.

32
33 MR. RIVARD: The length of the fish.
34 When you caught three fish, only one could be 30 inches
35 or larger in size.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: In size, okay.

38
39 MR. RIVARD: Yeah. In length.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
42 number 96 to increase the season for pike year round.

43
44 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Right now the
45 pike are getting larger every year. I notice that.
46 (In Yup'ik)

47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: They're talking about
49 Yukon in one little area, that's all.

50

1 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. We're talking
2 about Proposals 97 and 98, not 96.
3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. 97, 98. I
5 guess we could -- our decision on that could stand, the
6 decision of yesterday, if that's all right with the
7 Council, unless you have other comments on it.
8
9 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.
12
13 MR. CHARLES: I move to adopt Proposals
14 97 and 99, or.....
15
16 MR. RIVARD: 97 and 98.
17
18 MR. CHARLES: 97 and 98.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you repeat
23 that again?
24
25 MR. ROCZICKA: To support.
26
27 MR. CHARLES: I move to adopt Proposal
28 97 and 98.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
31 made to support Proposal -- support right?
32
33 MR. CHARLES: I could go that way.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: To support '97 and
36 98, made by Mr. Charles. Do I hear a second.
37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: There was a second.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was a second.
41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: By me.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Aloysius
45 seconded the motion.
46
47 Any further discussion.
48
49 (No comments)
50

1 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
4 called for. A roll call vote, please. We'll try it
5 once. Change the pace a little, slow it down.
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. The motion is to
8 support Board of Fish Proposals 97 and 98. Mr.
9 Charles.
10
11 MR. CHARLES: No.
12
13 MR. NICK: Mr. Polty.
14
15 MR. POLTY: No.
16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Andrew. Noah Andrew.
18
19 MR. N. ANDREW: No.
20
21 MR. NICK: Mr. Harry Wilde.
22
23 MR. H. WILDE: No.
24
25 MR. NICK: Mr. Roczicka.
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Abstain.
28
29 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
32
33 MR. NICK: Mr. Aloysius.
34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
36
37 MR. NICK: Ms. Gregory.
38
39 MS. GREGORY: I abstain, because it was
40 written by the GASH people.
41
42 MR. NICK: Okay. Mr. John Andrew.
43
44 MR. J. ANDREW: No.
45
46 MR. NICK: Mr. William Brown.
47
48 MR. BROWN: No.
49
50 MR. NICK: Okay. Just a minute, I've

1 got to tally my count here.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The tally.

4

5 MR. NICK: Okay. Yeah. Just a moment.

6 Okay. There's 8 no, 2 abstain. Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.

9 Gregory.

10

11 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, I'm

14 sorry.

15

16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. I wanted for the

17 record to note the reason for my abstention is I

18 understand you guys had a lengthy discussion on this

19 issue yesterday, and I wasn't here to listen in on any

20 of that. But I also noted that the sponsor of the

21 proposal was the local advisory committee. So without

22 hearing the discussion that happened yesterday, I

23 didn't feel comfortable in taking a position on this

24 one.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.

29 Rivard.

30

31 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The

32 next one I'm going to draw to your attention is

33 Proposal No. 105 on Page 106. Proposal 105. This was

34 submitted by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game,

35 and it's just their revisions to the Kuskokwim River

36 Salmon Rebuilding Management Plan.

37

38 I just put this, so that you're aware

39 of it, there's a lot of different wording going on in

40 here, and if you haven't have a chance to really look

41 it over and kind of digest it, it may be difficult to

42 kind of address right now. That's up to you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 105 states to adopt

45 a drainagewide optimum escapement goal for king salmon

46 in the Kuskokwim River?

47

48 MR. RIVARD: No, that's 106.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry.

1 MR. RIVARD: We're on Page 106,
2 Proposal 105, and we're going to back up a little bit
3 after this one to 104, which I think you're going to
4 find real interesting as well.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: According to my
7 thing, management plan and strategies is at 105
8 Proposal.

9
10 MR. RIVARD: Correct. That's what
11 we're talking about.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Adopt a
14 drainagewide option, escapement goal for king salmon?

15
16 MR. RIVARD: No, that's Page 108 you're
17 on. Which page are you on?

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I was using this.

20
21 MR. RIVARD: Okay. I'm looking -- I'm
22 using the blue book here. This is where I'm working
23 out of.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Update and clarify
26 Kuskokwim River Salmon Rebuilding Management Plan and
27 Strategies as follows.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: What is the use of this
34 thing, because it's supposed to be a guide and tell us
35 what area of concern we're in, and it's all in gray,
36 and then he read exactly what that 105 says, it's adopt
37 a drainagewide OAG for king salmon in the Kuskokwim
38 River. Adjust tributary goals accordingly and add
39 preseason and in-season management tools.

40
41 MR. RIVARD: Yes. Mr. Chair. Mr.
42 Aloysius. That is the list that was developed in our
43 office. They don't quite line up with the -- the
44 wording on this list doesn't quite line up with the
45 numbers, so I'm using this blue book.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Now we've
48 got you.

49
50 MR. RIVARD: And it shows you exactly

1 what it is. And I've got the list, too, and I am going
2 off of the list that you're looking at, but you really
3 have to look at the book to make it much more accurate.
4 So I'm just bringing 105 to your attention at this
5 point. Like I say, there's not any real specific
6 numbers in this one. It's just showing that the Alaska
7 Department of Fish and Game is proposing some changes
8 to the wording of the rebuilding plan. And Chris is
9 going to help out a little bit here I think.

10

11 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes sir.

14 Clarification.

15

16 MR. SHELDEN: This is Chris Shelden
17 from the Department.

18

19 Just to address this particular
20 proposal, at this point it's kind of a work in
21 progress. At the September 27th meeting of the
22 Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group, we
23 discussed the possibility of working with stakeholders
24 to adjust the management plan, and I think Mr. Roczicka
25 could speak to some work that was done on that the last
26 couple of days.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

29

30 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Thanks, Mr.
31 Chairman. I was going to weigh in here. When we put
32 this together, again this was put in as essentially a
33 place holder. However, there is one significant
34 language change in there that does give rise to
35 concerns in some folks.

36

37 But at the Board of Fisheries work
38 session yesterday, due to the proposals, and also the
39 recently released changes, significant changes to our
40 escapement goals and the whole structure that has been
41 put forward and questions that arose from that, we put
42 together kind of an informal coalition under -- through
43 the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group.
44 We're looking at two representatives from the Federal
45 Staff, two representatives from State Staff and two to
46 three from the Working Group along with Doug Molyneaux
47 working as kind of a facilitator to get together and
48 draft up a management plan to try to address a lot of
49 the issues that are raised in some of these proposals
50 and the concerns that people have. We're looking to

1 have an initial draft, a very rough draft, if you will,
2 but at least a framework to go from at the working
3 group meeting that's scheduled at the end of this month
4 I believe the 30th, in conjunction with the Advisory
5 Committee. And go forward from there and hopefully
6 over the next couple months prior to the Fish Board
7 meeting, if we can come to some agreement or consensus
8 on a management plan, we could have a document to
9 present to the Board of Fisheries for their approval
10 at this meeting.

11
12 Failing in that, we might still use it
13 as a tool or a vehicle to still keep the issue alive in
14 front of the Board of Fisheries. And if we can't
15 address some of the escapement goals, concerns within
16 that management plan, maybe pursue an optimum
17 escapement goal under the separate proposals that's in
18 here to address that, but through the Board over the
19 course of the next year or so. And that would keep the
20 issue alive in the regulatory process, and we wouldn't
21 have to wait another three years for the regulatory
22 cycle to come around to readdress it.

23
24 But the hope right now is that through
25 this group that we've got together of State/Federal
26 managers and the users from the Kuskokwim, or
27 representatives from the Kuskokwim working group, that
28 we can have a document in front of the Board.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further action
31 needed on this do you feel?

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Just pending that, I
34 guess I would recommend at this point we take no action
35 on this proposal.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: What is the ultimate
40 goal of this proposal.

41
42 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Aloysius. I really
43 don't -- I wasn't involved in the development of the
44 proposal. I think it was at the time.....

45
46 MR. ELISON: Chris.

47
48 MR. SHELDEN: Go ahead.

49
50 MR. ELISON: This is Travis with Fish

1 and Game.

2

3 MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Travis.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

6

7 MR. ELISON: Mr. Chair. I can speak to
8 that question. The Department put this proposal in to
9 more closely align with the management strategies of
10 recent years. The management plan as it exists now,
11 it's pretty well-defined windows schedule. As we
12 talked about yesterday a little bit that schedule was
13 not sufficient for conserving salmon in order to meet
14 escapement goals, and in the last two years we've had a
15 much modified version of that schedule. So it's kind
16 of designed to give the Department more flexibility
17 when managing for poor runs. And that's because every
18 run's different. Run timing can be late or early.
19 Another thing is we're learning a lot as we move along
20 from year to year since we just recently started
21 managing for escapement goals on the Kuskokwim River
22 and taking subsistence restrictions to do that. So
23 it's kind of designed to give the Department more
24 flexibility and also to more effectively manage for all
25 species of salmon on the Kuskokwim River. The plan as
26 it currently is geared a lot of ways towards Chinook
27 salmon when the Chinook salmon abundance is way
28 exceeded by chum and sockeye during the same time of
29 the year. So it gives more guidelines on how to manage
30 for that multi-species runs through the season.

31

32 But as Chris mentioned, there is work
33 being done with the working group and Fish and Wildlife
34 Service to further discuss this and look for potential
35 ways to address some concerns of the stakeholders,
36 especially in relation to the recommended escapement
37 goals.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
40 further discussion on this. Ms. Gregory.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. (In Yup'ik)
43 Page 106, last one, (In Yup'ik) downstream (In Yup'ik)
44 number 3 (In Yup'ik), subsistence (In Yup'ik) is what's
45 being done to the subsistence users. I'm saying that
46 number 3 on Page 3 and going onto Page 106, that's
47 what's happening now to the subsistence people. They
48 can close and regulate or open when we try to fish.
49 This is already being done to the subsistence users;
50 that's what I'm saying.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
2 on 105. Mr. Charles.

3
4 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5 When we talk about Kuskokwim River Rebuilding
6 Management Plan, some of the people from my home don't
7 like to see commercial fishing above Bethel, because we
8 are downriver from Bethel, and we live down close to
9 the mouth. The river is three miles wide and it's hard
10 to catch fish over there. But when you pass Bethel it
11 gets narrow and it's easier to catch salmon up there
12 than our area. So when we talk about management plan,
13 or rebuilding management plan, that's what people don't
14 like to see, commercial fishing above Bethel. You can
15 commercial fish from Bethel on down, because the river
16 is wider and harder to catch salmon. So those salmon
17 you don't catch will go up and lay eggs and whatever
18 they do up there and that's what some people tell me.
19 But I'm with the working group, and we'll see. But I
20 tell them, I don't make the decision, I just recommend
21 sometimes when they do that, and that's what people
22 tell me. And if we want management plan -- I mean,
23 rebuilding plan, let the fish go above Bethel.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. The same
30 thing upriver. People up there don't want commercial
31 fishing below Bethel.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Simply because you are
36 intercepting the fish that are going to our area and to
37 the spawning grounds.

38
39 And the other fear that many people
40 have and they've told me to voice this, that if this
41 plan in any is going to reduce the escapement goals,
42 forget it. Don't even talk about it, because that's
43 always been something that's been in the wind. Just
44 because the numbers of salmon are going down, doesn't
45 mean you have to start lowering the escapement goals
46 for each of the species or for each of the tributaries.
47 But if that is the ultimate goal of this proposal, I'm
48 not even going to support it.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
2 Aloysius. Mr. Roczicka.

3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5
6 And just to speak to both James and
7 Bob, their comments, the plan also deals with
8 subsistence as well, and I certainly don't think the
9 folks down below Bethel would say that there shouldn't
10 be any subsistence fishing above Bethel. So commercial
11 is only one aspect of this. And whether that would
12 even fit in here and whether it's a regulatory
13 application or not would be something we'd have to
14 explore. A lot of that is Department's discretionary
15 authority in making those kind of calls, although it
16 could be something that could be addressed in the plan.

17
18 And as far as the escapement goals that
19 Bob had the concern about, unfortunately escapement
20 goals are not part of the regulatory process with the
21 Board. That is completely a Department responsibility.
22 The Board of Fishery doesn't even have the authority to
23 accept -- well, have to accept, but they do not approve
24 or disapprove. The Department presents their numbers
25 for a biological or a sustainable escapement goal, and
26 they basically tell the Board, this is the numbers that
27 we have. If there was going to be any changes in the
28 escapement goal to direct the department on how to
29 manage, it would have to be under that following
30 proposal of the optimum escapement goal. That's the
31 only place where the Board has any authority.

32
33 But as far as the ones that are put out
34 for biological or sustainable, that's totally within
35 the purview of the Department, and they don't even have
36 to, according to their memorandum of understanding, it
37 surprised me, it only has permissive language there,
38 not even required to get the input of the Federal
39 managers. It says they may include them on their
40 review teams, but it doesn't require them to do that.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
43 Roczicka. Any further discussion on 105.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, let's go on
48 down to 106, or the next one.

49
50 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, Mr. Andrew, go
2 ahead. I'm sorry.

3
4 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman. I'm hearing two sides of some of the
6 discussions my people are thinking about. And I see a
7 measurement of escapement that they both desire. We,
8 too, in the Mid Kuskokwim. It's not just one thick
9 river. It's at least got three channels to each side
10 on Kuskokwim River. There are islands in between where
11 fish escapement is feasible. Most of what my people
12 are speaking about is with the interception,
13 intercepting the fish that are coming in, outside of
14 our area. The trawlers and other big fisheries.

15
16 Now, if we are going to work on
17 escapement management, I think that's what we should
18 call it, escapement management. We need to begin with
19 the interceptions out of our area. At least every four
20 years this is what my elders tell me. Every four years
21 the fish file out in the area and disperse. They go
22 out the Kuskokwim River into some place, wherever they
23 go. And then within that time, within four years they
24 came back to spawn. Now, if we definitely and
25 seriously need to work on escapement plan, we need to
26 get the government or the Board of Fish to concentrate
27 on the interception.

28
29 We've been limited, we've been
30 windowed, we've been prohibited. And we did whatever
31 we had on subsistence part. We need to begin to
32 expand.

33
34 Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
37 Andrew.

38
39 And further discussion on 105.

40
41 (No comments)

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have
44 anything else, Mr. Rivard.

45
46 MR. RIVARD: No, I don't have anything
47 else on 105.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's go on
50 to the next one then.

1 MR. RIVARD: Well I think it would
2 probably be a good idea, because you've been talking
3 about it, to go to 106, but we will backtrack to 104,
4 because it's important for you to at least look at. So
5 let's go to 106; that's on Page 108, at the bottom of
6 Page 108.

7
8 And this is the Kuskokwim River Salmon
9 Rebuilding Management Plan they're talking about again,
10 and it's to adopt a drainagewide optimum escapement
11 goal for king salmon in the Kuskokwim River, adjust
12 tributary goals accordingly, and add preseason and in-
13 season management tools. And this was submitted by the
14 Association of Village Council Presidents.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you want to
17 speak on this, Mr. Tim Andrews.

18
19 MR. ANDREWS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. It
20 was drafted by the Natural Resources Department of AVCP
21 with concern about the Department lowering the
22 escapement goals for the Kuskokwim River. And our fear
23 at that time was that the effects of lowering the
24 escapement goals, that some of the smaller streams
25 along the Kuskokwim River may be eradicated of salmon.
26 And we believe that those streams, those small river
27 systems that we don't have any knowledge about may be a
28 contributor to genetic diversity of the Chinook salmon
29 on the Kuskokwim River. Without the genetic diversity,
30 when you have a small core or a concentrated population
31 of Chinook salmon from one genetic pool, you know, if
32 just one disease, one effect of something else coming
33 upon them could possibly decimate or decrease the
34 population tremendously, so that was our big concern
35 about the escapement goals.

36
37 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I'll be
38 happy to answer any questions if you.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
41 Mr. Andrews.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
46 the Council. Mr. Brown.

47
48 MR. BROWN: I just want to express my
49 concern about test fishing, because I see it here. Is
50 it possible to have setnet other than drifting here in

1 Bethel, because when I used to test fish in the mouth
2 of the Kuskokwim, I used to see -- before I start test
3 fishing down there, I used to see Ray Baxter. He used
4 to have at least three set nets by the mouth. Is that
5 possible here.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One of you got
8 that? Mr. Rivard.

9

10 MR. RIVARD: I would maybe refer that
11 to somebody from the State. Maybe Travis can talk
12 about whether setnets are part of the test net fishery
13 or could be. Travis, can you answer that? Did you
14 hear the question?

15

16 MR. ELISON: Yes, sir. Mr. Chair.
17 This is Travis Elison with Fish and Game.

18

19 I guess that one answer is our test
20 fishery uses driftnets at the Bethel test fishery. We
21 currently do not have a setnet test fishery. Those
22 projects, we in the past have had several test fish
23 projects near the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, one of
24 which Charlie was speaking to. And those projects were
25 shown to not be reliable for indexing abundance of
26 salmon coming into the river. Some of the thoughts
27 were fish were milling down there in the lower river,
28 and as Mr. Charles had alluded to, it's difficult to
29 catch fish down in the lower river, because it's so
30 wide and there's so much water, and it's hard to catch
31 them on a consistent basis. It's kind of almost luck
32 of the draw sometimes it seems whether you catch a lot
33 of fish or not.

34

35 We have had discussions about
36 initiating additional test fisheries near the mouth.
37 We'll talk about that further. But at this time
38 there's no immediate plan to initiate any additional
39 test fisheries. Our assessment based on Bethel test --
40 or our assessment of Bethel test fisheries as a very
41 good index for projecting what our final escapements
42 would be. We have good correlation between our Bethel
43 test fishery numbers and our escapement numbers. And
44 that information has been presented to the working
45 group in the past, particularly early -- going into the
46 2012 season.

47

48 So it's possible. You know, it could
49 happen where we might initiate other test fisheries,
50 but just, yeah, no plans for it at this point.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Travis.
2
3
4 Any further comments. Mr. Andrews, did
5 you have any more?
6
7 (No comments)
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you,
10 Mr. Andrews. Mr. Roczicka.
11
12 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I'd move
13 to support Proposal 106 at this time, and if I get a
14 second, I'd speak further to it.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
17 to support 106. Do I hear a second.
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
22 Aloysius. The motion was made by Mr. Greg Roczicka.
23
24 Go on, Mr. Roczicka.
25
26 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. You know,
27 we all have high hopes for this revise of the
28 management plan to address a lot of these issues. And
29 although, you know, I said the escapement goals are
30 kind of a separate issue, they are so intertwined or
31 interwoven that they're going to drive whatever is in a
32 management plan. They are out for review at this
33 point. They are recommended goals. We won't see
34 anything finalized until the Board of Fisheries
35 meeting. However, there was still as of yesterday, the
36 information had not actually been released so that
37 there's been any chance for any kind of independent
38 review to occur.
39
40 Mr. Probasco was here at the AVCP
41 convention last week. They hadn't had it, and I asked
42 him about it. As of yesterday morning, I asked him
43 again, and he said we're getting all the information we
44 need. However, in a later meeting with -- later in the
45 day, and he overheard me -- well, I told some other
46 people that he had said that he's got all the
47 information he needs, he said, wait, wait, wait, no.
48 He said, we're getting it. We do not have it yet.
49
50 And so they don't actually have access

1 to the codes to be able to -- for independent reviewers
2 to look at those. Anyway, all of that's going to be in
3 the mix here over the next couple months. And again
4 our best case scenarios is actually that the Department
5 is right on the money with their recommended numbers,
6 but until we get that reassurance from independent
7 reviews, we aren't going to know that.

8

9 And hopefully again this process that
10 we started yesterday, you know, in putting together a
11 management plan can work. However, if it does not, I
12 would -- the Proposal No. 106 would be very appropriate
13 for us to support and ask the Board to move forward
14 with that process.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
17 discussion.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. Quyana.
24 One, two, third paragraph on Page 110, W1-B, where is
25 that?

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What are you asking
28 again?

29

30 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Where at?

33

34 MS. GREGORY: Where is it at?

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Where at?

37

38 MS. GREGORY: 110. Page 110.

39

40 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, go ahead.

43

44 MR. SHELDEN: This is Chris Shelden of
45 the Department.

46

47 The commercial fishing District 1 in
48 the Kuskokwim River extends from the lower end of Eek
49 Island to Bogus Creek above Tuluksak. That particular
50 fishing district is divided into two subdistricts, W1-A

1 and W1-B. W1-A is from Bethel above to the upper
2 boundary of the district. W1-B, be for below, is below
3 Bethel from the bottom of Eek Island to Bethel.

4

5 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
8 questions or discussion. Mr. Aloysius.

9

10 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question for
11 Greg, since he seems to be knowledgeable about this.
12 Is this like a safeguard against lowering the
13 escapement goals for all species of salmon?

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, got
16 an answer?

17

18 MR. ROCZICKA: I don't know if you
19 could call it a safeguard. It is an area that the
20 Board has authority in establishing escapement goals,
21 where an optimum escapement goal does fall under the
22 Board's regulatory authority, and they can bring in the
23 allocation aspects. But for the biological and
24 sustainable escapement goals, that is entirely the
25 purview of the Department. It is not need Board
26 approval.

27

28 I guess, yeah, calling it a safeguard,
29 it's a fall-back if we can't come to some agreement
30 over there. And I'd note here that within -- Hamachan
31 Hamazaki is one of the Departmentals that came forward
32 on that was that it was encouraged that we look at some
33 of the alternatives, different alternatives for
34 escapement goals be considered, so that's going to be
35 part of this review process as well.

36

37 And something I'd like to just toss in
38 here, too, in asking Doug Molyneaux to help us draft
39 this plan, he actually volunteered his services. He's
40 not going to be paid in any way for that, and with his
41 30 years of experience and knowledge of this river, I
42 don't think we could have found a better person to help
43 us put that together.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I guess I should have
48 addressed that question to Tim, because AVCP's the
49 sponsor of this proposal.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: State your question
2 again, Mr. Aloysius to make sure that Tim understands.

3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: He understands.

5
6 (Laughter)

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

9
10 MR. ANDREWS: Perhaps a restatement,
11 Mr. Chairman, would kind of be nice. Thank you.

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: My question was, is this
14 like a safeguard to make sure that the escapement goals
15 are not reduced in the event that all these negatives
16 things that are happening.

17
18 MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman. Timothy
19 Andrews with AVCP.

20
21 When the Department had notified or put
22 the proposal into place during several working group
23 meetings, and came up with the numbers, I can't quite
24 remember what the numbers are. Casey is more aware of
25 what those initial numbers were, but.....

26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: 65,000 to 120.

28
29 MR. ANDREWS: Pardon me?

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: 65,000 to 120,000.

32
33 MR. ANDREWS: Yes. Exactly. We had a
34 major concern, because what we've seen happen in other
35 areas of the State, like, for example, Norton Sound,
36 the northern Norton Sound area, they had escapement
37 goals that were quite a bit higher than they are today.
38 And what happened was the Department kept taking those
39 escapement goals, reducing them, reducing them,
40 reducing them to allow for a subsistence and commercial
41 fishery to occur. Currently that area has not had any
42 chum salmon, or enough chum salmon to support not even
43 a limited amount of subsistence. They even went down
44 to Tier II to allow for a limited amount of harvest to
45 occur there. And we do not want to see that same
46 process occur on the Kuskokwim River or any of the
47 rivers in the State of Alaska.

48
49 So we questioned the escapement goals,
50 how they were set, what data is being utilized. And

1 then submitted this proposal as a placeholder to try
2 and get more information. And that's what Greg was
3 talking about earlier with the multi-user task or
4 multi-user committee, to try and answer some of those
5 questions that we have about the escapement goals and
6 how they were formulated. And I look forward to the
7 work that they will be producing before the Board of
8 Fisheries meeting in January.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Aloysius.

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Quyana.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
15 further discussion from the Council. Any further
16 questions.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 MR. CHARLES: Question.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
23 called for. All in favor of supporting 106 say aye.

24

25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed, same
28 sign.

29

30 (No opposing votes)

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
33 Next item, Mr. Rivard.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
36 We're going to go back to Proposal 104, and that starts
37 on Page 104, so none of us get confused this way. In
38 your blue book.

39

40 Okay. This is submitted by the
41 Department of Fish and Game, and these are the new
42 numbers that they're proposing for amounts necessary
43 for subsistence. And you could see the list there in
44 the middle of Page 104 under item B, and it's also
45 summarized in the table on the top of Page 105.

46

47 So maybe somebody from the Department
48 can address this, and I don't know if -- these numbers
49 I think -- I don't know if they've been adjusted in any
50 particular way or they're just finally putting them

1 into regulation.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman. This is
6 Chris Shelden with the Department.

7

8 There was a recent retrospective
9 analysis of subsistence harvest information that
10 occurred and re-examined our historical information
11 going back to 1990. We were able to fill in some holes
12 for villages that hadn't been visited. We were able to
13 make our estimation methods consistent year to year,
14 and we produced a new data set. As a result,
15 subsistence harvest estimates went up for that period
16 of time, because we were able to fill in those holes.
17 And as a result of that, we've determined that the
18 current amounts reasonably necessary for subsistence
19 that's on the books is potentially a little low,
20 depending on how you look at it. So the Department has
21 put together this proposal to adjust ANS.

22

23 And currently the staff notes are not
24 complete for that, but they are suggesting three
25 different options based on looking at different ranges
26 of dates, whether you go back and look at the entire
27 data set, 1990 through 2000 and I guess 10, or 2009, or
28 whether you look at more recent years to see how
29 harvest has changed. But that's what this proposal is
30 about.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions. Ms.
33 Gregory.

34

35 MS. GREGORY: I have an observation.
36 And I need it correct that it's not Ishkowik River,
37 it's Ishkeewik (ph). It's on the mouth of the
38 Kuskokwim. The other one I believe is Askenat.
39 Askenat, not Naskonat. It's by Hooper Bay.

40

41 MR. SHELDEN: Mrs. Gregory, would you
42 -- this is just for the Kuskokwim River. So.....

43

44 MS. GREGORY: Who's Naskonat?

45

46 MR. SHELDEN: Where is that? I don't
47 see it.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: Proposal, number 1, 2, 3,
50 4. And I don't like to see my villages renamed, or my

1 rivers renamed. Make sure that you make the right
2 correction when you put in rivers.

3
4 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, ma'am. Where would
5 I find the correct spellings of those?

6
7 MS. GREGORY: If you would -- between
8 Kwigillingok and the mouth of the river.

9
10 MR. J. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

11
12 MS. GREGORY: Kosalignuk (ph) and the
13 mouth of the Kuskokwim. I don't know what this is,
14 Naskonat.

15
16 REPORTER: Mary, your microphone.

17
18 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

19
20 MR. SHELDEN: Okay. We'll try to
21 examine point 4 under letter A and see if we can find
22 better spellings

23
24 MS. GREGORY: The second one, it said.

25
26 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

27
28 MS. GREGORY: It says the westernmost
29 tip of Naskonat Peninsula. You need to research your
30 work before you put it on paper.

31
32 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, ma'am, we'll do what
33 we can to correct that before the Board of Fish. Thank
34 you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's not
37 necessarily the spelling, it's the location that's

38 put.....
39

40 MR. SHELDEN: Okay. Yeah, we'll find
41 that, and it may be misstated in regulation, and that
42 might be why it's misstated here.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
45 Any further question. Mr. Aloysius.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. How far back

48 do you say that -- you said 90-something. Is that for
49 all the salmon species you went back to 90-what?

50

1 MR. SHELDEN: The harvest estimates
2 were recalculated from 1990 through 2009. Those are
3 the years being considered for this adjustment to ANS.

4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: It kind of doesn't make
6 sense to me, because, you know, the population of the
7 people, it almost doubled, and yet it seems like the
8 ANS should follow that trend.

9
10 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, sir. And that is
11 why the Department will be presenting I think three or
12 four options to the Board of Fish of different ways of
13 calculating ANS. And the one will include the entire
14 data set; another will include say the last 10 years.
15 And I can't quite recall right off the top of my head
16 what the other two are. And that is a way of trying to
17 cope with the changes in population and the changes of
18 subsistence practices over time, which have changed.

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. And, you
21 know, if you were back between 1900 and 1960, this
22 would be a drop in the bucket compared to what the
23 needs of the people were in them days, because the only
24 transportation we had in the fall, winter and spring is
25 dog teams, and about 75 percent of the fish caught were
26 to feed the dogs, and so you have this much harvest and
27 this much harvest for human consumption, and the 75
28 percent went to feed the dogs. And so, you know, you
29 know, if you had a chance to go back and see exactly
30 what the subsistence needs were in that period compared
31 to what it is today.

32
33 Now, the amount of fish needed has
34 dropped way down, but the number of people was so small
35 in them days, but now the number of people is way up
36 here. So if you could do a good analysis of that, it
37 would be a lot more effective.

38
39 MR. SHELDEN: Yes. And that's a really
40 good point. Unfortunately our data set isn't that
41 long. We haven't been doing subsistence surveys for
42 that long. We do have subsistence surveys back before
43 1990; however, you know, when they were first
44 initiated, the methods have changed over time. They
45 may or may not have been as good, or they may just be
46 different, but it was only back through 1990 that we
47 could confirm that the methods were consistent so that
48 we could do that retrospective analysis and correct for
49 those changes. If we go further back, we get real
50 shaky, and we can't be certain of our numbers. But we

1 are pretty -- we are very confident of the 1990 through
2 the present.

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you have any
5 further questions?

6

7 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anyone else. Ms.
10 Gregory.

11

12 MS. GREGORY: On your table here, the
13 Kuskokwim River, and on the other end you said the
14 remainder of the Kuskokwim River. Can you explain
15 that?

16

17 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, ma'am. The
18 Kuskokwim area includes an area a little bit larger
19 than the Kuskokwim River. The Kuskokwim River
20 estimates include all the villages of the Kuskokwim
21 River itself, and the villages of north Kuskokwim Bay,
22 including -- well, we include as part of the Kuskokwim
23 River those villages, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, and
24 Kipnuk. But those three villages, and we don't get
25 surveys from all three of them. We only get surveys
26 from one. So our estimate includes ANS for the entire
27 Kuskokwim River, that is the portion that you're
28 talking about.

29

30 The remainder is the south Kuskokwim
31 Bay Villages of Goodnews, Platinum, and Quinhagak. And
32 we don't consider that the fish being harvested there
33 are Kuskokwim River fish, so they have a different ANS
34 determination.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

37

38 MR. SHELDEN: And when we say
39 remainder, we're talking about those villages outside
40 of the Kuskokwim River.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Quinhagak isn't included
43 in this one?

44

45 MR. SHELDEN: It's in remainder.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: What about Chefnak and
48 Kipnuk?

49

50 MR. SHELDEN: We don't consider that

1 those villages are harvesting fish that are coming into
2 this area. They're harvesting fish that may be bound
3 for northern rivers or for local tributaries or local
4 rivers that are emptying into the sea there.

5
6 And the other thing is that those
7 villages do not accept us as doing subsistence surveys.
8 Last winter they did accept AVCP coming in doing
9 subsistence surveys. And they did a really nice job of
10 getting a nice survey, but that's one year of data, and
11 so it's not included with this.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
14 questions. Mr. Charles.

15
16 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
17 I know Kongiganak. I'm next village from Kongiganak.
18 And some people fish on the Kuskokwim side and some
19 people fish on the ocean side and catch their
20 subsistence fish over there. And is that village
21 counted as Kuskokwim area, too?

22
23 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chair. The village
24 is surveyed. And when we do our surveys, our
25 subsistence surveys, we do ask where the fish were
26 harvested. We try to get an idea of how many fish came
27 from Kuskokwim Bay, from people going into the river,
28 or from people fishing around on the north side. And
29 for the fish that they identify as having been
30 harvested from other areas, the area outside of the one
31 that we're trying to survey for, we don't include those
32 numbers.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.

35
36 MR. CHARLES: And how are these surveys
37 done, with the calendar or by person, because not
38 everybody put their catches down. So some surveyors do
39 some guesses, and how are these surveys done in
40 villages?

41
42 MR. SHELDEN: The calendar we consider
43 to be very important, but probably the most important
44 thing that it does is it helps the subsistence users
45 that like to use it keep track of their catch. And we
46 don't include numbers from the calendar directly into
47 these estimates, but we do try to collect those
48 calendars and keep that information.

49
50 What we really depend on is the door-

1 to-door in-person surveys, or sometimes by telephone
2 where we sit down with people and ask them. And we ask
3 them to look for their calendar, and then they can use
4 that when they're doing those surveys, whether they
5 wish to give them to us or not

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
8 questions. I've got one question. I noticed -- oh,
9 I'm sorry. Go ahead with Mr. Andrew. Go ahead.

10

11 MR. N. ANDREW: When you count these --
12 I just heard him say some of them fish in the ocean.
13 Are those catches added up to the Kuskokwim catch or
14 what do you do with that?

15

16 MR. SHELDEN: Those fish that are
17 harvested outside of the lower end of the river that
18 are not above the lower end of the fishing district at
19 Eek Island, those fish are not included in the
20 Kuskokwim subsistence estimate.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you get that?
23 Are you okay.

24

25 MR. N. ANDREW: Yeah.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead with your
28 -- do you have a.....

29

30 MR. N. ANDREW: Yeah, I'm okay now.
31 Yeah. I think I got it.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I had one question.
34 On the remainder of the Kuskokwim, you just put in 7500
35 to 13,500 salmon. Is that all species or how can you
36 go about differentiating which salmon is -- if I lived
37 in that area, I'd wonder what kind of salmon I was
38 allowed to catch.

39

40 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, sir. For the
41 Kuskokwim River, it's divided by species, and in the
42 remainder area it's not. It's just considered number
43 of fish. Now, we do generate estimates of harvest for
44 each species, but in regulation it's just simply a
45 number of fish that's allocated -- or not allocated,
46 but identified as ANS for that portion. The Kuskokwim
47 River was a bit more of a special case, and that -- I
48 don't know exactly when that division happened, but it
49 hasn't happened everywhere yet.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
2 Ms. Gregory.

3
4 MS. GREGORY: Outside of the Kuskokwim
5 River, where is -- you said from Eek Island on out or
6 what?

7
8 MR. SHELDEN: Yes, ma'am. I mean, of
9 course, we do survey Kongiganak, or I guess I'm saying
10 the name wrong, but we -- and many of those people do
11 go into the Kuskokwim River, but we don't necessarily
12 count the fish that they catch in the bay, unless they
13 identify that they're very close in. So for the
14 Kuskokwim River the estimate is the fish that come out
15 of the river.

16
17 MS. GREGORY: My concern is that some
18 people from Kwigillingok and Kongiganak were arrested
19 for fishing and their nets were taken. And even the
20 fish. Even for one widow who really needs that fish
21 for the winter. When I go on that thing over there,
22 I'm going to talk about it. That's really, really bad.
23 And that's why I wanted to know, how much of the river
24 is your area for watching fishermen. You know, your
25 officers that go around with planes and confiscating
26 nets and fish, I don't think that should be done,
27 because you're not going to feed them. That elder
28 woman, she's raising her children all by herself, and
29 her grandchildren. And I'm very, very much concerned
30 about that.

31
32 MR. SHELDEN: Well, the area that was
33 restricted this year begins at the beginning of the
34 commercial fishing district. If people were fishing
35 below that point or below the points that define that
36 fishing district, they should not have been bothered by
37 law enforcement. If they were above that point during
38 a closed period or if they were using gear that was
39 restricted at the time, then that would have been
40 grounds for confiscation of a net. If they were
41 fishing right in front of the village of Kong, then
42 that's not close enough to the river to be considered
43 part of the river.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We are
46 discussing Proposal 104. Let's keep our discussions to
47 that proposal.

48
49 Any other discussion on proposal or
50 questions on Proposal 104. Mr. Gregory -- Mr.

1 Roczicka. I'm trying to change his name and yours,
2 too. I'm not succeeding too well.

3

4

(Laughter)

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman. You know, these are a pretty important set
8 of numbers in that they are going to be used directly
9 in management and have application in whether or not,
10 for example, commercial openings could be called, and
11 how it, you know, weighs into what you've got coming
12 back in any given year, what's showing versus what's
13 forecasted and so on. Also for later on down the line
14 if it should come to discussions on a possible Tier II
15 situation for our area, or our permitting. These
16 numbers are going to be of pretty high importance. I
17 appreciate the Department putting it forward to try to
18 more accurately reflect the harvest that's out there.

19

20 But I'm really hesitant at this time
21 weighing in on it as a RAC when there's so many
22 questions out there as to how these numbers are arrived
23 at and what their actual effect are going to be. That
24 sheet that I passed out earlier is just a cheat sheet
25 of notes that we're going to be -- questions that arose
26 that we're going to be addressing at the Advisory
27 Committee and the working group meeting later this
28 month, you know.

29

30 Some of the things that come out is
31 that there -- why is the Yukon and Kuskokwim different
32 in how the ranges that are placed here. That
33 determination is different. For the Kuskokwim you go
34 from the low to the mid range and on the Yukon the
35 ranges there is from 1990 to '99, low to the high
36 range. There's a couple of those in there. Do you
37 exclude the lowest and highest year over all to come to
38 your average range that's in there? I believe on the
39 Yukon they also excluded -- and it's in here in a
40 separate proposal. I believe that they excluded years
41 when subsistence restrictions occurred. I don't know
42 if that's the same within the Kuskokwim formula that
43 was arrived at.

44

45 All those questions, we don't know
46 that, and certainly the Staff here probably doesn't
47 have a real handle on it either. But we looked at it.

48

49 So I'm really -- it's such an important
50 one for us to weigh in on, but how can we make an

1 informed yes or no or an agreement with numbers when we
2 don't have that background here. Sot that's where I'm
3 at. I don't know, Mr. Rivard, if you'd have anything
4 to offer us along those lines as a suggestion. I mean,
5 for me it's almost like a -- I'd like to defer action
6 on it, but the Board's going to be acting on it in
7 January. And again this is a State response. The Feds
8 don't take any responsibility for providing for ANS and
9 they won't manage their populations to do it, which is
10 a whole another issue.

11

MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

12

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: I have one more question.
15 What does ANS and vetting mean?

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: ANS is amounts
18 necessary for subsistence.

19

20 MS. GREGORY: And vetting, what is that
21 word?

22

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The what?

23

24 MS. GREGORY: V-E-T-T-I-N-G.

25

26 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

29

30 MR. SHELDEN: Vetting is simply an
31 evaluation. It's a process of going through and
32 verifying whether something is valid or acceptable.

33

34 Mr. Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.

37

38 MR. SHELDEN: I'd just like to point
39 out that I know it's not available in this proposal, in
40 this book, but there will be four options presented.
41 And depending on the range of years that are being used
42 to determine the ANS, the ANS will be slightly. So it
43 may be possible to, if you were to accept this
44 proposal, to examine what those options are at a later
45 date, and then make a recommendation on which option
46 your group would prefer and on what basis.

47

48

49

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
2 of the Council.

3
4 MR. SHELDEN: Or defer.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Council
7 members. Any further discussion on 104, ANS. Mr.
8 Roczicka.

9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I guess
11 just to -- I guess maybe to go on record to some
12 degree, I'd have to make it a qualified motion, but I
13 would move to support the proposal's intent for the
14 review of the numbers, but not necessarily the numbers
15 themselves.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've heard the
18 motion by Greg.

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could you make that very
21 clear? You were talking about something, and you
22 said.....

23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: I support the intent to
25 revise the numbers, but I don't -- not included in my
26 motion is the actual numbers, and it's pending the
27 actual numbers that are placed here. I don't
28 necessarily support those. I need more information to
29 be able to support any actual numbers. I support the
30 intent.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

33
34 MR. RIVARD: I think if your Council
35 chooses, that's what the feedback could be. I don't
36 think you necessarily have to make a motion to that
37 effect. And the State folks are here that are going to
38 be going before the Board, they're hearing your intent
39 already. So I think you just maybe put that on record,
40 your intent, and I don't think it has to be in the form
41 of a motion and an actual recommendation.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
44 of the Council. Mr. Aloysius.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, I support the
47 intent, too.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that the
50 decision of the Council, that we support the intent of

1 the proposal. Any Council members. If not.....
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Aloysius, is that a
4 motion or just a statement?
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, it's just.....
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a statement
9 that we.....
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: He said we don't have to
12 make a motion.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We will
15 support the intent of this motion, not necessarily the
16 numbers.
17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Ask the Council if they
19 support the intent and I'll say, aye.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I guess we can go
22 with what we've got.
23
24 Go ahead with the next proposal,
25 please.
26
27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Didn't we
28 have a motion?
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: There was no second.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, there was no
33 motion.
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: No second.
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
38 Rivard.
39
40 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
41 We're going to go into ones that ONC submitted, so Greg
42 will probably be able to talk to these better. I'll
43 just introduce them and kind of turn them over. The
44 next one is Proposal 107 and that starts on Page 110 in
45 the blue book. And this is to allow subsistence taking
46 of 10 or more king salmon only for drying and cold
47 smoke use in the Kuskokwim river area.
48
49 Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The Proposal 107.
2 Any discussion on 107.

3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where is it?

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Allow subsistence
7 taking of 10 or more king salmon only for drying and
8 cold smoke use in Kuskokwim River area.

9
10 Mr. Roczicka.

11
12 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.
13 And for record I was requested to draft this proposal
14 by my employer, so I'll be abstaining from any vote or
15 action. If you'd prefer, I can step down to the other
16 side of the table, or I can just speak from here and
17 say the same, but I will not be voting.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you speak on
20 this then, Mr. Roczicka.

21
22 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, Mr. Chairman. This
23 proposal came from discussions that I've heard at the
24 State of the Salmon Symposium that AVCP sponsored last
25 spring. And primarily -- or one of the large concerns
26 that came out, Bethel really came under the microscope
27 because of its population size. You know, if you look
28 at the Kuskokwim as far as how the actual harvest
29 occurs, you can figure below Bethel is one-third of the
30 subsistence harvest; Bethel itself is approximately a
31 third of the subsistence harvest; and a third occurs
32 above. However, you know, the concerns that people
33 have with the many people in Bethel that qualify as
34 residents are kind of transient folks, and new to the
35 State. They don't have the traditional background or
36 dependence really when it comes to it, but just the
37 ability to be able to go out and harvest as many fish
38 as they can catch, and big king salmons and all of
39 that, it's just a very attractive thing for them to do.
40 And essentially they're going to get freezer fish, or
41 they are not really prepared to take care of that
42 amount of salmon, and they go looking for people to
43 give it away to, just because they can afford a large
44 boat and big nets.

45
46 So my Council asked me to try to come
47 up with something to try to address that. And the
48 original customary and traditional way of preserving
49 and caring for fish for subsistence is drying and
50 smoking. And folks that want to catch a few that don't

1 have that actual ability I guess to take care of that
2 number of fish or the fish camp to do it in, you know,
3 essentially they're just looking for freezer fish, and
4 they can get those for any time of the year. And 10
5 fish certainly ought to be adequate for that. The
6 drying and smoking for king salmon is also weather and
7 time dependant, primarily in the month of June. And so
8 again people that don't utilize drying and smoking and
9 are looking for freezer fish or hot smoke, whatever,
10 they have the other alternatives of the other fish
11 species and certainly 10 fish would be enough to do
12 that.

13

14 There is a question though it was
15 brought out whether the Board legally has the ability
16 to do that. And in some of my research I found that
17 they actually have a court order that directly does say
18 that they can look at the taking and use and the
19 cultural aspects and were actually required to do so by
20 a court order on the Copper River I believe it was.
21 I'd have to go back and look exactly where.

22

23 But the other thing they have is that
24 they cannot -- the State of Alaska cannot differentiate
25 amongst the users, but they can differentiate amongst
26 use. And the Board of Game has done this in several of
27 their hunts where they put conditions on it that if
28 you're going to be subsistence hunting, that you take
29 the stomach fat, you destroy the trophy value, the meat
30 has to remain on the bone, and different things like
31 that. You've got to bring all the head meat behind.
32 And the horns are the last thing to leave the field.
33 All those different conditions have been put in place.
34 And this is in my mind no different. And, I don't
35 know, maybe even 10 fish is too many.

36

37 The down side of it again is that if we
38 can't -- is that it may put that extra layer of people
39 having to get another piece of paper to catch more than
40 10 fish. But it's kind of like an alternative or a
41 step between wide open and the possible Tier II that
42 has been discussed being imposed for this river. for
43 this river in the prior meeting. So whether we can get
44 there from here, I don't know. But it's a way to try.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members,
47 any comments. Mr. Andrew.

48

49 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
50 Chairman.

1 What about those people that fish for
2 their relatives? Are you going to be allowed only 10
3 fish for several households? The question I've got.
4 You know, the thing is for me, if I fish for my own
5 family, I still have to fish for my two other sisters
6 where they have their own smokehouses. And if I get
7 those 10 fish, do I have to divide three, four ways?
8

9 Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. No, the
14 only time there would be a limit of 10 fish is if you
15 are not smoking and drying them. So it would be as it
16 is right now, there would be no limit on the fish racks
17 and smoke houses.
18

19 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

22
23 MR. ELISON: Mr. Chair.

24
25 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Mr. Roczicka.
26 If it's going to be taken only for drying and smoking,
27 are we not going to fish for our freezers?
28

29 (John Andrew departs)

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: No, you could certainly
34 do that, but for king salmon, it is specific to
35 Chinook, that in order to take more than 10 fish, you
36 would have to be using a fish rack and smokehouse. You
37 could put your 10 fish away in the freezer for kings,
38 but freezer fish can also be gotten later from other,
39 from chums and reds and silvers, too. But it wouldn't
40 preempt you from putting them in the freezer. But to
41 get more than 10, you would have to have a fish rack
42 and smoke house.
43

44 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I don't
45 understand.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Rivard,
48 did you have something.

49
50 MR. RIVARD: Yes. If I may, and it may

1 be in the form of a question. Is it all right to ask a
2 question of Greg? This is just to clarify something.
3 I think he touched on it just now. But what it sounds
4 like is your first -- you would only be allowed to
5 freeze your first nine kings and then the rest would
6 all have to be processed in a traditional way in
7 smoking and drying and all that. That's what it sounds
8 like. So even if you've been a long-time subsistence
9 user, you would still be prohibited to just freezing
10 nine king per year. That's what I'm hearing. Is that
11 a correct interpretation?

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: Actually it says 10.

14

15 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Ten or more, yeah.
16 It says 10 or more, so that means up to nine.

17

18 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Up to nine.

19 Well, yeah, that's a small -- but I guess, yeah, that
20 would be a practical application. But to get more than
21 10, you would have to be drying and smoking fish, yes.
22 And if you wanted more freezer fish, you could get them
23 from other species.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. It doesn't
28 address whether this is individually or per household.
29 And the other question I have is what do you mean by
30 cold smoking?

31

32 MR. ROCZICKA: I thought I did put per
33 household in there, but I guess I did miss that point.

34

35 Cold smoking is just a basic
36 smokehouse. Hot smoke is the one where people put them
37 in there and you have to -- they come out soft.

38

39 MR. ALOYSIUS: You're not smoking it.

40

41 MR. ROCZICKA: The little cheap smoker
42 type of thing that the fish comes out soft and
43 everything. Cold smoking is the basic dry fish that
44 people get from their smokehouses.

45

46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, that's the first
47 time I've ever heard of a smokehouse having cold smoke.
48 Because a smokehouse, you know, is not the correct name
49 for a smokehouse. It's a fish-drying house. And you
50 supplement the flavor of the fish by adding smoke in it

1 once in a while. But most of the time there's heat
2 generated by the wood, and to circulate the air in the
3 smokehouse. And it's not cold smoke. It's warm in
4 there, and the main reason people have smokehouses
5 upriver is because when the weather is bad, we use wood
6 to heat the inside of the smokehouse and add a little
7 smoke wood in it once in a while for the flavor. And
8 so smokehouse really doesn't apply to what the proper
9 use of that building is. And that's the first time
10 I've ever heard of a smokehouse generating cold smoke.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: We also have the (In
15 Yup'ik), so what happens if this is going to be for
16 drying and smoking? What about the other means of
17 fixing our king salmon? We eat it any -- we make (In
18 Yup'ik), too. I feel like that you are telling me how
19 to fix my own food in my own house. I may sound dumb,
20 but to me that you're trying to tell me to get so many
21 fish and how to care or them. And I don't like it.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ms.

24 Gregory. Mr. Rivard.

25

26 MR. RIVARD: I'm somewhat reluctant in
27 a way to point this out, but this would be under State
28 regulations that this would occur, and most folks if
29 they're Bethel residents, legitimate Bethel residents,
30 have been here for at least a year, living in the rural
31 area, would be Federally-qualified users and could just
32 they're fishing under Federal regulations, and this
33 would not pertain to them, so nothing would change
34 really unless it's also done under the Federal
35 regulations. So even if this were to pass in this
36 form, people could just claim, well, I'm going out there
37 fishing under Federal regulations; this doesn't pertain
38 to me. I don't have to do it, because I'm doing it
39 under Federal regulations.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

42 Rivard. Ms. Gregory.

43

44 MS. GREGORY: But nobody knows that. A
45 lot of people don't know whether they're fishing under
46 State or Federal regulations.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
49 discussion on 107. Does the Council feel that you --
50 Mr. Brown.

1 MR. BROWN: Yeah. I'm just wondering,
2 did I hear you there's no limit on the drying out on my
3 fish rack?

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Through the Chair.
8 Yeah, this puts no -- does not establish any limits on
9 smoking, drying, customary and traditional ways of
10 preparing fish. It's a way to try to address a
11 limitation on those who do not have those practices, or
12 who do not practice traditional means of preserving,
13 which would -- although it's not specifically stated
14 that way, that is the intent.

15
16 MR. BROWN: I have one other concern.
17 I sacrifice myself staying the fish camp by the mouth
18 of the Eek River. I harvest subsistence fish for my
19 large family. I support old families on my side, and
20 that's why I ask for that fish rack drying. I include
21 the reds and a few chums when I'm drying cohos.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
24 Brown. Any further discussion on 107.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
29 of the Council. Do you want to support this or not
30 support it. And I promise you'll have a break after
31 the decision.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Just to make this thing
40 get out of our hair, I move that we support Proposal
41 107.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
44 made to support 107 by Mr. Aloysius. Do I hear a
45 second?

46
47 MR. CHARLES: Second.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr
50 James Charles.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I just made the
6 motion to propose -- I mean, to support it because
7 that is the form of motion we have to use, but I'm not
8 going to support it. I'm not going to vote for it. We
9 all seem to feel that we're opposed to it, but for the
10 record we have to show that there was a motion to
11 support, and ultimately and probably we vote it down.
12
13 Thank you.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
16 further discussion on the motion.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, all in
21 favor of the motion say aye.
22
23 (No affirmative votes)
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposing the
26 motion 107 signify by saying nay.
27
28 IN UNISON: Nay.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's have a
31 10-minute break.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: 15.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We'll allow 10 and
36 we'll allow you 6 more.
37
38 (Off record)
39
40 (On record)
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's all
43 the meeting back to order. I think we're going to be
44 giving each item, proposal a time limit of five minutes
45 for discussion by Council members if it's all right.
46 Otherwise we're going to be here all night.
47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: All day.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All day and all

1 night. So we'll be spending five-minute discussion on
2 each one, whether you want to support it or not. And
3 it's up to the Council as to -- but I'm going to be
4 sticking up to that five minutes. When the five
5 minutes are up, we'll change. Okay, Mr. Rivard?

6
7 Call the meeting back to order. We're
8 down to the next proposal, please.

9
10 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
11 next on is Proposal 108 on Page 112 in your blue book.
12 This would require a permit and reporting requirements
13 for all subsistence-caught salmon transported out of
14 the Kuskokwim management area. This was submitted by
15 ONC. Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, do
18 you want to speak on that.

19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 And again I will not be voting on this since my Council
22 requested me to draft and put this proposal in.

23
24 But this has been an increasing level
25 of concern over the past few years in people seeing not
26 only a possible increase in customary trade, because
27 when Kuskokwim king populations were healthy and other
28 areas of the State were getting shut down
29 progressively. We heard a lot of testimony from folks
30 up in the middle and upper river that they're seeing an
31 increase in that. We had people coming to the working
32 group over the past couple year reporting increased
33 concerns on that, and it's referenced in the proposal
34 actually that one guy actually spent the time to go out
35 there and watch the planes leaving, and he saw the same
36 individuals going back and forth from mid June to mid
37 July, three different individuals were mentioned that
38 were carrying 150-pound -- or their total allocation
39 with three baggages of three 50-pound fish boxes back
40 and forth. And there's currently no way of tracking or
41 getting a handle on that to what degree it is really
42 occurring, anything that we can really put on record.

43
44 The working group had asked the Federal
45 managers if there was something they could do. They
46 said that was commerce and it was out of their
47 jurisdiction, so they couldn't put everything in place.

48
49 So this would not put any limit on it.
50 They'd still be able to send their fish out, whatever,

1 but just to start getting some kind of handle on the
2 numbers as to if it is a major problem. And some
3 people do consider it to be quite significant.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And this proposal
6 would require a permit and reporting requirements for
7 all subsistence-caught salmon transported out of the
8 Kuskokwim management area.

9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
13 this, further discussion. Mr. Aloysius.

14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question. Is
16 there a limit to the amount of fish that's involved in
17 that.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

20
21 MR. ROCZICKA: No, there's no limit.
22 We're just trying to get -- there's no limit on
23 subsistence take right, and there's no limit on -- and
24 there is no conditions on the use or where it goes.
25 Once somebody catches it, they can give it away to
26 whoever they want for whatever they want.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: As long as
29 it's.....

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: There's limits on
32 customary trade, there's no limits on anything so long
33 as you're an area resident. You're allowed to take ask
34 much as you want. This does not establish any kind of
35 limitation. It's just trying to get a handle on how
36 many of those fish are actually going out and maybe are
37 being caught under subsistence, but sold for commercial
38 gain in other areas of the State or the country as far
39 as that goes, or other countries as far as that goes.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
42 discussion. Mr. Brown.

43
44 MR. BROWN: I myself staying in a fish
45 camp, I have -- when I'm subsistence harvesting, I had
46 my own limits. I don't go beyond my limit when I'm
47 subsistence harvest.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's address the
50 Proposal 107. Mr. Aloysius, did you have your hand up.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Another question is when
2 it says requirements for all subsistence-caught salmon
3 transported, does that mean from the time when they're
4 raw to they're dry, in that whole system.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. No, it
9 does not apply to any fish that stayed within the
10 region. It's only if somebody is taking them out.

11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: My question is, you
13 know, when you transport salmon out of this area, is it
14 from the dry stage and every other phase in between.

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: It does have to take
17 that into account, because right now people them out of
18 the area that's been brought to our attention, they're
19 frozen. And once they are frozen, they are considered
20 processed fish. And it has to be specific to
21 subsistence, because commercial does have to report
22 their actual numbers already. That's all covered. But
23 this is essentially what some may consider a major
24 loophole, and we have no idea what those numbers are.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
27 Roczicka.

28
29 What is the feeling of the Council on
30 this, for support or oppose. Ms. Gregory.

31
32 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Roczicka, the first
33 paragraph, does that mean if I send out some fish to my
34 relatives in Anchorage, Fairbanks or wherever they may
35 be, I have to have a permit to do that?

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, one
38 last question. Go ahead.

39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Under the
41 current language, yes, it wouldn't. I actually had
42 that brought up before in some previous discussions,
43 and we might want to look at if we can tweak it around
44 to try to address that. But that's where it came in
45 with the processed versus unprocessed, and we may want
46 to also look at making it only applicable during say
47 June through mid July or something like that if we want
48 to focus it in on kings, although if we're going to be
49 doing it, we may as well try to get it for all species,
50 because the chums and the silvers are certainly of

1 concern. But if we can try to work the language so it
2 wouldn't apply to the dry and smoked fish. But, yeah,
3 that's one of the unknowns at present.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: I have one more question,
6 Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, and it
9 will be the last one.

10
11 MS. GREGORY: Greg, if the person from
12 ANChorage who moved from Bethel or this area wants to
13 come and fish for themself, do they have to have a
14 permit then?

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: If they wanted to bring
17 them back, yes, they would. And the other tweak that
18 we're looking at is maybe instead of a permit, just put
19 in a reporting requirement, which could be a form that
20 would be something that's just to all the air carriers.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. What is the
23 wish of the Council on this Proposal 107. Support or
24 not. Mr. Aloysius.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I move we
27 support the proposal.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Second.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
32 by Mr. Aloysius to support 107, seconded by Ms.
33 Gregory.

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: 108.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 108, I'm sorry.
38 Proposal 108. All in favor of the motion signify by
39 saying aye.

40
41 MS. GREGORY: Aren't we going to
42 discuss it? Can I?

43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: We already discussed it.

45
46 MS. GREGORY: I didn't get to discuss
47 it (indiscernible - mic off).

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory, we are
50 now voting, please. All in favor of the motion signify

1 by saying aye.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE:

6

7 MS. GREGORY: Nay.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One nay, the rest

10 yeah.

11

12 Okay. We are down to the next

13 proposal, please.

14

15 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The

16 next one is Proposal 109. It's on the top of Page 113

17 in your blue book. This is customary trade of

18 subsistence-taken fin fish, allow for the sale of

19 subsistence-taken fin fish in the Kuskokwim River area.

20 And it looks like this would also -- basically it's

21 adding a new section to Article 5 of the Alaska code.

22 And it looks like there's a limit of \$500 per year per

23 household for customary trade of subsistence taken fin

24 fish. And this was also submitted by ONC.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've heard the

29 Proposal 109. Any discussion.

30

31 The reason we put a time limit on

32 discussion of each of these proposals is what the

33 Council asked that we do in order for us to get

34 through all the proposal. There's quite a number of

35 them. If we allowed any more time than that, then we'd

36 be working all through the night and part of tomorrow.

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support

43 Proposal 109.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: A motion's been

46 made to support Proposal 109. Do I hear a second. Do

47 I hear a second to the motion to support 109.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I made the

50 motion is to allow for discussion after the second.

1 MR. CHARLES: I'll second the motion.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
4 Charles. Discussion.
5
6 Mr. Aloysius, did you want to discuss
7 this.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Uhn-uhn. (Negative)
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
12 Proposal 109. Mr. Roczicka.
13
14 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Again for the record I will not be participating in the
16 moving just because it was submitted by my employer and
17 I was requested to write it.
18
19 The proposal actually copies the
20 language that's in place for the Norton Sound region,
21 with the exception that Norton Sound has a \$250 limit
22 rather than a \$500 limit on customary trade. And it
23 kind of follows along with the previous proposal, 108,
24 that was put in, that people are seeing a lot more
25 salmon leaving the region. For Bethel specifically
26 there's concern about people that are canning fish and
27 selling them for large profits in other areas, similar
28 to what -- the concern that was raised on the Yukon
29 regarding their dry fish and strips that have been seen
30 sold on the streets of Fairbanks and Anchorage at AFN
31 convention, as well as reports from people from the
32 middle and upper portions of the Kuskokwim saying that
33 there's seeing an increasing number of people coming
34 in. And it also follows a companion proposal, I
35 believe it was put in place for the Yukon although that
36 one had I believe it was \$750 that we had for the
37 Yukon.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
40 discussion, Counsel, about Proposal 109.
41
42 (No comments)
43
44 MS. GREGORY: Question.
45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
47 called for. All in favor of the motion signify by
48 saying aye.
49
50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
2 sign.
3
4 (No opposing votes)
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
7 Next.
8
9 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10 We're going to leave the Kuskokwim area. We're going
11 to go to the Yukon area. And the first one up is again
12 for your information is Proposal 130, which has.....
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's one more
15 proposal, 110.
16
17 MR. RIVARD: Is there?
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That, you know,
20 remove option of gillnet mesh up to eight inches in
21 District 1 of the Kuskokwim.
22
23 MR. RIVARD: Yeah, that's a pretty
24 important one. You're right. I did have that on my
25 other list. You're right.
26
27 So we're back to 110 on Page 114. And
28 this is remove the option for gillnet mesh to be up to
29 eight inches in District 1 of the Kuskokwim River area.
30 And this was submitted by the Kuskokwim River Salmon
31 Management Working Group.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
34 Proposal 110.
35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support
41 Proposal 110.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
44 made by Mr. Bob Aloysius to support Proposal 110. Do I
45 hear a second.
46
47 MR. N. ANDREW: Second. Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
50 Noah Andrew.

1 Discussion. Mr. Aloysius.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question. Who
4 is involved in this remove the option of gillnet mesh
5 to be up to eight inches. Is that.....

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That was
8 proposed.....

9

10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Does that mean that we
11 won't allow gillnets up to eight-inch mesh in District
12 1?

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Working group. Mr.
15 Roczicka.

16

17 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18 I'll switch hats and I'll be speaking as a co-chair of
19 the working group. And it was the working group that
20 did pass this proposal and requested me to draft and
21 put it in.

22

23 It is specific to commercial fishery
24 only. The AAC code that's referenced there, 07.331, is
25 the commercial fishery. It does not affect the
26 subsistence fishery.

27

28 There has been no directed king fishery
29 on the Kuskokwim since 1985 up until I believe in 2007
30 when a proposal came forward to reinstate, allowing up
31 to eight-inch gear, and a potential directed king
32 fishery to occur. The concerns that the working group
33 has is that we feel that the harvestable surplus of
34 king salmon on this river and especially the larger
35 fish that would be targeted by this eight-inch gear is
36 fully allocated for escapement and subsistence needs,
37 and there shouldn't be the ability or a directed king
38 fishery really on this river any more. And in the
39 event that we get a 2004 through 2006 occurrence here,
40 we did have record returns, harvest on those fish could
41 occur with six-inch gear, but we want to protect our
42 larger fish and maybe even some day reinstate that
43 seven, eight-year-old, the older component that was
44 destroyed by the commercial fisheries from their 10
45 years of fishing from 1975 through '85 in many people's
46 minds.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.
49 Although we don't work on commercial fisheries, this
50 has a lot of affect on subsistence fisheries, so that's

1 the reason why we decided to discuss it.
2
3 Any further discussion on 110.
4
5 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew.
8
9 MR. N. ANDREW: It's also going to
10 allow help those smaller king salmon to pass through
11 the eight inches and our escapement may be met finally.
12 We're catching the fish that are going to be able to be
13 spawning up there, these older fish when they're going
14 to spawn and die. And we have more fish return in the
15 process. And I'm hoping that this would continue on to
16 come into our subsistence use.
17
18 Thank you.
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
21 discussion. Any further question and discussion. Mr.
22 Charles.
23
24 MR. CHARLES: So this is for commercial
25 fishing only.
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct.
28
29 MR. CHARLES: Thank you. Call for the
30 question.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that?
33
34 MR. CHARLES: (In Yup'ik) question.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
37 called for. All in favor of the proposal signify by
38 saying aye.
39
40 IN UNISON: Aye.
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed, same
43 sign.
44
45 (No opposing votes)
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
48 Next, please.
49
50 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Now we're going to

1 go to the Yukon.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There we go.
4
5 MR. RIVARD: We're going to start with
6 number 130 on Page 128.
7
8 MR. BROWN: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chair.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew. Mr.
11 Brown.
12
13 MR. BROWN: 111. We skipped 111.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This had to do with
16 sportfishing.
17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page.
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What page is that
21 that we're going to.
22
23 MR. RIVARD: Proposal 130 is on Page
24 128 in your blue book, at the bottom.
25
26 Please mute your phones, anybody on
27 line. We're hearing some scratching noises here.
28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: What page are we on, Mr.
30 Chair.
31
32 MR. RIVARD: We're in the blue book.
33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: Blue book. At page
35 what?
36
37 MR. RIVARD: Page 128 in the blue book.
38 The bottom of Page 128.
39
40 This is now amounts necessary for
41 subsistence use in the Yukon. And this was proposed by
42 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, similar to what
43 you looked at on the Kuskokwim. And Jeff Estenson is
44 here to answer any questions you may have.
45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Jeff.
47
48 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Jeff
49 Estenson, Fish and Game, fall season manager.
50

1 I'd just point out that, you know, you
2 had discussion about this regarding the Kuskokwim.
3 This is along the same lines, same reason, same type of
4 deal, and just leave it at that for you to make
5 recommendations.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on
8 130.

9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move we support
15 Proposal 130.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
18 made to support 130 by Mr. Aloysius. Do I hear a
19 second.

20
21 MR. CHARLES: Second.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
24 Charles.

25
26 Any further discussion, Council
27 members. Mr. James Charles.

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

30
31 I see this ANS for salmon on the Yukon.
32 Is it for Yukon only or Kuskokwim, too? We worked on
33 Kuskokwim already. I see the king numbers are lower on
34 this one and chum numbers are higher. I like that,
35 because on Kuskokwim it's reversed. Thank you.

36
37 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Mr.
38 Charles. Just to clarify, this is for the Yukon only.
39 This is dealing with the harvest information, harvest
40 patterns that we have for the Yukon, and the Kuskokwim
41 is not figured into this.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

44
45 MR. RIVARD: Just to remind the
46 Council, for the one on the Kuskokwim, you just
47 supported the intent to come up with an ANC and you
48 didn't even really vote for it, so it may be something
49 you want to do similar on the Yukon.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
2 of the Council.

3
4 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa, Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.

7
8 MS. KENNER: I was just going to remind
9 the Council, too, that Chris Shelden when he presented
10 information on the ANS process for the Kuskokwim,
11 because of the new methods that were being used for
12 getting to the harvest numbers on the Kuskokwim, those
13 ANS numbers were liable to go up. We don't have that
14 guarantee on the Yukon.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
17 further discussion on Proposal 130. Mr. Roczicka.

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 I am in the same situation with this
22 one that I was in the previous, and I guess I would
23 like to hear more from guys over on the Yukon if
24 they've had the chance to look at these numbers and
25 what kind of changes are going to occur between the old
26 ANS versus the new ones. And basically I understand
27 maybe they -- and can support an intent to take a look
28 at them, but I can't say that I support or not support
29 the numbers that are there.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: My feelings are the
32 same. I think we need to get this to the people that
33 are over there in order to get the numbers in, because
34 we've had complaints about these numbers before. And
35 we could probably agree to the concept.

36
37 What do you think, Mr. Aloysius, you're
38 the proposal maker. Motion maker.

39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: The only reason I make
41 motions to approve is to open up for discussion,
42 because without having a motion to discuss, you're
43 getting nowhere.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes. Any further
46 discussion on this. If you don't mind, Counsel
47 members, we'll handle it the same as the Yukon -- I
48 mean, the Kuskokwim proposal.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: And that is how?

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And that is to.....
2
3 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Polty.
6
7 MR. POLTY: Yeah. I would go along
8 with that, if they put where king salmon number there,
9 put in fluctuation, so we don't have the exact number
10 there.
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, we're not going
13 to agree with this. We're just going to agree to the
14 concept if that's okay with you.
15
16 MR. POLTY: Okay. Fine. Okay. I'll
17 agree on the concept then. Okay. Thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
20 discussion on this? If not, we'll go on to the on to
21 the next.
22
23 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
24 next one is.....
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We do have a motion
27 on the floor though. there was a motion that was
28 seconded.
29
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Would you explain the
31 yes and no of the vote then?
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, the.....
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, go
38 ahead.
39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
41 Chairman. In light of what you just stated, I would
42 offer a friendly amendment to the motion and request
43 unanimously consent that that purpose -- the motion to
44 support the proposal be stated a motion of support of
45 its intent without the numbers.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'll second that.
48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: If you accept it as a
50 friendly amendment, then it's good.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any opposition.
2 Any opposition.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So be it. Next
7 proposal.
8
9 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
10
11 The next proposal is Proposal 131,
12 require pulse protection in the King Salmon Management
13 Plan. And this was the one that was presented to you
14 by Jill Klein yesterday, and I believe she's on line
15 and can answer any questions or provide some discussion
16 for your Council.
17
18 Thank you.
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What proposal is
21 that.
22
23 MS. KLEIN: Good morning everyone.
24 This is Jill Klein.
25
26 MR. RIVARD: Hold on, Jill. Hold on,
27 Jill. Hold on.
28
29 MS. KLEIN: Okay. Sorry.
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Proposal 131 is
32 require pulse protection in the King Salmon Management
33 Plan on the first pulse for the Yukon River.
34
35 Council members. 131. Any discussion.
36 Mr. Roczicka.
37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I would
39 move to support for discussion.
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
42 to support Proposal 131 for discussion. Do I hear a
43 second.
44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
48 Robert Aloysius.
49
50 Council members, any further

1 discussion. Mr. Roczicka.

2 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3 And again I wasn't here yesterday, but I look at who
4 the sponsor of the proposal is, a stakeholder group
5 under the auspices of YRDFA. So with that I have
6 degree of confidence that it's been vetted throughout
7 the river and there's a fair amount of support, but
8 again I'd defer to anybody from the Yukon that may have
9 a different view. Other than that I'd be.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I sit on the YRDFA
12 Board so I could make a comment on this. This was
13 brought before the Board and we decided at the time
14 that it probably would be a good idea to protect that
15 first pulse that has mainly the adult females that are
16 going up to the spawning area. And that was agreed to
17 by the YRDFA Board. And the YRDFA Board is made up of
18 mainly -- in fact they're all Yukon River villages that
19 are on the YRDFA Board. So they agreed to that -- a
20 large percentage of them agreed to this proposal.

21

22 Mr. Aloysius.

23

24 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question.
25 Where do you find the word that says it's protecting
26 the first pulse?

27

28 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Maybe Jill
29 Klein could answer that. She presented it yesterday to
30 your Council. Would you like her to answer that
31 question.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I forgot Jill was
34 on there. Jill, you're on.

35

36 MS. KLEIN: Hi. Thank you. Good
37 morning. This is Jill.

38

39 There was a question about where is the
40 language?

41

42 MR. RIVARD: The language talking about
43 the first pulse.

44

45 MS. KLEIN: Right. So if you recall I
46 had a handout yesterday, and if all of you have that
47 still in front of you and for the new member who's
48 there today. If you'd like to reference that, the
49 language talking about the first pulse was on the first
50 page of the handout yesterday, titled King Salmon Pulse

1 Protection Proposal. The proposal before you in the
2 blue book was more like a placeholder, and it speaks
3 about the background and the problems and the reason
4 why we were looking into formalizing pulse protection,
5 but the exact language had not yet been developed. So
6 that's why it's in the handout for you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

9

10 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

11

12 I just wanted to make sure that elders
13 understand what pulse means. I understand that a pulse
14 does not necessarily mean that there is some fish in
15 the river. I think it would be appropriate for the
16 elders' sake if Fish and Game would explain that.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Jeff.

21

22 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Jeff
23 Estenson, Fish and Game here.

24

25 A pulse is the way we refer to it on
26 the Yukon, is a group of fish that enter the river.
27 Both for the Chinook salmon, fall chum and summer chum,
28 they don't necessarily come in like they do in other
29 places where it ramps up, continuous, steady. They
30 come in in groups, and those groups come in in
31 different times. There's really no rhyme and reason
32 when they come in. It's very erratic. And those groups
33 usually, you know, are one specific stock to the Yukon.
34 For example, the first groups that come in are the
35 border fish going to the farther up reaches of the
36 river. Coming in later they're more of the lower
37 river. So that's what we refer to as a pulse is a
38 group of fish, and there's really no determined amount
39 of time. You know, pulses can range from a couple days
40 to maybe three days, and it can be as many as maybe 30,
41 40,000 fish, you know, to 100,000 fish. It just really
42 all depends. But that's how we define a pulse on the
43 Yukon.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
46 further discussion from the Council. Council members.
47 Any further discussion on Proposal 131.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I'd like to
50 hear from the Yukon representation what their thinking

1 on this is, but I know we're supposed to talk about the
2 agenda item on hand, but I am very concerned about
3 this. Yesterday she talked about it, and we didn't have
4 nothing. And when you talk about something and we're
5 with the time constraints we have, let's not talk about
6 the proposal before it is presented from now on.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
9 discussion on Proposal 131.

10

11 MR. POLTY: Yeah. On this Proposal
12 131, it doesn't say the second pulse, because where
13 would the second pulse fall? Because we had late run
14 and we let the first pulse pass and on the second run
15 we didn't do any much of any subsistence until a week
16 later, so does that mean that second pulse that are
17 coming in that subsistence users will be able to
18 subsistence on the second pulse.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

21

22 MR. RIVARD: Thank you. Mr. Chair.
23 I'm proposing that maybe I read this whole thing that
24 Jill sent out yesterday, this is kind of a half a page,
25 because it answers some of these questions that are
26 coming.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right.

29

30 MR. RIVARD: So maybe we just put this
31 in front of everybody and refresh everybody's memory of
32 what is being proposed.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would you do that
35 then, please. Thank you.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: Okay. This is king salmon
38 pulse protection proposal. And the objective of this
39 of this plan is to provide the Department with
40 guidelines to manage for the sustained yield of Yukon
41 River king salmon. The goal of this plan is to ensure
42 that adequate escapements, both in numbers and quality,
43 are maintained on the spawning grounds to facilitate
44 rebuilding of the run to historical levels. The
45 Department will manage for quality of escapement that
46 provides for full representation of the genetic and
47 phenotypic characteristics of the stock, and shall use
48 the best available data, including preseason run
49 projections, test fishing indices, age and sex
50 composition, subsistence and commercial harvest

1 reports, and passage estimates from escapement
2 monitoring projects to assess the run size for the
3 purpose of implementing this plan.

4

5 So there's four elements to this:

6

7 Number 1. The Yukon River king salmon
8 run usually enters the river in three distinctive
9 pulses of fish. Management of the first pulse of the
10 king salmon run will be based on preseason projections.
11 Management of the second and third pulses will be based
12 on in-season run assessment data.

13

14 Number 2. The Department will manage
15 the first pulse of the king salmon run based on
16 preseason run projections to not allow any harvest
17 from the first pulse when the preseason projection of
18 run size indicates that subsistence harvest will likely
19 be restricted in one or more districts or subdistricts.

20

21 Number 3. Based on the in-season run
22 assessment, the Department will restrict harvest
23 opportunities on the second and third pulses of Yukon
24 River king salmon, as necessary, to provide for
25 escapements and international treaty obligations.

26

27 And number 4. The Department shall
28 distribute reductions in subsistence harvest
29 opportunities equitably among users.

30

31 So that's what this -- the one in the
32 book was a place holder, and the one I just read to you
33 is the specifics now.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
38 Rivard. Ms. Gregory.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I will not
41 support this proposal, because you are trying to let us
42 not fish. If they wouldn't harvest, the subsistence
43 users don't harvest the first pulse, they're going to
44 use their opportunity to get fish for their winter use,
45 because first part of -- the last part of May sometimes
46 they come and we need that sunshine and that good
47 weather to prepare our food, and it's just -- this is
48 subsistence, not commercial, not other thing. Give
49 them that chance, even a day or two. Don't rob them of
50 the opportunity to support themselves.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
2 comments. Mr. Andrew, one more comment. Go ahead.

3
4 MR. N. ANDREW: I agree. (In Yup'ik)
5 So I support that should be subsistence. Mr. Chairman.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. After
10 I've been reading through the proposal to some extent.
11 And I think that -- I mean, recognizing the concern
12 just mentioned by Ms. Gregory and Noah, but this was
13 put together by the users down there, and actually it's
14 more of a protective measure for ensuring that
15 subsistence is provided. And I would refer back also
16 to the State of the Salmon Convention that occurred
17 last spring where we had the folks coming down from the
18 Canadian side, you know, being very appreciative of the
19 efforts and the sacrifices by the people living on the
20 lower river to allow that first group of fish to get
21 through so that they're harvesting. They were happy
22 for 27 fish. They had never gotten 17 fish in
23 practically living memory by the elder ladies that came
24 and spoke at that convention. Before they'd been happy
25 to get like three or four. And since these protections
26 were put into place in practice, whether they were
27 actually in the management plan, but when it was first
28 implemented, it provided for the subsistence needs of
29 those folks up there and it also, if you go on down in
30 who's likely to benefit by protecting that first pulse
31 in its entirety lessens the possibility of restrictions
32 on the second and third ones, so I'm leaning towards
33 supporting this proposal.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: A point of
38 clarification. This is submitted by the Yukon people.
39 It has nothing to do with the Kuskokwim River.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's correct.
42 And if I may ask Jeff, this has been the practice for
43 the last couple seasons anyway, hasn't it, we've
44 protected that first pulse for the last two seasons.

45
46 MR. ESTENSON: Yes. Yes, Mr. Chair.
47 Jeff Estenson, Fish and Game.

48
49 And I was just about to comment that
50 the Fish and Game does have the E.O. authority to do

1 this. And going to the YRDFA preseason meetings, we do
2 discuss this with the stakeholders, the fishermen in
3 the area. So we have the ability to do this, and we
4 have actually -- and as you mentioned, we have done
5 this previous years.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And all the
8 stakeholders on the river as far as we -- the majority
9 of them agree to this prior to the time that this was
10 put into practice.

11

12 Mr. Nick.

13

14 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 Members of the Council. This Regional Advisory Council
16 represents both Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers. It doesn't
17 matter where you're from. We have only two people
18 actually sitting on this because there's other people
19 who are not here. You as Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
20 Regional Advisory Council can deliberate or discuss and
21 make recommendations on both sides of the river. Mr.
22 Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
25 further discussion on this. We need to move ahead.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
32 called for. The motion was to support. All in favor
33 of the motion signify by saying aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
38 sign.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Aye.

41

42 MR. N. ANDREW: Aye.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Make a note there's
45 one.....

46

47 MR. N. ANDREW: There's two, Mr.

48 Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, two. There's

1 two that opposed.

2

3 We are going to the next proposal, Mr.
4 Rivard.

5

6 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
7 have on my list another one that deals with the Yukon
8 River Salmon Management Plan. It's Proposal 132. And
9 this one would prohibit the sale of king salmon from
10 the Kuskokwim [sic] River Drainage unless there's a
11 directed king salmon commercial fishery.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What's this?

14

15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Wait a minute.

16

17 MR. RIVARD: It's the Yukon.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where are you?

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Proposal 132, Yukon
22 King Salmon Management plan.

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Yes. Page 132 in you your
25 blue book, top of the page.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where does it say
28 Kuskokwim River.

29

30 MS. KENNER: It's the Yukon River.

31

32 MR. RIVARD: Did I say Kuskokwim?

33

34 MR. ROCZICKA: You did.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You did.

37

38 MR. RIVARD: Okay. It's on the Yukon
39 River drainage, excuse me. Prohibit sale of king
40 salmon from the Yukon River Drainage unless there's a
41 directed king salmon commercial fishery. And the
42 details are below.

43

44 Thank you.

45

46 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair. This is Pippa.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa, go ahead.

49

50 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 I just wanted to add that this is
2 basically about bycatch. What it's saying is that for
3 king salmon that are harvested in a commercial fishery,
4 for instance the directed chum fishery, they cannot be
5 sold. They must go to subsistence users.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you repeat
8 that?

9
10 MS. KENNER: Yes, Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Gentlemen, could
13 you please listen to this?

14
15 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa Kenner again
16 with OSM. The focus of this proposal is to say that if
17 king salmon are caught during any other commercial
18 fishery, they cannot be sold. They must be given to
19 subsistence users.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

22
23 MS. KENNER: If there's a directed king
24 fishery, they can be sold.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Ms. Gregory.

27
28 MS. GREGORY: I like that idea.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We need a motion
31 for discussion.

32
33 MS. GREGORY: Oh, I move to support.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Move to support,
36 motion's been made to support.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: 132.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Proposal 132. Do I
41 hear a second.

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
46 Aloysius. Any further discussion on this.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MR. CHARLES: Question.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
2 called for. All in favor say aye.
3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
7
8 (No opposing votes)
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
11 Next proposal, please.
12
13 MR. RIVARD: Man, you guys are
14 efficient.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, we are.
17
18 MR. RIVARD: There you go.
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Getting there.
21 Thank you. Yes, sir.
22
23 MR. RIVARD: I'm just looking at my
24 list here. A lot of these don't pertain necessarily to
25 subsistence until we get to number 130 -- well, we
26 probably should -- should we look at this one here?
27
28 MR. ESTENSON: This could have
29 subsistence.
30
31 MR. RIVARD: Yeah. Okay. Mr. Chair,
32 we're going to go to Number 138 in your book. It's on
33 Page 142, the bottom of Page 142. This also again has
34 to do with the Yukon River drainage fall chum salmon
35 management, and this would modify the fall chum salmon
36 management plan trigger point from 500,000 to 400,000
37 fish.
38
39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Which proposal is
42 that? I didn't quite.....
43
44 MR. RIVARD: Number 138, bottom of Page
45 142. Because we have the fall season management here,
46 Jeff Estenson, he can address this issue for your
47 Council.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Council,
50 what is your feeling on 138.

1 MS. GREGORY: I move to accept Proposal
2 No. 138.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
5 made to support Proposal 138 by Mrs. Gregory. Do I
6 hear a second.

7
8 MR. POLTY: Second.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
11 Polty. Evan Polty.

12
13 MR. POLTY: Yes.

14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead. Any
16 discussion on this.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you
21 elaborate, Jeff, please.

22
23 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah, I can give you
24 some information, Mr. Chair. Jeff Estenson with Fish
25 and Game.

26
27 You know, right now the plan stands,
28 the 500,000 fish threshold is a -- this is in the fall
29 salmon management plan for the Yukon. That's the level
30 of fish that we can commercial -- that's where we're
31 allowed to have a commercial fishery, the prosecuted
32 commercial fishery in the Yukon area.

33
34 The way, you know, we do have kind of
35 various levels of abundance and plans for when we take
36 action with the different fisheries. We have a
37 drainagewide escapement goal right now, a VEG for fall
38 chum for the Yukon of 300,000 to 600,000 fish. So when
39 our abundance goes below 300,000 fish, subsistence
40 fishing is closed down. Anywhere between 300,000 to
41 let's say 400 to 450, anything below that in our in-
42 season run projections, we may take some action to the
43 commercial fisheries -- or the subsistence fisheries,
44 excuse me. We may, you know, reduce fishing time in
45 any one of the districts. We may pull periods, do
46 pulse protection, anything like that. Anything above
47 500,000 fish, then, you know, basically everybody, all
48 the districts are on their full regulatory subsistence
49 schedule, maybe even liberated, and we're allowing
50 commercial fishing on the surplus.

1 In 2006 -- or, no, excuse me, in 2010
2 the Board of Fish reduced this number, this threshold
3 from 600,000 to 500,000 fish. Okay. And the idea was
4 that, you know, we provided at least up to 300,000 fish
5 for escapement, and then there was enough for ANS, the
6 amounts necessary for subsistence for fall chum, and
7 then a little bit of buffer in between when we can
8 commercial fish. This buffer was kind of there to make
9 sure also that we were able to get our escapements
10 throughout the whole drainage. It gave us that little
11 extra fish to do that, get fish up in the Chandalar and
12 get fish to the border, the Tanana, and to the
13 Porcupine.

14
15 What this proposal is seeking to do is
16 to reduce that. And what the proponent is saying is
17 that our sonar counts and our run assessment at the
18 sonar is basically what we base our projections on for
19 the Yukon. And the proponent is saying is that this
20 project has been off in a number of years, that you
21 typically under-estimate. So I think what the
22 proponent is trying to do, he's saying that there's a
23 lot of foregone commercial harvest because of our, you
24 know, precision at the sonar base run assessment at
25 Pilot Station. So what he's trying to do is to lower
26 the threshold to make up for the foregone harvest.

27
28 So what's being lost here essentially,
29 if this were adopted was that buffer zone of 100,000
30 fish that we use to make sure that, you know, because
31 of the imprecision of our sonar estimates, that we're
32 not cutting into subsistence, but we're also
33 distributing our escapements through the drainage.

34
35 And I hope that makes sense and I
36 didn't confuse everybody, because if I did, I
37 apologize.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
40 discussion on 138. Council. You've got your fingers
41 up?

42
43 MR. CHARLES: No. No.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could you explain what
48 you mean by modify the Fall Chum Salmon Management
49 Plan?

50

1 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could you explain what
4 you mean by modify the Fall Chum Salmon Management Plan
5 trigger point from 500,000 to 400,000 as follows? What
6 do you mean by trigger point? Is that if you get
7 400,000 you can allow commercial fishing?

8

9 MR. ESTENSON: Yes. Mr. Chair. Let me
10 just clarify maybe. Right now we need 500,000 fish and
11 at the beginning of the season we base that on our
12 preseason projection, and then as we progress in the
13 season we start switching to in-season assessment based
14 on Pilot Station sonar. So regardless, through the
15 season we need a projection or some sort of indication
16 that we have at least 500,000 fall chum before we can
17 prosecute a fall chum directed commercial fishery.
18 Anything below that and we're not allowed to commercial
19 fish. What this proposal is seeking to do is to lower
20 that threshold from 500,000 to 400,000.

21

22 I'll remind you that the Board did this
23 already in 2010. We reduced it from 600,000 to
24 500,000.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

27

28 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 Again this is one of those areas where
31 I sure wish I could get the input from the actual
32 effect that this might have from a subsistence
33 perspective from fishermen over there. And I fully
34 recognize what Mr. Nick said, that we vote on issues
35 for both drainages. I'm very aware of that all the
36 time.

37

38 But I guess my question to the
39 Department would be, does this raise any red flags in
40 the management area as far as the escapement concerns
41 and that extra 100,000 fish that according to the
42 author of this proposal is saying is being wasted in
43 over-escapement?

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Jeff.

46

47 MR. ESTENSON: Mr. Chair. Mr.

48 Roczicka. Jeff Estenson here.

49

50 What this -- right now, you know, this

1 buffer zone that we have, this 500,000, what this
2 proposal will do, it will lower the threshold.

3

4 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct.

5

6 MR. ESTENSON: Currently that -- and
7 we're not -- at this time Fish and Game doesn't have an
8 official stance on this, but at this time right now
9 that buffer does aid, or it goes a long ways to
10 increasing the probability that we will meet all of our
11 escapement goals throughout the drainage. So we have a
12 drainagewide escapement goal, which is 300,000 to
13 600,000 fish, but then we also have individual
14 tributary escapement goals. Having that extra 100,000
15 fish between 400 and 500,000 increases the probability
16 that we will meet each one of those goals, because, you
17 know, every year, even though you get the -- you reach
18 the bottom end of the escapement goal, the distribution
19 between the different areas may be plus or minus some.

20

21 In terms of the commercial fishery, we
22 have had big runs in the past where we have left some
23 foregone commercial harvest. And, you know, some of it
24 could be in the 2000 where there wasn't a strong market
25 for the fall chum, so people weren't out fishing. You
26 know, also now it could be a possibility that we don't
27 have three buyers in the area any more. We have one
28 buyer.

29

30 But also, you know, as the proponent I
31 think is trying to make a point here is because of our
32 imprecision at Pilot Station, sometimes we under-
33 estimate the run and as such we do potentially leave
34 some commercial harvest on the table.

35

36 But I think that, you know, the first
37 thing to look at with this is by lowering this
38 threshold could potentially reduce the possibility of
39 being able to distribute, you know, escapement
40 throughout the drainage.

41

42 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka, go
45 ahead.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: To follow along that
48 line, and then -- it wouldn't trigger subsistence
49 closures any sooner? I'm just -- as far as your -- I'm
50 not asking you for your ANR.

1 MR. ESTENSON: No, and I can answer it.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: I know that doesn't come
4 until December, hopefully by the first of December so
5 we can see that for the AYK regions, but that's my main
6 concern I guess is that it doesn't lead into triggering
7 subsistence closures.

8

9 MR. ESTENSON: Mr. Chair. Mr.
10 Roczicka. You know, if we were teetering right along
11 that edge, and because of our imprecision, you know, at
12 Pilot, there's a possibility that we could -- and the
13 harvest pattern I should say in the Yukon is such as
14 that most of the commercial fishing occurs in the lower
15 river, and obviously those are the first group of fish
16 coming in. The majority of the subsistence harvest
17 occurs upriver, up around the Fort Yukon District 5.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And on the coastal
20 areas.

21

22 MR. ESTENSON: So the potential is
23 there in a lower abundance year where, because of the
24 imprecision at Pilot Station, which is our number 1
25 assessment tool, that we could make an error, thinking
26 we have more fish than we do, and then find out that
27 we're not as good as we are, and then we would have to
28 basically commercial fishing, and if we were, you know,
29 let's say in danger of not making escapement, we might
30 have to take some action in the subsistence fishery.
31 So, yes, lowering this could potentially have an effect
32 on subsistence.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I purposely am
35 going to vote against this, because I like the idea of
36 having that 100,000 buffer in there. And I think it's
37 good management practice to also have a buffer in
38 there, so I'm going to be voting against this.

39

40 Any further discussion, Council
41 members.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 MR. N. ANDREW: Question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
48 called for. All in favor signify by saying aye.

49

50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
2 sign.
3
4 IN UNISON: Aye.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Opposition, except
7 for one support, right? One support, the rest oppose.
8
9 Thank you. We have time for one more.
10 Mr. Rivard.
11
12 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 Proposal 139 on the top of Page 145. This is to align
14 Yukon subsistence regulations in District 1 through 3
15 with current management practices, adjusting closures
16 around commercial fishing periods.
17
18 Now, currently salmon may not be taken
19 for subsistence 18 hours before, during, and 12 hours
20 after commercial salmon fishing periods in Districts 1
21 through 3 through July 15th. And what this is
22 proposing is that this would allow salmon to be taken
23 for both subsistence -- for subsistence during
24 commercial fishing periods by emergency order. In
25 other words, you could allow subsistence and commercial
26 fishing to be taking place at the same time. Okay.
27
28 Once again, when a commercial fishery
29 is called, subsistence is closed 18 hours before,
30 during, and 12 hours after the commercial fishery.
31 And this proposal is to allow for concurrent, same time
32 fishing for both subsistence and commercial fishing.
33
34 Thank you.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And this was
37 proposed by Department of Fish and Game.
38
39 MR. RIVARD: Yes. That's correct
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.
42 Mr. Aloysius.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Just for discussion
45 purposes, I move we support this proposal, Proposal
46 139.
47
48 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made

1 by Mr. Robert Aloysius to support this proposal.
2 Seconded by Mr. Roczicka.

3
4 Discussion, Council. Ms. Gregory.

5
6 MS. GREGORY: Right now what's your
7 closure hours during and before -- I mean, before and
8 after?

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Jeff.

11
12 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Jeff
13 Estenson here.

14
15 Currently for the summer season in the
16 lower river, Districts 1, 2 and 3, it's 18 hours
17 before, during, and 12 hours after a commercial
18 fishery.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: If that is the case, why
21 put it here then. If it's already happening, why is it
22 here then.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

25
26 MR. ESTENSON: Mr. Chair. I think the
27 intent of this regulation is to have them concurrently,
28 both the commercial periods and the subsistence
29 periods.

30
31 And in a nutshell, really this is just
32 a way of conserving kings. Right now as it is, when
33 the fishermen are out commercial fishing, they're also
34 harvesting kings incidentally. And those are being
35 taken home for personal use.

36
37 During that commercial closure, when
38 that's done, then there's a subsistence opening, and
39 then people are going back out again when they have
40 openings for kings, and they're catching more kings.
41 What this does is it's basically doing two things at
42 once. Your subsistence harvesting kings, and you're
43 also commercial fishing. And then this in essence
44 would be reducing the amount of time that you would be
45 subsistence fishing. This is just allowing less
46 pressure on the kings during times of conservation.

47
48 And also another thing, too, is that,
49 you know, there is subsistence closures around
50 commercial openings. Well, you know, part of the

1 problem with maybe trying to provide more opportunity
2 to commercial harvest when the runs are big, is that we
3 have to give priority to the subsistence fishermen. So
4 the more commercial openings you have, the less time
5 there is for subsistence fishing. And that's not going
6 to happen. We're just not going to have as many
7 commercial openings. This allows us, you know, know,
8 particularly in the summer season when we have abundant
9 summer chum and we have conservations for kings, this
10 would allow us to fish more, and then also kind of be
11 able to do -- take some pressure off the kings by
12 allowing us to do our subsistence fishing, because
13 they're catching kings incidentally to the summer chum
14 directed fishery, and then it just kind of relieves the
15 pressure on the kings.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: I cannot in good faith
20 support this, because where is the protection and the
21 enforcement of making sure that, you know, I'm fishing
22 commercially over here and my brother's fishing
23 subsistence over here, and he dumps all his
24 subsistence-caught chums into my boat, and then he
25 gives me back the kings that he cannot sell. So it's
26 just opening up a can of worms.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any response to
29 that, Jeff?

30

31 MR. ESTENSON: Not at this time. I'd
32 have to think about that. But, you know, I mean, one
33 way is to have, you know, folks mark -- if they're
34 subsisting fishing, they would have to mark their fish
35 somehow.

36

37 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Ms.
40 Pippa. Is that you.

41

42 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair. Thank you.
43 This is Pippa Kenner with OSM.

44

45 I think the thing -- one of the
46 important things for the Council to note about this
47 proposal is that number 1 it's basically to allow the
48 Department flexibility, more flexibility written into
49 the management plan to open and close when necessary.
50 And, two, it's written in such a way that it can only

1 offer more subsistence opportunity. It's not intended
2 to take opportunity away, but it can allow for
3 additional subsistence fishing time.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.
6 Mr. Roczicka.

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 I've got a question that's kind of
11 directly along those lines. You know, in reading it at
12 face value, I was looking at supporting it, because I
13 saw it as an increased subsistence opportunity that is
14 not there. But Mr. Estenson's comments, and maybe I
15 misheard him or he misspoke, but I heard him say that
16 this will lessen the amount of subsistence opportunity
17 that takes place, because by allowing them to
18 commercial fish -- I mean, to subsistence fish during a
19 commercial opening, you would not have to call another
20 opening after the commercial period to allow for
21 subsistence.

22
23 MR. ESTENSON: Correct.

24
25 MR. ROCZICKA: And I think maybe I --
26 so that would be lost opportunity there to be able to
27 go out specifically, and you were trying to say that
28 maybe it would be less time out there that they would
29 need to be out there, but now when you start saying
30 that you're going to take away, if you're going to take
31 away a subsistence opening to allow for the subsistence
32 harvest during a commercial opening. And I'm not sure
33 if I want to go there to support something like that.

34
35 MR. ESTENSON: They're going to be on a
36 schedule for the subsistence fishery, so it's not like
37 it's going to be like they're going to be open during
38 the commercial and then they'll go ahead and be able to
39 subsistence after that. They're going to have a
40 scheduled time when they can fish for subsistence. And
41 the idea is to try to get them aligned with that so
42 that they're basically subsistence fishing while
43 they're commercial, because there's going to be people
44 that are commercial that are going to turn right around
45 and go out and subsistence fish, and then that right
46 there, you're going to be having incidental harvest of
47 kings when you're commercial fishing for kings [sic].
48 There is going to be some of that.

49
50 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Chum.

1 MR. ESTENSON: When you're -- I mean,
2 I'm sorry, when you're commercial fishing for chum. So
3 what this is doing is essentially eliminating double
4 dipping, or fishing twice for the fish. If I'm out
5 commercial fishing and I'm also fishing with
6 subsistence, then subsistence has just got their
7 opportunity to go fishing. Correct? Because they're
8 open at the same time. So subsistence people are
9 fishing the same time that commercial.

10
11 If we just have a commercial opening
12 for summer chum, then there's also being summer chum --
13 or there's also being kings that are being harvested at
14 the same time. Those are being taken home for
15 subsistence personal use. Okay. But then after that
16 we're also opening again and those people may turn
17 right back around and go out and do their subsistence
18 fishing.

19
20 If we have them open at the same time,
21 then potentially while I'm out there commercial for
22 subsist -- or when I'm commercially fishing for summer
23 chum, I'm also catching my kings and I don't need to go
24 back out again. Does that make sense? In essence,
25 when you're commercial fishing for summer chum, there
26 is some subsistence harvest of Chinook going on,
27 because people are incidentally capturing king salmon.

28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: I understand all of
30 that. I follow you all the way up, but what about
31 people that don't have a commercial permit? And to me
32 it's putting subsistence in a direct competition with
33 commercial, and your catch of -- when you're going out
34 for subsistence, you know, it's the least adverse
35 impact application and so on. You're lessening the
36 subsistence, however, and you're requiring people to go
37 out there and fish at the same time as the commercial
38 fishermen are there. I'm seeing it putting it into
39 competition.

40
41 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. If I
42 could maybe clarify that. I don't think this proposal
43 intends that you cannot have one separate from the
44 other. Commercial -- or subsistence fishing for kings
45 is going to occur X amount of times depending on what
46 Steve Hayes, the summer manager, determines that's
47 what's allowable, whether they're on a schedule,
48 whether it's a reduced schedule, or whatnot.

49
50 But what I think this proposal is

1 trying to do, that is, if we do want to commercial
2 fish, maybe five periods out of the summer they can run
3 concurrently, which we are doing in some -- we have
4 done in the past year, so that we're both allowing
5 subsistence and commercial, that they happen at the
6 same time. And over the long run that's going to
7 potentially reduce the amount of subsistence fishing
8 time. In other words, keeping them separated.

9

10 I think the way to think about it is
11 that if you can -- you know, again people are catching
12 king salmon incidentally when they're commercial
13 fishing for summer chum. Those are being taken for
14 subsistence. People are meeting their subsistence
15 needs in some aspects by commercial fishing for summer
16 chum, because there are some being taken. Okay. When
17 you keep them separate, then you're increasing people
18 fishing for the kings when they can separated, but when
19 you're doing them at the same time, then that is
20 potentially less time to have another complete separate
21 opener just for targeting the Chinook. And I guess
22 that's what the intent of this proposal is.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One more remark.
25 Go ahead.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, there was a
30 motion and a second.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Call for question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
35 called for. All in favor of the motion to support
36 signify by saying aye.

37

38 (No affirmative votes)

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All who oppose
41 signify by saying nay.

42

43 IN UNISON: Nay.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Unanimously. We
46 are breaking, recessing for lunch. And since it takes
47 a little time for the restaurants to get to us at time,
48 let's reconvene at 1:30. Give us an hour and a half
49 for lunch. Okay. We'll recess until 1:30.

50

1 (Off record)
2
3 (On record)
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Come back to order.
6 Number 140.
7
8 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don
9 Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management.
10
11 The next one on the list is Proposal
12 No. 140, and it's on Page 146 in your blue book. And
13 this will revert back to a windows only fishing
14 schedule in the Yukon River.
15
16 The season starts out.....
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Before we get to
19 that, Mr. Rivard, could we -- you know, under that
20 Proposal 133 where it says require six-inch or smaller
21 mesh gillnets, I know this is -- I don't know what that
22 goes under, but that has a lot of effect on our
23 subsistence, too. It's Proposal 133.
24
25 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Mr. Chair.
26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, this is for
28 chum or is that for Chinook.
29
30 MR. RIVARD: I could read what it says
31 in the book here.
32
33 Proposal 133, which is on Page 133 in
34 your book, the middle of the page. It says, allow for
35 a directed chum salmon commercial fishery in Districts
36 1, 2, and 3 in the Yukon area during times of king
37 salmon conservation efforts using five-and-one-half-
38 inch or smaller mesh size.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And that's just for
41 chum?
42
43 MR. RIVARD: Yes, they're talking about
44 a directed chum salmon fishery there.
45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
47 I guess we don't -- all right. Thank you. We use that
48 anyway, so go ahead to the next one that you were going
49 to. I'm sorry.
50

1 MR. RIVARD: Okay. Very good. Again
2 it's Proposal 140 on Page 146 in your blue book. This
3 would revert back to a windows only fishing schedule on
4 the Yukon River.

5
6 Currently the season starts out with a
7 subsistence fishing schedule and once a commercial
8 fishing is called, then the subsistence fishery is
9 opened seven days a week unless it's closed because of
10 a commercial fishery as we've talked about previously,
11 18 hours before, during, and 12 hours after a
12 commercial fishing, there's a subsistence closure.

13
14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
17 Rivard. Council. Any discussion on Proposal 140.

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Jeff, could you
22 elaborate on this proposal, please.

23
24 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Jeff
25 Estenson.

26
27 I'll just tell you what the regulations
28 are, much like what Don just said. You know, when we
29 enter the season, beginning of the season for the
30 summer season under summer regulations, District 1, 2,
31 and 3 is on a schedule, and it's implemented whenever
32 the manager, Steve Hayes, decides to do it. This year
33 I think it was the 31st. By emergency order we can
34 tweak that schedule, you know; i.e. pulse protection,
35 shortening periods, canceling periods like we did with
36 Chinook conservation. But once we do allow commercial
37 fishing in Districts 1, 2, and 3, then that schedule
38 goes to seven days a week, except for, as we mentioned,
39 18 hours before, during, and 12 hours after a
40 commercial period.

41
42 And I believe what this proposal is
43 trying to do is to maintain that two-36 hour periods
44 per week regardless of whether you're commercial
45 fishing or not. And if I've got that wrong, so be it,
46 but I think that's what -- yeah, for 140, that's what I
47 understand that this proposal is seeking to do. Unless
48 I'm wrong. Let me know.

49
50 What will be done if nothing -- what

1 will happen if nothing is done, we will continue to
2 have seven days a week fishing in the Lower Yukon. You
3 know, the Board established this regulation. As soon
4 as there's a commercial opening, the Department throws
5 the windows out the window. So essentially we go off
6 the schedule two-36-hour periods per week, and it
7 reverts to the 18 hours before and 12 hours after a
8 commercial period.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Need a motion.

13

14 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Just to put a motion on the floor, move to support
16 Proposal Number 140.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
19 to support Proposal 140 by Greg Roczicka. Do I hear a
20 second.

21

22 MR. CHARLES: Second. Mr. Chairman.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
25 James Charles.

26

27 Any further discussion. Mr. Roczicka.

28

29 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
30 Again without knowing the extent and absent any input
31 from the area fishermen over there on how this might
32 affect them, on its fact it appears to me that it would
33 re-instate some more restrictive limitations on
34 subsistence users. So at present I don't feel inclined
35 to support the proposal myself.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
38 discussion on this. Ms. Gregory.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. (In Yup'ik)
41 Revert back to windows only fishing schedule in the
42 Yukon River as follows, and then you said repealed with
43 this law. So can you tell me what's going on?

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
46 discussion on this.

47

48 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

49

50 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Jeff

1 Estenson, Fish and Game.

2

3 So I guess the question is, again, like
4 I said, what this proposal's intending to do is to
5 eliminate the once the commercial fishing begins, that
6 it goes to seven days a week and to maintain regardless
7 of whether there's commercial fishing or not, allowing
8 two-36-hour subsistence periods per week in Districts
9 1, 2, and 3. So in essence what that would do then is
10 that, you know, not only would there only be two 36-
11 hour periods allowed, if somehow there was commercial
12 fishing in there, then potentially that could -- you
13 know, the second part of this regulation closed 18
14 hours before, during, and after, then, you know, not
15 only are they going to be closed in between the open
16 periods, but if there's a commercial period, then there
17 could be additional subsistence closure.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
20 discussion from Council. Any further discussion from
21 Council. Mr. Andrew.

22

23 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
24 Chairman. I don't know how your windows is scheduled
25 in Yukon. It's now percentage of where Kuskokwim. If
26 when you open the commercial periods from Bethel on
27 down, it takes about a couple days for that time
28 period. And when you open the subsistence schedule up
29 there two days late, one and a half later, there's no
30 fish. That part of the area the commercial fishermen
31 has caught the fish that was swimming up there.
32 Therefore we end up catching nothing. That's what you
33 guys got to get that into your thinking packet there.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This doesn't
36 address the Kuskokwim. It addresses the Yukon River.

37

38 Any further discussion on Proposal 140.

39

40 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.

43

44 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. I like to
45 hear from Yukon people more than Kuskokwim this time,
46 because it's their area, and that would help us to
47 decide which way to go. If the Yukon people say
48 something about this proposal. Even Alex is from
49 Yukon, too. If he's allowed, maybe he would say
50 something, too, or these people.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
4 discussion on Proposal 140. Question called for? Go
5 ahead.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I guess
8 I'd just add to my earlier reservations that I had
9 also. This proposal overall is like they're upriver,
10 downriver issue, and it's something I believe that
11 they're working out and coming to their own consensus
12 through the YRDFA process, and the other groups that
13 they have over there addressing it. And so it to me is
14 even another reason not to support it right here. It's
15 appropriate for those folks over there to work it out.
16 I see that as just -- it's an additional restriction on
17 subsistence.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This has never come
20 before the YRDFA people, or has it been discussed in
21 the user groups.

22

23 MR. ROCZICKA: That's where it belongs.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Has it, Jeff?

26

27 MR. ESTENSON: I'm sorry. Say that
28 again, Mr Chairman?

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I said this hasn't
31 come before YRDFA or has it been discussed by any other
32 user group on the Yukon River?

33

34 MR. ESTENSON: I'm not aware if it's
35 being discussed. I'm sure it's being -- it will be
36 discussed at various AC's prior to the Board meeting,
37 and I'm not aware of it having been or will be
38 discussed a YRDFA meeting.

39

40 MR. ROCZICKA: Ready for the question

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Question's called
43 for. All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

44

45 (No affirmative votes)

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed by the
48 same sign.

49

50 IN UNISON: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Proposal to support
2 140 is denied. Next proposal.

3

4 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 Proposal 141 is on the next page, the
7 top of Page 147. And this is very similar to 139,
8 allow for a concurrent subsistence/commercial fishing
9 periods in Districts 1 through 3 of the Yukon River
10 area. And this was submitted by the Eastern Interior
11 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

12

13 Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council. Greg.

16

17 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Given
18 that explanation, I would move we take no action on
19 Proposal 141 due to our action on 139. Am I correct in
20 that assumption that they're essentially asking for the
21 same thing, and we've been through that discussion.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I agree with
24 Mr. Roczicka.

25

26 MR. ROCZICKA: It's a motion.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's a motion on
29 the floor to support -- there was a motion on the
30 floor.....

31

32 MR. ROCZICKA: The motion is for no --
33 Mr. Chairman. The motion was for no action due to the
34 action on a previous proposal.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. There's a
37 motion on the floor that's been seconded. Was it
38 seconded.

39

40 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: By Mr. Charles. To
43 take no action on 141.

44

45 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
48 discussion.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Can you give

1 me how my vote is going to be determined. Yes or no.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If you vote to take
4 no action then -- could you please restate your motion.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I moved
7 to take no action on Proposal 141, because we've been
8 through this discussion already on Proposal 139 I
9 believe it was. And so all the same pro and con
10 arguments all apply. So it's no action on this
11 proposal. And we voted in opposition, we voted to
12 oppose proposal 139.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So if you want to
15 take no action, the vote would be yes.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And to take action
20 on it, the vote would be yes -- no. Okay. Is that --
21 let's try that again. Okay. In order for -- the
22 motion was to take no action on Proposal 141. If you
23 agree to the motion, there would be no action on 141.
24 So if you vote in the affirmative. If you voted no,
25 then we would take action on 141. That's correct.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
30 called for. All in favor of the motion signify by
31 saying aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
36 sign.

37

38 (No opposing votes)

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.

41 Next.

42

43 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44

45 The next one that's pertinent to your
46 Council would be Proposal 143, and that is on Page 148.
47 This one is dealing with fishing periods and seasons,
48 and it's requesting to remove restrictions during the
49 subsistence fall chum season in Districts 1, 2 and 3.
50 And this is submitted by.....

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Gene Sandone.
2
3 MR. RIVARD: Gene Sandone. Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council. What is
6 the feeling of the Council on this proposal.
7
8 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move to --
9 is it support or accept?
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Support.
12
13 MS. GREGORY: Support Proposal 143.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
16 to support 143 by Ms. Gregory. Do I hear a second to
17 the motion.
18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Greg
22 Roczicka.
23
24 Any further discussion. Any further
25 discussion on Proposal 143. Mr. Roczicka.
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. I'd like to
28 hear the Department's treat on how this would affect
29 in-season management actions for subsistence.
30
31 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah, Mr. Chair. Jeff
32 Estenson, Fish and Game.
33
34 You know, if we enter the fall season
35 and we're not commercial fishing, we would probably
36 have some concerns for the fall chum. And we, you
37 know, might instill -- if we're not commercial fishing,
38 we might implement this regulatory schedule here. What
39 it does essentially is it allows -- so not necessary
40 for concern for fall chum, but if we're just not
41 commercial fishing. And what this does is it allows,
42 spreads out the harvest a little bit. We have
43 implemented this schedule in a few years where we did
44 have concerns for fall chum in I believe it was 2010,
45 '09.
46
47 Essentially what the proponent's saying
48 is that there's very little fall chum that are
49 subsistence harvested in the lower river. And compared
50 to the entire drainage, that is true. But taking away

1 this and not allowing us to implement potentially
2 would, you know, just take away a conservation measure
3 we might have if we did have concerns for fall chum by
4 essentially allowing subsistence fishing seven days a
5 week.

6

7 And also a reminder, too, that the
8 remaining districts of the Yukon River, well, most of
9 them with the exception of 5D and the coastal district,
10 to have a subsistence regulatory schedule.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
13 further discussion, Council.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This proposal is to
18 restrict gillnets to 30, is that the one?

19

20 MR. ALOYSIUS: No. No.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Open Yukon District
23 5D from July 4th to 18th?

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

26

27 MR. RIVARD: Proposal 143 on the top of
28 Page 148.

29

30 MR. ALOYSIUS: 143.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I keep referring to
33 this.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: That's why I'm not
36 referring it.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. I've got to
39 get rid of this thing here and start using the blue
40 book.

41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: The same thing
43 yesterday, too.

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 143. Remove the
48 restrictions during the subsistence fall chum season in
49 Districts 1, 2, and 3 of the Yukon area as follows.
50 Insert the following underlined language within 5 AAC

1 0.210. Fishing seasons and periods. Under (b)(2)
2 Districts 1 and 3, two 36-hour fishing periods per week
3 during the summer season only.

4
5 Any further discussion on this. Mr.
6 Roczicka.

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9 I would still, as with so many of these proposals, and
10 without knowing what and hearing from the fishermen
11 there how this is actually going to affect them, I'm
12 again quite uncomfortable with saying support or not.
13 But I guess in that area of doubt, and nobody else, you
14 know, nobody here has anything to offer on changing my
15 mind, I'd be hesitant with messing with what's there.
16 And I'll probably vote in opposition to it without
17 seeing an actual benefit or hearing from the fishermen
18 themselves. I don't know if it's something that's
19 been discussed through the groups over there.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, it hasn't been
22 discussed.

23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: I hasn't. Yeah.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This is a new
27 proposal. It hasn't been discussed.

28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: I would as soon not mess
30 with it myself, and probably vote in opposition.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: I have a question. You
35 have two chum runs in the Yukon, right?

36
37 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Through the
38 Chair. That's correct. And it's basically timing with
39 the summer chum run, that's the summer chum season is
40 considered July -- or June 1st through July 15th.
41 After that we started counting it as fall chum.

42
43 And the difference is basically
44 morphology. The fall chum tend to be bigger in size,
45 higher fat content, but also stocks, too, and what area
46 of the drainages they go to. And then temporally the
47 fall chum come in after the summer chum.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: What the restrictions on
50 the fall chum right now?

1 MR. ESTENSON: What's the restrictions
2 on the fall chum?

3
4 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. (Indiscernible -
5 mic off) says remove restrictions on the fall chums.

6
7 MR. ESTENSON: Well, what the proponent
8 is referring to as restrictions is the regulatory
9 schedule when there's no commercial fishing for the
10 fall season, after the 16th. So if we do not
11 commercial fish in the lower river, then the regulatory
12 schedule for subsistence would be two 36-hours a week.
13 And what this proponent is trying to do is remove that
14 so that regardless of whether we're fishing or not,
15 commercial fishing or not, subsistence would be open
16 seven days a week in Districts 1, 2, and 3.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
21 discussion. Mr. Roczicka.

22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
24 I know this maybe sounds a little bit in contradiction
25 to what I said previously regarding other proposals,
26 but I'm also recalling back to a previous life and
27 previous generation, through the 90s and so forth,
28 where Yukon fall chum were a matter of a significant
29 conservation concern. And if I had my druthers, I'd
30 defer taking a position on it, because I really don't
31 know what it means to folks over there, and rather let
32 the Advisory Committees and the fishermen weigh in on
33 it. I guess I haven't heard anything to support it
34 yet, to move me to support it.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have a
37 remark to say? Did you have a remark, I noticed you
38 had your.....

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
43 discussion, Council.

44
45 (No comments)

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
50 called for. All in favor of supporting Proposal 143

1 indicate by saying aye.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Aye.

4

5 (No affirmative votes)

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
8 sign.

9

10 IN UNISON: Aye.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Note that there's
13 one that supported, the other -- it failed. Support
14 for Proposal 143's failed with this Council.

15

16 The next proposal, please.

17

18 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair. The next
19 one is Proposal 144 on Page 150 in your blue book.
20 This is dealing with lawful gear and gear
21 specifications. And the proposal is to restrict
22 gillnets to 35 meshes in depth in the Yukon River
23 drainage. And to elaborate a little bit, no commercial
24 or subsistence gillnets with a hung depth of more than
25 15 feet or 35 meshes shall be allowed in the entire
26 Yukon River drainage. So this is a drainagewide
27 proposal to restrict gillnets to 35 meshes in depth or
28 15 feet.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
33 Rivard.

34

35 Jeff, do you have any comments.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council.

40

41 MS. GREGORY: Move to accept 144.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: For discussion
44 purposes. There's a motion to support Proposal 144.
45 Do I hear a second.

46

47 MR. CHARLES: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
50 Charles.

1 Any further discussion.
2
3 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Charles.
6
7 MR. CHARLES: What's the current, what
8 are they using now for the depth meshes? I mean, deep?
9 What kind of gear are they using now.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Gustafson
12 [sic], you got an answer to that question.
13
14 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah, I'm going to have
15 to look. Mr. Chair. I'm going to have to look it up
16 in the regulations here, so give me just one second
17 here, please. It wasn't in the proposal there?
18
19 MR. RIVARD: I could look at it. Mr.
20 Chair. I know, James, that it's obviously more than 35
21 meshes deep that they can do it. I think in some parts
22 of the river it's 45.
23
24 MR. ESTENSON: That's what I was going
25 to say, 45.
26
27 MR. RIVARD: And I recall there may
28 even be some places where it's 60 meshes depth, but I
29 know for sure it's 45 right now.
30
31 MR. ESTENSON: Right. Yep.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: This proposal does not
36 specify what kind of, what size mesh, so it doesn't
37 mean anything to me. You know, it could be one-inch
38 mesh, 12-inch mesh. It doesn't specify. It says
39 gillnets to 35 mesh deep in the Yukon drainage. That's
40 all. It doesn't say what size of mesh.
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.
43
44 MR. RIVARD: Well, part of the proposal
45 talks about this. What they're getting at is there's a
46 claim that the larger fish swim deeper, so in order to
47 allow those larger fish to pass without being
48 harvested, you don't allow fishermen to fish as deep in
49 the river. So that's what this proposal's getting at.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Gustafson.

2

3 MR. ESTENSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. The
4 Department at this time, we really have no information
5 that gives us any indication whether or not there's a
6 difference in harvest by depth.

7

8 And just something else to keep in
9 mind, too, that there is potential for hardship to
10 subsistence fishermen if this were adopted by having to
11 get new gear and just purchasing new gear if this was
12 adopted. So I'll just say that as a comment.

13

14 But really we have no information
15 whether or not this would be effective in accomplishing
16 what the proponent is trying to do here.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, I'm going to
19 tend to vote against this proposal, because we've gone
20 through this for a lot of years trying to get the mesh
21 size down to where it is today. Or up to where it is
22 today, depending on which side you were on. So I'm
23 going to tend to oppose this.

24

25 Any other discussion.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: The depth of the river is
32 not consistent. It goes up and down, so how do you
33 know which part of the river is so much deep, and which
34 part is shallower.

35

36 MR. ESTENSON: How do we know that
37 information? You know, we probably don't know it for
38 every stretch of the river, but, you know, certain
39 areas, talking with fishermen, the areas where we have
40 projects, we certainly have taken the time to try to
41 take measurements of depth. And then a lot of it is
42 just common -- or knowledge you get from being on the
43 grounds and talking with the people in the area.

44

45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. A river is a
46 living thing. A river is a living thing, and it
47 constantly moves, so it shifts everything under there,
48 too. What was shallow now might be deep next year.

49

50 MR. ESTENSON: Correct. And, yes, and

1 I understand it is a very thing that's constantly
2 changing, and that's exactly why every year we take a
3 look at things, especially at our projects and, you
4 know, I've been able to talk to lots of fishermen who
5 have told me things have changed here, and this is now
6 where we're fishing. The wheels have been moved here,
7 and what not.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
10 discussion, Council. Mr. Brown.

11

12 MR. BROWN: I'm going to say something,
13 what I.....

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: As long as it
16 pertains to Proposal 144, go ahead.

17

18 MR. BROWN: Yeah. Since you guys were
19 talking about the mesh size deep, when I used to
20 conduct the test fishery by the mouth of the Kuskokwim,
21 some places used to be like 62 to 70, 90 feet deep when
22 I used to navigate those tugboats when I used to see
23 their instrument. So my concern is I want to know the
24 mesh size before you guys decide to eliminate the mesh
25 size deep.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
28 discussion. Mr. Polty.

29

30 MR. POLTY: As far as I can remember,
31 we've been using 45 mesh in our area, because it's
32 pretty deep. Some areas is 90 feet. And further up,
33 you go around Russian Mission, we have a similar depth
34 around there, but further you go up around that way, I
35 don't know how depth is, but we've been using that 45
36 mesh and it doesn't -- and the channel is deeper than
37 where we fish for those Chinook, and we don't catch
38 those first runs when we do fishing.

39

40 And I oppose this proposal, because it
41 come out quite a few times that if we use 35 mesh, even
42 for subsistence, we wouldn't get very much fish. So I
43 rather oppose this proposal for 35 mesh.

44

45 Thank you, Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
48 Roczicka.

49

50 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. And

1 reflecting on comments that you made also Evan, I know
2 that this has been an ongoing controversy for many,
3 many years, and I believe the fishermen within our
4 region have been pretty much unanimously in opposition
5 to imposing something like this.

6
7 And as far as mesh size goes, if you
8 take a look down in the proposal itself, in the very
9 next paragraph where it speaks to the gill depth limit,
10 it says that no commercial or subsistence gillnets with
11 a hung depth of more than 15 feet or 35 mesh, and so
12 you're talking six-inch or less gear at best. I mean,
13 the six-inch gear at 35 mesh would be 18 feet right
14 there. So it would be limiting it even further.

15
16 But I think it's pretty straightforward
17 for me to I wouldn't support this proposal.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
20 discussion.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 MR. CHARLES: Question.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
29 called for. All in favor of the supporting 144 signify
30 by saying aye.

31
32 (No affirmative votes)

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All who oppose by
35 the same sign.

36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Opposed
40 unanimously. Go to the next proposal, please.

41
42 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 145
43 is similar. It's asking for the same restriction to 35
44 meshes, but it's just in Districts Y1 through Y5. So
45 it would not pertain to Y6 which is I believe the
46 Tanana River. So it's basically the same proposal as
47 the one you just dealt with.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If it's basically
50 the same motion, does the Council feel the same on

1 this, or you would like to have some discussion on it?

2

3 MR. CHARLES: No action.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No action. No

6 action.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: No action.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. No action on

11 this.

12

13 Just for those of you who are wondering

14 why we're going so fast on these fish proposals is

15 they're all Board of Fish proposals and we're just

16 going through them to give them our blessing or not,

17 since we're not going to be -- I don't think there's

18 going to be anyone there to discuss these unless the

19 Council feels like they need to send someone over there

20 for the purpose of discussing some of these proposals.

21

22 Go ahead, Mr. Rivard.

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Just to add

25 onto what you just said, this is very helpful for my

26 office, because either Friday or Monday we're going to

27 be getting together as a group, the Federal folks that

28 deal with these as well, to come up with a Federal

29 position. And so to have your input on the way you're

30 thinking of whether you want to recommend opposing or

31 supporting these proposals will add to what we -- how

32 we will formulate our own recommendations. So it's

33 very helpful that you're doing this.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: Okay. So the next one is

38 on Page 153 is Proposal 146. This also has to do with

39 gear specifications. It would allow only six-inch

40 stretch mesh gillnet gear in the Yukon River drainage.

41 No commercial or subsistence gillnets with a stretch

42 mesh larger than six inches shall be allowed in the

43 entire Yukon River drainage. And this was submitted by

44 the Fairbanks Advisory Committee.

45

46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

49 Rivard.

50

1 Before we go on, I'd like to make one
2 point, is, you know, if this is -- our discussion on
3 these proposals is going to be helping you guys in your
4 area, I think it might be a good idea to come out and
5 say whether we support or not support each one of these
6 proposals, if that would help you a lot.

7
8 MR. RIVARD: Well, Mr. Chair, you're
9 building a good record. And when there's two similar
10 proposals and you've already acted on one, and you take
11 no action on the other, I mean, we already know what
12 your stance is, so that does help.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

15
16 And the next proposal was 146. Mr.
17 Estenson, do you have any remarks?

18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.

22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I move we
24 support Proposal 146.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
27 made to support Proposal 146 by Mr. Bob Aloysius. Do I
28 hear a second.

29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
33 Greg Roczicka.

34
35 Any further discussion, Council
36 members. Mr. Aloysius.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I just made the
39 motion for discussion purposes, but I'm not going to
40 support this at all.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
43 discussion. Mr. Roczicka.

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I'm sure
46 the Board won't need reminding of it, but they just
47 went through an extremely long and painful process in
48 coming up with what their optimum mesh size was when
49 they went to the seven and a half I believe it is on
50 the Yukon now. And that we'd -- since, I don't know,

1 there may be a dissatisfied group up there that's
2 trying to take another bite at that apple, but along
3 with that and reflecting all the testimony that went
4 for three or four solid days last time around, I
5 wouldn't support this either.

6

7 And I'm ready for the question.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's been
10 called for. All in favor of supporting Proposal 145
11 [sic] signify by saying aye.

12

13 MR. ALOYSIUS: 146.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. Is that
16 146. Proposal 146 signify by saying aye.

17

18 (No affirmative votes)

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All who oppose,
21 same sign.

22

23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The next proposal,
26 please.

27

28 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. There's a
29 couple of -- the next ones, 147 and 148, deal with
30 District 4, and that's outside of your region. Do you
31 want to weigh in on that or not? I'll leave that up to
32 you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What does the
35 Council feel.

36

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Leave it.

38

39 MS. GREGORY: Go on to other ones.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
42 Aloysius.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just feel that we
45 shouldn't even waste time on it if it's out of our
46 restriction, and let the people in that area take care
47 of it.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's stick with
50 the proposals that affect our area.

1 MR. RIVARD: Very good. That's why I
2 asked the question. I have it on my list, and so I
3 just want to make sure.

4
5 Okay. So the next one that looks like
6 you should weigh in on is Proposal 149. That's on Page
7 156 in your blue book, bottom of the page.

8
9 This has to do with marking and use of
10 subsistence-taken salmon. And it's requesting creating
11 a harvest reporting system for subsistence-taken salmon
12 in the Yukon River drainage. And I'll read it here.

13
14 All subsistence users must have a catch
15 calendar and shall record all harvested fish on the
16 catch calendar in ink, before concealing the fish form
17 plain view, transported from the fishing site, or off
18 loaded from a vessel. Fishing site means the location
19 where the fish is removed from the water. If fish are
20 shared outside the household of the catch calendar
21 holder, the number of fish shared and the number of
22 persons shared with must also be recorded in the catch
23 calendar. The catch calendar must be available for
24 inspection by the Department or any law enforcement
25 officer at any fish camp, fishing location, or primary
26 residence of the catch calendar holder.

27
28 And this was submitted by the Fairbanks
29 Advisory Committee.

30
31 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

34 Rivard.

35
36 Mr. Estenson, do you have any comments?

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No comments.

41 Council.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: I move to accept Proposal

44 149.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
47 to support Proposal 149 by Ms. Gregory. Do I hear a
48 second.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
2 Aloysius.

3
4 Any further discussion, Council.
5 Excuse me. Mr. Roczicka.

6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 This is an attempt to under the State
10 regulation to make something that's enforceable.
11 Currently it's not. However, it also falls into that
12 realm where kind of as the customary trade that is
13 allowed under the Federal subsistence, and we do have
14 the recommendation in place there I believe that's
15 agreed to by all the Tri-RACs and hopefully it will
16 pass the Board this time around on limiting the use to
17 between the Federally-qualified users on the Yukon,
18 which hopefully can go a long ways towards alleviating
19 that. But even having this on the books at the State
20 level, it goes back to, you know, Mr. Rivard's mention
21 on a previous proposal that people will just say
22 they're fishing under Federal subsistence and it's
23 going to remain unenforceable anyway. So it's going to
24 make -- I'm just making a statement that it's not going
25 to do anything, so I don't intend to support the
26 proposal.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
29 discussion. Mr. Charles.

30
31 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 What would happen to a person if they use, like me, I
33 just had eye surgery. Before my eye surgery, I mark my
34 catches on the calendar, but they were on the wrong
35 dates, where I marked that date and put them down, and
36 I was still on the wrong date, so I mark that again and
37 put the right numbers on the right date. So in that
38 case, what would happen if something like that happens.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have an
43 answer to that?

44
45 MR. ESTENSON: I don't know
46 specifically what would happen if -- you know, I mean,
47 stuff like that happens and, you know, I can't speak
48 for the enforcement or how that would come about.

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: I want to oppose this,
2 because it's just putting more hindrance on subsistence
3 fishers, and we don't need any more of this.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other Council
6 members. Mr. Roczicka.

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Just one more note here,
9 too, it mentions that the target of this is for
10 people.....

11
12 MR. RIVARD: Excuse me a minute.
13 Whoever just came on line, would you please mute your
14 phone. Thank you.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
17 Rivard. Go ahead, Mr. Roczicka.

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: The result of the
20 concern about that subsistence fish being sold or
21 bartered and they end up being for sale in Fairbanks or
22 Anchorage as smoked strips and so on, and that again
23 has been addressed already, and it is already illegal
24 under State law to sell subsistence-caught salmon.
25 That also is unenforceable.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You looked like you
28 had something on your mind. Okay.

29
30 MR. ESTENSON: Nope. Just listening.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, don't give
33 us.....

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there somebody on the
36 radio?

37
38 MR. ESTENSON: Gathering it.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, is there
41 somebody on the telephone.

42
43 MR. RIVARD: Just somebody came on line
44 and there was some background noise, so I just asked
45 them to mute their phone.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any further
48 discussion come from the Council.

49
50 (No comments)

1 MR. CHARLES: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Question's called
4 for. That's 150, right?
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: No, 149.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All in favor of the
9 motion to support Proposal 149 signify by saying aye.
10
11 (No affirmative votes)
12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All who opposed by
14 the same sign.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Next item, Mr.
19 Rivard.
20
21 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
22 next one is Proposal 150 on the following page, 157.
23 So Proposal 150.
24
25 And I'm going to state who it's being
26 proposed by first, because I think that that's good to
27 know. It's the Yukon River Stakeholder Group in care
28 of the Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association.
29
30 And it looks like what's in the book
31 here is a placeholder, and it's asking to create a
32 harvest reporting system for subsistence-taken salmon
33 in the Yukon River. And it's fairly general language
34 from what I can see. But it does talk about doing some
35 kind of mandatory harvesting reporting in order to have
36 data in which there can be greater confidence. Without
37 in-season harvest data, we will not have the harvest
38 information during the season with which to make
39 management decisions.
40
41 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: This is proposed by
44 the Yukon River Stakeholders group?
45
46 MR. RIVARD: Yes.
47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: In care of the
49 Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association.
50

1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry. Ms.
4 Gregory.
5
6 MS. GREGORY: What's the purpose of
7 this?
8
9 MS. KLEIN: This is Jill. I'm on line
10 in case you have any questions.
11
12 MR. RIVARD: Jill's here. She can talk
13 about,,,,,
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Jill.
16
17 MR. RIVARD: Go ahead, Jill.
18
19 MS. KLEIN: Okay. Hi, everyone again.
20
21
22 Just as Don mentioned, this was a
23 placeholder proposal and as I think Mary maybe just
24 asked, the purpose was to try to have better
25 information on subsistence harvest so that better
26 management decisions could be made. But after the
27 group, this Yukon River Stakeholder group worked
28 together, discussing the issue, we realized that the
29 way to do this would have to be through permits, and
30 most people felt that they did not like the idea of
31 permits, so we didn't fully develop anything beyond the
32 placeholder.
33
34 So we won't -- it's mostly something
35 that you would not have to take any action on, because
36 there's nothing being proposed at this point. The
37 proposal you're looking at is just a concept.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Proposal 150.
40
41 MR. RIVARD: Yes.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion.
44 Ms. Gregory.
45
46 MS. GREGORY: I withdraw my motion,
47 because I want no action on this. Withdraw my motion
48 after hearing the lady on the phone.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have any

1 problems with that, Mr. -- who seconded this motion?
2 Was that you that seconded the motion?
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: I think I did.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was no
7 section to the motion.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, there was no motion.
10 There was no motion.
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Was there a motion,
13 no motion to the.....
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
18 I have a tendency to get a little mixed up here at
19 times.
20
21 Any further discussion on Proposal 150.
22
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the wish of
27 the Council. Mr. Aloysius.
28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support
30 Proposal 150.
31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion has been
35 made by Mr. Robert Aloysius to support Proposal 150.
36 Seconded by Mr. Greg Roczicka.
37
38 Any further discussion. Bob. Aloysius.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. The reason I
41 brought it up is because it's evident that there's been
42 a lot of work on the part of the shareholders -- I
43 mean, stakeholders with the established association
44 dealing with salmon in the Yukon River. And, you know,
45 it establish subsistence salmon harvest reporting
46 methodology that provides accurate and timely
47 information for the Fish and Game while minimizing the
48 burden to harvesters. You know, that's a heck of a lot
49 better than 149. And if it's not done in a way that
50 it's going to hinder the operation, you know, I'm all

1 for it. If it's during the time that the harvest is
2 happening, forget it, but the way I look at it, it's
3 going to happen after the harvesting is done; is that
4 correct?

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that correct,
7 Jill.

8
9 MS. KLEIN: I'm sorry, I didn't catch
10 the final question.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you repeat
13 your question, she didn't get it.

14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: My question is simply if
16 this data is collected, is it done after the harvesting
17 is actively done or is it during the time that
18 harvesting is happening, like in the boat, like 149?
19

20 MS. KLEIN: Well, I think we did not
21 develop those details, so in this scenario, in this
22 proposal, we don't -- there would basically would be no
23 action I think -- or not to support it, because there's
24 not enough detail. We did not go through and figure
25 that out, because people felt that they didn't want a
26 permit at all, be it if it something they had to fill
27 in in the boat or when they got to shore or two months
28 later. And so they would leave the current system in
29 place, which is the post-season surveys that are done
30 by Fish and Game.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you hear her.
33

34 MS. KLEIN: And the calendars which
35 people do at their leisure when they can.
36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you,
38 Jill. Mr. Rivard.
39

40 MR. RIVARD: Bob, it looks like if you
41 look on the top of Page 158, this looks like this is
42 in-season harvest collection, because it says, without
43 in-season harvest data, we will not have harvest
44 information during the season with which to make
45 management decisions. So the intent of this not fully
46 developed proposal was to do in-season, right real time
47 data gathering of the harvest, not post-season, but
48 during the season.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. That's similar to

1 what ONC does here on the Kuskokwim River in the Bethel
2 area, right? Okay.

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And a question for
5 Jill. Did you state that this proposal was not done in
6 its entirety yet. Jill.

7

8 MS. KLEIN: Correct. The initial work
9 when we looked into it showed that most likely a permit
10 would have to be created. So instead of post season,
11 the survey calendars, a permit would be needed for every
12 person who fishes. Currently on the Yukon River only
13 people who have access to the road system and fish in
14 the Yukon River use permits. Or have to use permits.
15 And this would require -- what we had found out is that
16 everyone would need a permit, and there was support from the
17 group to not go forward with a permit system. And as
18 Don mentioned, it was written in the proposal in-
19 season. So people were not interested in a permit
20 process, so we did not further develop it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. It's an
23 undeveloped proposal. Mr. Aloysius.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: With the intent of
26 creating a permit system, I'm not going to support it
27 at all.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's a motion on
30 the floor and seconded.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Question on the motion.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that
35 again?

36

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, question's
40 called for. All in favor of the motion 150 signify by
41 saying aye.

42

43 (No affirmative votes)

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
46 sign.

47

48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) Next

1 proposal, please.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8 Since this is going to be transcribed and because part

9 of an official public, I do have to clarify something

10 for the record here, and that what was being proposed

11 here versus what ONC does on the Kuskokwim are actually

12 very actually very different things, and that ONC's is

13 a qualitative study and just showing relative abundance

14 It's not asking for the specifics that are here, which

15 is actual numbers of fish, now many per day, and, you

16 know, what gear. We get general information on

17 people's observations directly, but we don't get

18 specific numbers.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That was clarifying

21 150.

22

23 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. That was the

24 discussion that took place on record and the statement.

25 Yeah.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

28

29 Next proposal, please.

30

31 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The

32 next proposal is 151. And this is regarding marking

33 and use of subsistence-taken salmon. The proposal

34 would require primary use of subsistence-caught salmon

35 within the Yukon area be for direct personal or family

36 consumption. And again it says the primary subsistence

37 use of king salmon is for the direct personal and

38 family consumption as food. All other subsistence uses

39 are secondary with no prioritization. And this was

40 submitted by Mr. Gene Sandone.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any discussion on

45 this. Any thought. Council. Proposal 151. Mr.

46 Roczicka. Thank you.

47

48 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Just

49 a note here that this is actually a companion proposal

50 to one that we put in on the Federal side last year and

1 is going to be considered by the Federal Subsistence
2 Board. I don't know what position you guys took on
3 those yesterday, but -- and to what level making this
4 kind of distinction is even available under the State
5 regulatory process, but again without knowing how you
6 guys -- if you didn't support our proposal yesterday or
7 not. I mean, it's -- we had these discussions in --
8 back before we put that proposal in last year, and I'd
9 be inclined to support it. To what level it can
10 actually be utilized or even incorporated into the
11 State management system, I don't know.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If I could ask a
14 question of the Department, isn't there -- or either
15 one -- are you ready to resume.

16

17 MR. RIVARD: I'm sorry, sir.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Either one
20 of you, was there -- what was I going to ask. Is there
21 a regulation concerning this in either one of the
22 books. Concerning the use of Chinook salmon for
23 personal -- it seemed like there was a regulation in
24 one of the books concerning the primary use of king
25 salmon.

26

27 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair. This is Pippa
28 Kenner.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Was that Pippa?

31

32 MS. KENNER: Yes. Is David there?
33 David Jenkins.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: He just came to the table.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He just came to the
38 table.

39

40 DR. JENKINS: Thanks, Pippa.

41

42 MS. KENNER: Okay, David. I didn't
43 know if you were there, and I was going to mention the
44 proposals.

45

46 DR. JENKINS: Yes. Thank you, Pippa.

47

48 MS. KENNER: You're welcome.

49

50 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Roczicka. Yes,

1 yesterday they did support Proposals 09 and 10 which
2 prioritized the use of Chinook salmon. So it is a
3 parallel proposal as you mentioned. That's the action
4 that the Council took.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.
7 Mr. Estenson, do you have a comment.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I was wondering why
12 you came up to sit. I thought you had a comment.

13
14 MR. ESTENSON: No.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.

17
18 MR. CHARLES: Is there a motion to
19 support that proposal.

20
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's no motion.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's no motion.

24
25 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. I move to
26 support.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
29 by Mr. Charles to support Proposal 151. Do I hear a
30 second.

31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
35 Roczicka. Any further discussion. Mr. Charles.

36
37 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 This proposal 151 same as the Federal proposal we
39 supported yesterday or is it different?

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

42
43 MR. RIVARD: I believe that it's a
44 companion proposal, so it's prioritizing subsistence
45 use. So you voted to support those proposals. It was
46 Proposals FP13-9 and 10 from yesterday.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

49
50 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 Just a slight correction there, it's prioritizing among
2 subsistence uses, which is one of the reasons, if I
3 remember in my quick read through and scan of this that
4 the Federal Staff was not supporting the proposal on
5 the Federal side. Or the committee recommendation from
6 OSM was not to support this proposal.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

9
10 MR. RIVARD: I believe that's correct.
11 The Staff was to oppose. The OSM preliminary
12 recommendation was to oppose.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Have him pull his mic
15 closer.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you hear that?
18 He wants you to pull this a little closer, because he
19 can't hear you.

20
21 MR. ROCZICKA: He can't hear me? Okay.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
24 discussion on Proposal 151.

25
26 (No comments)

27
28 MS. GREGORY: Question.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question called
31 for. All in favor of supporting Proposal 151 signify
32 by saying aye.

33
34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
37 sign.

38
39 MS. GREGORY: Aye.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Make a note that
42 there's one opposition. Thank you.

43
44 Next proposal.

45
46 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. I have on my
47 list this is the last one.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good.

50

1 (Laughter)
2
3 MR. RIVARD: I knew there would
4 probably be a cause for some celebration.
5
6 (Laughter)
7
8 MR. RIVARD: It's on Page 160. I think
9 your Council probably wants to weigh in on this. It
10 says, open Acharon Channel in the Yukon River drainage
11 to salmon fishing.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: What's the number?
14
15 MR. RIVARD: Number 152 on Page 160.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And does anybody
18 know where Acharon Channel is? I believe that is over
19 there by Kotlik on the north mouth.
20
21 MR. RIVARD: It's got a description
22 here. Would you like me to read it?
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would you, please.
25
26 MR. RIVARD: Okay. District 1 consists
27 of the portion of the Yukon River drainage from its
28 terminus upstream to the northern edge of the mouth of
29 Anuk River, and all waters south from Chris Point to
30 Black River and of the Black River. So it's -- also
31 designate -- is it Acharon Channel?
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Acharon.
34
35 MR. RIVARD: Acharon. It's the area
36 from Chris Point south to the Black River. That's the
37 description it's giving.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.
40
41 MR. ESTENSON: South mouth.
42
43 MR. RIVARD: South mouth?
44
45 MR. ESTENSON: South mouth.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: South mouth, yep.
48 And this proposal is to open Acharon Channel. Any
49 comments on that, Fish and Game Department.
50

1 MR. ESTENSON: No.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No comment.
4 Council.
5
6 (No comments)
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there fishing?
9 That hasn't been open for some time, has it, the
10 Acharon Channel. Chris Point to Black River.
11
12 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. This is for
13 commercial fishing. I'm not sure if they're already
14 allowed subsistence fishing in that area. I'm not
15 sure.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I don't think so.
18 Have you got.....
19
20 MR. ESTENSON: Mr. Chair.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.
23
24 MR. ESTENSON: Well, I was just going
25 to say that there's -- I'm not sure why they would not
26 allow commercial -- or subsistence fishing in this
27 area, but it sounded like Evan had something to say.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you want to?
30
31 MR. POLTY: Yeah, I just want to
32 clarify where that Acharon is, Acharon area.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It says right here
35 from south of Chris Point to Black River at the south
36 mouth.
37
38 MR. POLTY: Oh, okay. At the Black
39 River.
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: South mouth. I
42 think it's that area behind Sheldon's Point.
43
44 MR. POLTY: Sheldon's Point.
45
46 MR. ESTENSON: So, Mr. Chair, that
47 would put it in the coastal district. I believe that
48 is outside of Y1, and that would put it in the coastal
49 district, which we do not have commercial fishing in,
50 but subsistence would be allowed there. And I believe

1 this is.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: North of Black
4 River, that's closed. Yeah, that has been closed.

5

6 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Oh, it has.
7 Okay.

8

9 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

12

13 MR. NICK: Anuk River I believe is
14 above Emmonak. It mentions Anuk River here. Isn't
15 that below Mountain?

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No. Ananuk River
18 is up there. There's no Anuk River.

19

20 MR. NICK: A-N-U-K.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: Ananuk.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ananuk is above.
25 It's below Mountain Village, Ananuk River.

26

27 Any further discussion on 151 -- 52,
28 I'm sorry. I notice you've got our mic on. Do you
29 have a comment. Mr. Aloysius.

30

31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. On Page 161 it
32 says according to local knowledge, Acharon Channel, or
33 that area between Black River and Chris Point in the
34 south mouth area was closed to commercial fishing in
35 the early 1900s to protect local fishers from high
36 efficient drift fishers that were brought in from
37 Oregon to fish or the fish buying and processing
38 company. That protection is no longer needed or
39 warranted.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've got a
42 comment to that?

43

44 MR. ESTENSON: You know, just maybe a
45 couple things to think about, maybe some concerns about
46 this and have been in the past is the interception, you
47 know, are fish going into the Yukon that are going
48 through that area, are they heading up to Norton Sound.
49 And I don't know if pink salmon would be, you know, any
50 concern down in that area. Lester, I don't know if you

1 have any -- but, I mean, those are just two things that
2 I think that maybe have raised concern about this area
3 in the past and why commercial hasn't been allowed
4 there.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

9

10 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
11 and to get back to the point of our concerns though is
12 -- and you said already that subsistence is allowed in
13 this area? I mean, this proposal is for opening
14 commercial.

15

16 MR. ESTENSON: It would be helpful if I
17 had a map in front of me, but I believe that is in the
18 coastal district, and for the summer season. It would
19 be in the setnet only area for the fall season.
20 Subsistence is allowed there unless otherwise not
21 allowed, you know, whether it's closed down. But in
22 this case it should be allowed there.

23

24 Commercial, that is outside of District
25 1. And I believe this proposal is trying to lump it
26 into District 1 to allow Commercial there. Am I
27 correct on that?

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It seems that way.

30

31 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. So subsistence is
32 allowed in this area right now, unless I'm mistaken,
33 but I'm sure that is the coastal district, and
34 subsistence should be allowed there, but no commercial,
35 because it's outside of District 1.

36

37 MR. ROCZICKA: So it's essentially
38 asking for a restructuring of the management district
39 that it's in so that you can allow commercial. I don't
40 know if I like that one or not.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comment.
43 Mr. Charles.

44

45 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
46 When there is a proposal to change the boundaries, it's
47 always good to have a map to come with that proposal.
48 Bob knows that. And it's always good to see it on the
49 map where the boundary you want to change is, like the
50 ones we've done before to change the Kuskokwim

1 boundaries. And this one here is on the Yukon, but --
2 I mean, out in the coast, because if you have a map and
3 show where you want to change, it's always better that
4 way.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
9 discussion on this Proposal 152. Mr. Aloysius.

10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's nothing in the
12 proposals that says they're going to change the
13 boundary. It's just to reopen a closed area. That's
14 all.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 And that reopening is for commercial purposes. I know
20 I'm not going to support the proposal. As far as the
21 boundary goes, it's something that the local folks are
22 best to work out amongst themselves and the Advisory
23 Committee could deal with that, but this is a
24 commercial one, and since subsistence remains allowed
25 there, I don't see weighing on support or opposition.
26 I'm going to oppose it, because I don't know what it's
27 going to do and how it's going to affect subsistence
28 users. And right now subsistence is allowed there, and
29 I don't want to see that changed.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
32 other discussion. Mr. Polty.

33
34 MR. POLTY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I have
35 similar situation where if I'm not looking at the map
36 where that proposal is to, so I'm not going to support
37 this until something comes up thoroughly that what it's
38 mainly going to be used to other than commercial.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 MS. GREGORY: Call for question.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
45 called for. All in favor of Proposal 152, supporting
46 152, signify by saying aye.

47
48 (No affirmative votes)

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed by the

1 same sign.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you very
6 much, gentlemen, for our patients and I know it took us
7 a little while to get this done, but we're going to
8 have a 10-minute break. Have a 10-minute break. And
9 then we'll come back into new business.

10

11 (Off record)

12

13 (On record)

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's call the
16 meeting back to order.

17

18 Mr. Jenkins. Prior to us coming in
19 yesterday, I think there was one item that was

20

21 REPORTER: Lester, your microphone.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was one item
24 that was skipped over, because we weren't all in
25 attendance and that was to -- where are the minutes in
26 this.

27

28 DR. JENKINS: It's number 6 in your
29 agenda, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Review and
32 approve previous minutes. That action needs to be done
33 yet, so we need to get back to that. What is the
34 feeling of the Council concerning the previous minutes.

35

36 MR. NICK: Page 5.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Page what?

39

40 MR. NICK: Page 5.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Page 5 of the
43 Council book is where the minutes are. And if you're
44 like I am, you should have had those minutes read
45 already. If not, we don't have the time to sit down
46 and read them all.

47

48 So what is the feeling of the Council
49 on the minutes. Mr. Aloysius.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Mary had
2 a concern about the minutes earlier. I don't know
3 where she went.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the feeling
6 of the Council on the minutes.
7
8 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Polty.
11
12 MR. POLTY: Yeah, since we're further
13 away to completion of our work here, so I figured it
14 might be just do our own homework and read that minutes
15 you decide what you want to do on it, Chairman.
16
17 Thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, we need to have
20 either approval or something from the Council.
21
22 Mr. Andrew. Did you have a comment?
23 Noah, did you have a comment.
24
25 MR. N. ANDREW: No.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: In view of the fact that
32 we did not get these minutes in time to review them
33 before the meeting, I move that we table them until our
34 next meeting.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motions been made
37 to table the minutes from the last meeting until the
38 next meeting. Do I hear a second.
39
40 MR. POLTY: I second that..
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
43 Polty.
44
45 Any further discussion.
46
47 MR. N. ANDREW: Question, Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Question's called
50 for. All in favor say aye.

1 IN UNISON: Aye.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
4 sign.
5
6 (No opposing votes)
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
9 We will review the minutes at the next meeting for this
10 last meeting.
11
12 Go ahead, Mr Jenkins.
13
14 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. David Jenkins
15 with the Office of Subsistence Management.
16
17 We're at new business in your agenda.
18 And let me suggest to the Council that the discussion
19 of Council application and nomination be shifted into
20 item number 12, Agency Report. There's a similar item
21 there, number 3, Council membership application. So I
22 would suggest to the Council that we simply not do it
23 twice, but shift it to the second item there, discuss
24 the Council nomination process under 12.3.
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 12.3. Okay.
27
28 DR. JENKINS: And just skip over 11.A.
29 and move it to 12.3. And if that's okay with the
30 Council,
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Is that okay
33 with the Council.
34
35 SEVERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: Yes.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: I suppose so. I didn't
38 understand what the.....
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We'll move
41 -- since we're going to be discussing Council
42 membership and nominations, we'll move this A down to
43 3, because it's the same thing. Do you see that.
44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Uh-huh.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that okay with
48 the Council.
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Go ahead
2 then, Mr. Jenkins.
3
4 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.
7
8 MR. NICK: As a reminder about this
9 message.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry.
12 Before you get into that, I think there's one more
13 piece that I don't know if that got on the agenda or
14 not.
15
16 MR. NICK: No.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.
19
20 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. During the break
21 one of the Fish and Game employees hand carried a
22 message to you that the Community of Tuntutuliak has
23 met on the 2nd I believe of October, this month, and
24 presented their resolution to AVCP convention last
25 week.
26
27 And in their resolution, what they're
28 going to be requesting is to submit a proposal to move
29 commercial fishery boundary down around Helmick Point,
30 Kinak River area. So if you want to go ahead and hear
31 this, I think it's up to you what you want to do with
32 this right now, but they just wanted us to make sure
33 the RAC is aware of this. And the message was sent to
34 the Fish and Game and the hand-carried this to me while
35 you were discussing the State fishery proposals.
36
37 Mr. Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. When it does
40 become a proposal, we will then at the time that it
41 becomes a proposal address it. If that's all right
42 with the Council members. Mr. Gregory.
43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 I'd just request for clarification, that it is specific
46 only to commercial fisheries. It doesn't affect
47 subsistence, or it doesn't address subsistence.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.
50

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. With your
2 permission I will read the now therefore be it resolved
3 part of that so you'll know what they're looking for.

4
5 It says, now therefore be it resolved
6 that the Tuntutuliak Traditional Council honorably
7 requests the Alaska Fish Board adopt a commercial
8 boundary starting at Helmick Point, mouth of Kinuk
9 River and end near Sinuk River on the east side and
10 Ishgivik River on the west side, and now therefore be
11 it resolved that this new commercial boundary takes
12 effect during FY 2013 commercial fishing season.

13
14 Mr. Chair. So I think they want --
15 they just wanted you to be aware of that. And since
16 it's -- the request is going to be to make it effective
17 this coming summer, there's potential that it might
18 affect a subsistence fishery, too.

19
20 Mr. Chair.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
23 Nick.

24
25 Mr. Roczicka, did you have your hand
26 up.

27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: No.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.
31 Continue, Mr. Jenkins.

32
33 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. We're at new
34 business, 11.B. in your agenda, regulatory cycle
35 review. It's an action item for your comments and
36 recommendations. And if you look on Page 150, there's
37 a briefing about changing the regulatory cycle. And
38 I'll just briefly describe this.

39
40 Several Subsistence Regional Advisory
41 Councils have requested that the fall meeting window
42 for RAC meetings be moved to later in the year so
43 meetings occur in November after the fall subsistence
44 activities are finished. And these Councils would
45 also like to see the January Federal Subsistence Board
46 meetings moved to later in the year, possibly April or
47 May, because they hope that such a move would avoid
48 overlap with other meetings, such as meetings with the
49 Board of Fish and the Board of Game, and also avoid
50 other kinds of holiday travel.

1 And in addition, January is one of the
2 coldest months of the year, and many Council members in
3 other areas have suggested that they are reluctant to
4 leave their families to go to Anchorage to a Federal
5 Subsistence Board meeting when it's 40 below.

6
7 So there are two regulatory issues
8 here. And one is changing the RAC meeting window for
9 the fall meeting to November, and the other is possibly
10 changing Federal Subsistence Board meeting, which is
11 usually in January until later in the year.

12
13 And if you look on Page 151, you see
14 the recommendations from OSM. And the first is to hold
15 the Federal Subsistence Board meeting for wildlife
16 proposals in early April rather than January. The
17 second is to extend the Regional Advisory Council
18 meeting windows into early November. And so those are
19 two changes for meeting times.

20
21 And the third recommendation was to
22 hold Federal Subsistence Board meetings to review
23 fisheries regulations no later than early January,
24 which is when it occurs now. In January.

25
26 So those are the three issues that you
27 need to think about. Do you want to have your RAC
28 meetings extend into November in the all, and would you
29 like to see the Federal Subsistence Board meeting times
30 change for the discussions of wildlife and fisheries
31 proposals.

32
33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Than you, Mr.
36 Jenkins.

37
38 Council. Mr. James Charles.

39
40 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 I go for November meeting, too, but I don't know how
42 many of us, maybe, one, two, three, four of us are with
43 AC and the working group, and RAC members. So if that
44 don't tie up with other meetings, I'd go along with
45 that early November, because sometimes the Board of
46 Game meetings are in late November. They start -- one
47 time we went to Nome in November for Board of Game
48 meetings. And if it was in early November, I would go
49 along with that.

50

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments.
4 Any other comments, Council. Mr. Roczicka.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
7
8 I guess I'm just looking at the
9 proposed changes that you have in there, both for
10 fisheries and wildlife, that the Federal Board meeting
11 wouldn't be until early April.
12
13 DR. JENKINS: For wildlife, that's
14 right, because that would.....
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, they're showing in
17 here on Page 153, proposed changes to the regulatory
18 cycle. It still has early April, but yet in the
19 recommendations it says that you want to maintain the
20 current schedule back in January. And if I can finish
21 up here, I mean, early April, is that going to be time
22 for you buys to get those regulatory changes made and
23 the books printed and everything else, the vetting that
24 has to occur through the legal processes and so forth?
25 I know it's pretty -- that's a pretty tough job for the
26 State to do it with their March meeting.
27
28 DR. JENKINS: And, yes, Mr. Roczicka,
29 the recommendations to hold the fisheries meeting in
30 January was for that particular issue, to make sure
31 that the regulations are in place in type for the
32 opening of fishing season. And the wildlife regulatory
33 issue could be pushed back it was felt among OSM Staff
34 into April and still meet the deadlines for the
35 publication of wildlife regulations.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: So that is a misprint
38 then on Page 153, table 3, last line -- or second to
39 the last? It says early April for the fisheries.
40
41 MS. PETRIVELLI: That's if they change
42 the effective date.
43
44 DR. JENKINS: Right. Right. As Pat
45 points out, that's in the event that they change the
46 effective date of when the regulation is in place, goes
47 into place.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.
50

1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. What is the
2 benefit to the RAC people or to who -- who will benefit
3 from this? You guys or -- every time there's a change,
4 I always wonder what's the catch.

5
6 DR. JENKINS: These proposed changes
7 came from RAC members. And they thought it was
8 advantageous for them to have RAC meetings later in
9 the fall after they had finished their subsistence
10 activities. They were concerned that the meeting times
11 precluded some people from even applying to be members
12 on the Regional Advisory Councils, because they would
13 prefer to be out engaged in their subsistence
14 activities.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: You don't need -- never
19 did you have a meeting in order to apply. I applied
20 when the advertisement came out.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Jenkins.

23
24 DR. JENKINS: Yes, I understand you
25 don't need to have a meeting. But the concern is that
26 the meeting at a time when people would prefer to be
27 engaged in subsistence, and that the meeting schedule
28 as it stood now often got in the way of subsistence
29 activities for some RAC or potential RAC members.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council. Any
34 further discussion. What is the feeling of the rest of
35 the Council members. Ms. Gregory.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: Can I say one more thing.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, you may.

40
41 MS. GREGORY: Okay. When I apply for
42 anything voluntary, I make sure I make time when those
43 things come. And if you're not going to make time for
44 a meeting, then you don't complain before you apply.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

47
48 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
49 Well, I appreciate that expansion of the window there
50 to give us a little bit more flexibility to work

1 around. I believe Staff shares that to some degree.

2

3 And the other advantage I see to this
4 would be it would be nice -- or it widens the
5 opportunity that perhaps we can get more of our members
6 to perhaps attend meetings of the other RACs instead of
7 being stacked one on top of the other like we are right
8 now. You know, it doesn't happen every year, but
9 occasionally we have common issues we want to work on,
10 and it would be good to be able to make it to like the
11 Western Interior meeting that just wrapped up
12 yesterday. That's another side benefit I see to that.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
15 pro or con. Any further discussion on this. Any other
16 discussion on this.

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, do you need
21 a decision from this Council.

22

23 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. It would be
24 helpful to know if you supported the opening of the
25 window through November, and if you would prefer the
26 Federal Subsistence Board wildlife meeting to be held
27 later in the year. Yes, it would be helpful to have
28 that action.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the -- you
33 heard it, Council members.

34

35 (No comments)

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Want a motion. Mr.
38 Charles.

39

40 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 I mentioned that Board of Game meetings are not every
42 year for this area. I mean, we don't have proposal
43 every year, but that would be -- it would be nice for
44 them to look at -- if there's going to be a Board of
45 Game meeting or Board of Fish meetings that year so it
46 -- I'm flexible to that, because it's not every year.
47 But our meetings are every year, and the Board of Game
48 meetings are every other year. And I got, I may be
49 mixed, but they changed years. The State changed
50 years.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Jenkins, that
4 was just covering the Subsistence Board?

5

6 DR. JENKINS: Well, if you could give
7 us your recommendation on whether you want to have the
8 RAC meeting window for the fall extended into November,
9 that would be helpful. So that would be one action.

10

11 And then whether or not you have an
12 opinion on the Federal Subsistence Board's meeting,
13 which now is in January, the wildlife meeting, the
14 recommendation is to hold it as late as early April,
15 but to keep the fisheries Federal Subsistence Board
16 meeting in January.

17

18 So really there are two items that you
19 could weigh in on, the RAC and the Federal Subsistence
20 Board meeting windows.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.
23 What's the feeling of the Council. Mr. Aloysius.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Can we just take one at
26 a time?

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Take the November.

29

30 MR. ALOYSIUS: In that case I move that
31 we extend the -- I lost my -- extend the Regional
32 Council meeting window into early November.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
35 made to extend the Council meeting window to early
36 November by Mr. Aloysius. Do I hear a second.

37

38 MR. CHARLES: I second the motion.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
41 James Charles.

42

43 Any further discussion. Any further
44 discussion.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's

1 called for. All in favor of the motion, say aye.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE:

6

7 MS. GREGORY: I oppose.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One abstention.

10

11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Opposition.

12

13 MS. GREGORY: Oppose.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One opposition.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.

20 Jenkins with your second.

21

22 DR. JENKINS: And the second issue is
23 the Federal Subsistence Board, and whether you would
24 recommend to the Board shifting it's wildlife meeting
25 until as late as early April, and maintaining the
26 fisheries meeting in early January, which are the OSM
27 recommendations. And the Council can take its position
28 on that.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the
31 position of the Council on this issue. Mr. Roczicka.

32

33 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

34 I'd echo some of the concerns that James just
35 mentioned, so being careful about conflicts you may
36 have, although we are the Y-K region, as far as the
37 Kuskokwim goes, and the Yukon to some degree, on
38 wildlife proposals, interior region, the way the
39 State's wildlife cycle works is every region of the
40 State is visited every two years, but for us, AYK
41 region, is in a fall meeting, but then the next year's
42 cycle, Interior Region which is upriver Kuskokwim and
43 above Holy Cross on the Yukon then comes into place, so
44 we have to keep an eye on those ones as well, and
45 they're mixed between the -- and those are generally
46 spring meetings that are held in early to mid March.
47 So be aware of that.

48

49 And as far as the fisheries goes, this
50 is just a personal preference, but there are a lot of

1 happenings in early to mid January. You know, the new
2 year coming into place. If you can't go all the way
3 back to the March or April one that's being requested
4 here, but if you could kick it back maybe into February
5 as a compromise, that would be my recommendation. It
6 would help slow down the saturated meeting tract we get
7 on sometimes.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius, did
10 you have a comment.

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Are you suggesting that
13 we have our fall meeting in November and our spring
14 meeting in February?

15

16 MR. ROCZICKA: No. The fall meeting
17 extension was just for the Regional Councils meetings.
18 I'm talking of the Federal Subsistence Board meetings,
19 for the wildlife, that, yeah, March and April is fine,
20 just to be aware and check closely on the State Board
21 of Game cycle. And for the fisheries, I mean, if we're
22 stuck with January right now because of action that has
23 to take place through the Federal Register in D.C. or
24 whatever that requires, if we're stuck with it, okay,
25 but if you do have the option, maybe try to kick it
26 back into February. That would be my -- that's my
27 comment on that one.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.
30 Any discussion on this. Ms. Gregory.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: We have a lot of things
33 happening in Bethel area during the early part of the
34 year. We have Russian Orthodox Christmas and we have
35 dance festivals or 300 race. You know, those things,
36 they'll conflict. Maybe you should research it more
37 before you come back and let us know. Because there's
38 a lot of going on in Bethel during the wintertime. And
39 if it's going to be springtime, April is good for me,
40 because it's maybe before or after Easter.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ms.
43 Gregory. Mr. Roczicka.

44

45 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
46 And actually even the last week of January, if you are
47 stuck with saying that you have to have you meeting in
48 January right now, even the last week of January would
49 go far towards getting away from the cultural
50 activities and the religious activities surrounding

1 Russian Christmas and things, and give the people of
2 this area that do attend those meetings a little bit
3 more time to be able to get a breathing space, if you
4 will, to be able to better address the proposals and
5 the potential actions by the Board. This one right now
6 happening right in the middle. What is it, the 15th
7 day? 20th. I think coming this year it's going to be
8 tough.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
11 discussion, Council. Council members. Mr. Charles.

12

13 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 I have no problem with meetings any time after the New
15 Year, because I -- we don't have very much meetings
16 after that. In falltime is the worst time, so I'm
17 concerned about falltime, but spring meetings can be
18 any time.

19

20 Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any preference to
23 any more discussion on what was presented. Mr.
24 Aloysius.

25

26 MR. ALOYSIUS: To get a clarification.
27 We're dealing with the Subsistence Board right now,
28 right, not us.

29

30 DR. JENKINS: Could I clarify that a
31 little bit more.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, would you,
34 please.

35

36 DR. JENKINS: So this is the -- at this
37 point we're talking about the meetings for the Federal
38 Subsistence Board. And typically at those meetings the
39 Chair of RACs come, so Mr. Wilde goes to those and
40 other RAC chairs. But it's also a public meeting, so
41 anybody can go and testify on issues that are relevant
42 to your region.

43

44 The questions that have been put
45 forward have to do with shifting the timing of those
46 meetings, because some chairs find it difficult to get
47 there in the depths of winter. But the problem for the
48 fisheries is if it shifts later in the year, then we
49 don't as a Staff have time to put through the
50 regulations so that they're published in the Federal

1 Register in time for the opening of the season. So
2 January is probably the latest for the Federal
3 Subsistence Board to meet on fisheries issues. Early
4 April is probably the latest for the Federal
5 Subsistence Board to meet on wildlife issues, because
6 those are published later in the year.

7
8 So the question to you which actually
9 generated by other RAC members is whether you would
10 like to see those Federal Subsistence Board meetings
11 that are typically in January change a little bit, the
12 fisheries would stay in January, the wildlife Federal
13 Subsistence Board would be no later than early April.
14 So that's the question.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mrs. Gregory.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: If the Federal
19 Subsistence Board meets in January and we're meeting in
20 October right now, and we just worked on some of the
21 proposals, would that give those people who are helping
22 us enough time to work on those proposals and present
23 them to the Federal Subsistence Board?

24
25 DR. JENKINS: We do have enough time to
26 work on those now, to present to the Board at their
27 next meeting, yes. And we would if it was in November
28 as well. We figure we would have enough time to do
29 that.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I've got one
32 comment. You know, during January, the latter part of
33 January is when we start getting our storms. January,
34 February, and probably later into March, but those two
35 months. If it was held earlier part of January, that
36 would probably be better than later part. That's from
37 my own perspective, because I've been stuck a number of
38 times here in Bethel during those early -- or later
39 January meetings.

40
41 MS. GREGORY: And we've had a lot of
42 weather this year.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes. And the
45 weather is not getting any better. It seems to be
46 getting worse.

47
48 Any other comments. Mr. Aloysius.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just have a question.

1 How many times a year does the Federal Subsistence
2 Board meet? How many times a year?

3
4 DR. JENKINS: Two or more. It depends
5 on the issues that are coming up. They often have work
6 sessions, and they'll have a work session, for example,
7 this December. It depends, but a minimum of two, and
8 sometimes more, depending on the issues that are at
9 hand.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Aloysius?

12
13
14 Any other discussion. We're going to
15 have to be moving on pretty quick, so you need to make
16 a decision on this, Council members. Mr. Polty.

17
18 MR. POLTY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. The
19 latter part of January might be a shootable time,
20 because towards the end of January there's not much
21 activity going on, and again in March things pick up
22 during those months.

23
24 Thank you.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any other
27 comments. We need a decision on this, because we're
28 holding it up. We've got a lot more work to do. We
29 have people that need to leave by 8:46.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: How are we going to deal
32 with this? By motion or just.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Either. Any way
35 that you would get. Are you planning on putting in a
36 motion to the effect or what.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: I guess I could, and I'll
39 vote against it. Motion (In Yup'ik). Whatever you
40 were saying. Help me. I didn't want to speak English
41 when I get tired.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mary, if it's all
44 right, Greg's got the wording, so let him -- go ahead,
45 Greg.

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg has his preferred
48 wording. But I would move this Council recommend for
49 the fish Board meeting, the time to be held in late
50 January, and also endorse the wildlife Federal Board

1 meeting to occur no later than early April, but be
2 conscious of not scheduling over the top of State Board
3 of Game meetings.

4

5 MS. GREGORY: Second.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
8 by Mr. Greg Roczicka to hold the meetings in latter
9 part of January, since he don't go to meetings, and
10 seconded by Ms. Gregory.

11

12 Any further discussion.

13

14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. There are
15 two dates that he mentioned.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What are the dates,
18 Greg.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: I didn't put dates down,
21 I said late in January which would be the -- call it
22 the last week of January if that would help define it a
23 little more.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You heard the
26 motion. There's a second.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What's that again?

31

32 MS. GREGORY: I agree.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
35 discussion on this.

36

37 MR. CHARLES: Question.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
40 called for. All in favor of the motion say aye.

41

42 IN UNISON: Aye.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Say nay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And I say nay also.
49 I would rather have it in the first part of January,
50 because I'm the one that has to travel over there, and

1 I've been caught every time. Every winter I get caught
2 here in Bethel in that latter part of January.

3

4 Okay. We are down to Item C. We are
5 down to item C.

6

7 DR. JENKINS: Okay. Item C is not an
8 action item. It's just a review of the Federal
9 Subsistence Board annual report reply. It starts on
10 Page 154 I believe. and this is your report to the
11 Federal Subsistence Board on issues that were of
12 concern to this Council, and the Federal Subsistence
13 Board's reply. So you can treat these -- it's not an
14 action item.

15

16 You can review them and treat them as
17 you see fit, Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, I've read
20 these parts and we're aware of that.

21

22 Go on to the next item, please.

23

24 DR. JENKINS: That will be Mr. Rivard
25 here.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

28

29 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
30 Council members. Again my name is Don Rivard, fish
31 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.

32

33 We're going to go through the draft
34 priority information needs, which start on Page 167 in
35 your Council book. We're going to go -- we'll do the
36 Yukon region first, and then we'll do the Kuskokwim.

37

38 We're coming around to the 2014
39 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program call for
40 proposals, and that call will probably go out in mid to
41 late November this year. And this is for projects that
42 will start in the spring and summer of 2014. So our
43 process takes a little over a year from the time we put
44 out the call until the Federal Board makes their final
45 approval of these things, and it will be in their
46 meeting in January of 2014 most likely, unless the
47 dates change a little bit based on what you've just
48 talked about.

49

50 So for those Council members that

1 aren't real familiar with this, the Office of
2 Subsistence Management has a Fisheries Resource
3 Monitoring Program where we fund several projects from
4 up to four years at a time to do fish monitoring
5 projects and other things, other closely related
6 projects throughout the State. And, of course, your
7 Council deals with the Yukon and the Kuskokwim River
8 drainages.

9

10 So it looks like if we are not subject
11 to budget cuts soon, in the next year or so, that we
12 will have nearly a full amount to provide for projects
13 that start in 2014, which is anywhere between 4 million
14 and \$5 million. So as of today that's what we think we
15 will have. The budget process is such in Washington,
16 D.C. that we may get subjected to budget cuts.

17

18 So I'm going to go through the Yukon
19 region priority information needs.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
22 Rivard.

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Okay. So the Yukon ones
25 start on Page 169 in your Council book, at the bottom.
26 What's listed in your books for both the Yukon and the
27 Kuskokwim regions are the priority information needs
28 that we used for the 2012 call for proposals. And some
29 of them we've addressed in 2012, and I'll point those
30 out to you. And then based on that, you can decide
31 that you would like to see these continue for 2014 and
32 you may have other priority information needs that you
33 would like to point out that we could put into the 2014
34 call for proposal. So that's how your Council can
35 provide us input.

36

37 And I've already got one that I'll
38 point out to you that you've already listed prior to
39 this.

40

41 So for the Yukon Region, the 2014
42 request for proposals is focused on the priority
43 information needs that start on the top of Page 170.
44 And if you'd like, I can read them, or if you've
45 already read them and you just want to discuss them,
46 whatever your wish is.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead and read
49 them.

50

1 MR. RIVARD: Okay. The first is a
2 reliable estimate of Chinook and chum salmon
3 escapements, and those are typically the weir and sonar
4 projects that we've funded for several years now in
5 both regions, in the Yukon region.

6
7 The effects of salmon stocks, such as
8 gillnet dropout mortality, and subsistence users of
9 fishery management practices implemented to conserve
10 Chinook salmon. So how is this, these management
11 practices affecting subsistence users.

12
13 The third one is a methods for
14 including quality of escapement measures in
15 establishing Chinook salmon spawning goals and
16 determining the reproductive potential of spawning
17 escapements.

18
19 The fourth is contemporary economic
20 strategies and practices in the context of diminished
21 salmon runs. Topics may include an evaluation of
22 barter, sharing and exchange of salmon for cash, as
23 well as other economic strategies and practices that
24 augment and support subsistence activities. Of
25 particular interest are distribution networks, decision
26 making, and the social and cultural aspects of salmon
27 harvest and use.

28
29 Now, we did do some of this work has
30 already been done. There's been some research done
31 like this in Emmonak, Marshall, Nulato, Beaver, and
32 Eagle concerning the Yukon salmon disaster that was
33 declared for 2011. So there has been a little bit of
34 this kind of work already done under this topic.

35
36 The fifth is a description of changes
37 through time in gillnet use versus driftnets, by mesh
38 size, for Chinook salmon subsistence harvest in the
39 mainstem Yukon River.

40
41 The next one is a complete genetic
42 baseline sampling and population marker for development
43 of sheefish spawning populations in the Kuskokwim [sic]
44 River drainage.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yukon River.

47
48 MR. RIVARD: Excuse me. Yeah, the
49 Yukon River drainage, and I think some of that work is
50 ongoing right now.

1 Harvest, use, and associated contextual
2 information for whitefish by species in the Lower Yukon
3 River drainage communities. And we've got some of that
4 that's been done. Harvest surveys have been completed
5 in Russian Mission, Anvik and Galena in 2012 in
6 relation to this kind of work.

7
8 A retrospective analyses concerning
9 effects of natural disasters, floods, fires, et cetera,
10 on salmon rearing and spawning habitat and subsistence
11 activities.

12
13 And then the last is Arctic lamprey
14 population assessment, including abundance, migration
15 patterns, and habitat needs.

16
17 So that's what we've got so far for what
18 we're going to put in the 2014 request for proposals.
19 If your Council has any other what you consider
20 priority information needs for the Yukon region, now is
21 the time to bring those up.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
24 suggestions, Council members concerning the monitoring
25 program for the Yukon.

26
27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) What's he
32 looking for?

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He's looking for
35 other priority information needs for the Yukon River
36 for the monitoring program.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If there isn't any,
41 and if you think of something else later, you might
42 want to drop Mr. Rivard a line or I think he's right at
43 the end of the -- a phone number. And your phone
44 number that we can reach you is?

45
46 MR. RIVARD: Would you like the 800
47 number?

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, the 800
50 number.

1 MR. RIVARD: 1-800 -- somebody is going
2 to have to help me out -- 456.....
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: 1-800-478-1456.
5
6 MR. RIVARD: 478-1456. Yeah. Thank
7 you.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 478?
10
11 MR. RIVARD: 1456. I don't call it
12 myself, but Greg obviously calls it a lot.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. And we'll
15 go on down to the next item.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: That's OSM's number?
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, OSM number.
20
21 MR. RIVARD: So again that's 1-800-478-
22 1456.
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The Kuskokwim
25 Region priority information needs. Mr. Jenkins.
26
27 MR. RIVARD: Yes. That starts on Page
28 170, and it's very similar. The list is very similar
29 to what I just read for the Yukon, but I'll go ahead
30 through them, because there's a little bit of
31 difference here. This is at the bottom of the Page
32 170, what's going to be in the 2014 request for
33 proposals.
34
35 Reliable estimates of Chinook, chum,
36 sockeye, and coho salmon escapement. So again those
37 are typically the weir projects that we fund.
38
39 The second, effects of on salmon stocks
40 and users of fishery management practices implemented
41 to conserve Chinook salmon.
42
43 Third is methods for including quality
44 of escapement in establishing Chinook salmon spawning
45 goals and determining the reproduction potential of
46 spawning escapements.
47
48 The third one, although it's still
49 listed here, it actually has been funded. It was
50 funded in 2012 and is ongoing, and that's the harvest,

1 use, and associated contextual information for
2 whitefish by species in Upper Kuskokwim River drainage
3 communities.

4
5 The next one is contextual information
6 associated with whitefish harvest by species in Central
7 Kuskokwim River drainage communities to supplement
8 information from previous research. Communities of
9 interest include Upper Kalskag, Lower Kalskag -- sorry,
10 Bob. So it's Upper Kalskag and Kalskag, right? No
11 lower. Aniak, Chuathbaluk, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Stony
12 River, and Crooked Creek.

13
14 The next one you see was also started
15 funding in 2012. there's a little bit of a change in
16 this. Harvest, use, and associated contextual
17 information for whitefish by species in Lower Kuskokwim
18 River drainages. Specific groups of communities of
19 interest are Kwethluk, which had a harvest survey
20 completed in 2011, Akiachak and Napaskiak, which
21 harvest surveys were completed in 2012, Tuluksak, where
22 a harvest survey was completed in 2011, and then a few
23 other communities as you see there listed. Some of
24 them I don't want to try to even try to pronounce.

25
26 The next one is broad whitefish
27 population assessment, including distribution and age
28 structure.

29
30 The next is location and timing of
31 Bering cisco spawning populations in the Kuskokwim
32 River drainage. That one has started in 2012. That's
33 being conducted by KNC, Kuskokwim Native. Mike
34 Tauhauser and LaDonn Robbins, who's here.

35
36 The next one is a complete genetic
37 baseline sampling and population marker development for
38 sheefish spawning populations in the Kuskokwim River
39 drainage.

40
41 And the one that Council wanted to see
42 this year that you talked about in a previous Council
43 meeting, estimate the number of salmon, by species,
44 transported from the Kuskokwim River drainage each year
45 by Federal and State subsistence users. And that was
46 also one of your topics in your latest annual report,
47 and that's how it was responded, that it would be put
48 in as one of the information needs that your Council
49 would like to see.

50

1 So these are just what would go into
2 our call for proposals. It doesn't necessarily mean
3 that they'll be addressed in 2014, but we're hoping
4 that somebody will look at this and say, yes, I want to
5 do research on that particular, or look into that
6 particular topic.

7
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
11 Rivard.

12
13 Ms. Gregory.

14
15 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. The
16 whitefish that Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok and
17 Chefornak use is the Bering cisco. The cisco for the
18 Upper Kuskokwim is very limited. It's very limited.
19 There's a few ciscos in the Kuskokwim River, but the
20 main fish, the main whitefish in those villages is the
21 Bering cisco.

22
23 MR. RIVARD: The coastal villages are
24 using the Bering cisco? Okay.

25
26 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, that's the only one
27 they catch unless they go to other places like east
28 coast around Eek Island and Eek and other places.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
31 other Kuskokwim Region priority needs. Mr. James
32 Charles.

33
34 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

35
36
37 I'll answer Mary's question about those
38 places. Those villages come up the river now to Galick
39 and Inliak (ph). Those same villages you mentioned,
40 they start coming, even from Kipnuk, the come around
41 now to harvest whitefish.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: That's what I just told
44 him.

45
46 MR. CHARLES: Yeah. Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

49
50 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank, you, Mr.

1 Chairman.

2

3 And I just wanted to make sure what you
4 had included here. I mean, I agree with your list and
5 I endorse it. I appreciate that it's there. But just
6 that number 2 that you have there for effects on salmon
7 stock, users, and for the Yukon you go into a little
8 bit more specifics for those practices that are
9 implemented to conserve Chinook, and you mentioned the
10 gillnet mesh size. And I'd just like to see that it's
11 not omitted by the fact that it's not included here,
12 but that those issues as they relate to that quality of
13 escapement issue would be included within that second
14 bullet item that you have on the effects on the stocks
15 and users. I mean, this is all going to be coming down
16 anyway with the new escapement goals that are out and
17 sort of identify some of these areas, and the gap
18 analysis hopefully from the meeting that's scheduled
19 for two weeks from now.

20

21 Getting after the quality of escapement
22 issues versus quantity of escapement, you know, we had
23 that last summer. There was the big hold up over
24 5,000, whether it was going to be 126,000 versus
25 131,000 escapement disagreement. And that's, you know,
26 kind of almost like a nitpicky thing when you're
27 talking about quality versus quantity, but, anyhow,
28 just to make sure that that's included. And I'm sure
29 it's there, it's in reference, but the whole thing
30 about proposals that have been put forward on the
31 possibility between drift versus setnets, for example,
32 for allowing the passage of fish that are going farther
33 up stream and out in the middle of the river and
34 wouldn't be affected by a setnet fishery.

35

36 And the other is your item 10 on that
37 estimation for the numbers transported out. And again
38 I just was hoping it wouldn't be limiting by
39 specifically identifying Federal and State subsistence
40 users. We'd like to identify all non-commercial. I
41 mean, commercial uses are already documented by
42 numbers, pounds, and species. But essentially all non-
43 commercial use transported out by species by all users,
44 you know, what's not accounted for here. Just in case
45 somebody finds a way around by saying I'm, you know,
46 capturing it under some other guise or use that
47 wouldn't be identified as a subsistence use. You know,
48 just to make it a little more all-inclusive, basically
49 all non-commercial, transport by all users.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard. Go
2 ahead.
3
4 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair.
5
6 I've made that note on that particular
7 one.
8
9 And I guess just to make sure I
10 understand you fully, Greg, you're basically agreeing
11 with this list, but you want the same wording for the
12 effects on salmon stocks in the Kuskokwim as what's in
13 the Yukon? The Yukon one is a little bit -- it shows
14 some examples of things. Do you want that exact
15 language in for Kuskokwim as well; is that what you're
16 saying?
17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: If you need to have them
19 incorporated in there, you know, if they're not going
20 to be omitted. Are they incorporated by reference by
21 the fact that they were mentioned on the Yukon, or do
22 you need to get that specific within the RFP?
23
24 MR. RIVARD: I'll put a note to myself
25 that we be consistent, whichever way we go, but
26 probably the more detailed is probably the way to go
27 with that.
28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. And like I said,
30 the main point I want to get at is after that quantity
31 versus quality of escapement and ways to address that.
32 I want to make sure that that's a part of both of those
33 numbers 2 and 3.
34
35 MR. RIVARD: So noted.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
40 suggestions for the Kuskokwim. Mr. Charles.
41
42 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
43 Why are Eek and Tuntutuliak left out on harvesting
44 whitefish? Is it because we are right by the whitefish
45 lakes over there or why? And those other villages,
46 they come to us, Tuntutuliak and Eek. And Eek has
47 whitefish on Eenayarak and Tuntutuliak has whitefish on
48 the river, on our river and Galick.
49
50 MR. RIVARD: Okay. So, James, what I'm

1 taking from you is that you would like to see Eek and
2 Tuntutuliak included in this list of Lower Kuskokwim
3 River communities for whitefish.

4

5 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

6

7 MR. RIVARD: We can do that.

8

9 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other.....

12

13 MR. RIVARD: Hold on, Pippa.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.

16

17 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18 Don.

19

20 I just wanted -- that it would be good
21 to have them. I just wanted to add the reason why that
22 they are not there is that the Alaska Department of
23 Fish and Game through their Division of Subsistence,
24 and that would be Narolko (ph) if she's there.

25

26 MR. RIVARD: She's not.

27

28 MS. KENNER: Had conducted these
29 surveys and research, oh, sometime within the last five
30 years. And they published a report that we've been
31 using a lot. And these other communities, we hadn't
32 talked to them, so they became our priority information
33 need. But it might be time to put them back on the
34 list and go back to talk to people in Eek and
35 Tuntutuliak to see if there's been any changes. I just
36 wanted to add that.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

41 Mr. Roczicka.

42

43 MR. ROCZICKA: Just a quick follow up
44 on that, and I was going to ask why the other
45 communities hadn't been included, and specifically
46 Napakiak and Johnson River, tundra villages, and so I'm
47 assuming that's also the case, that they have already
48 had that level of research done within their
49 communities; is that correct, Pippa?

50

1 MS. KENNER: Greg, through the Chair.
2 Thanks. Could you just repeat the communities, because
3 I think they're all in a different situation. I think
4 that -- oh, and it was through -- it was with AVCP,
5 that's right. It was Napaskiak, Tuntutuliak, and Eek,
6 and so -- or, excuse me, it was Nunap. It was in
7 Nunapichuk, Tuntutuliak, and Eek. And did you mention
8 Napasiak and Napakiak?

9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: The ones I didn't see
11 here besides what James had mentioned, it would have
12 been Napakiak and since you said Nunap was included, it
13 would be Chumakuluk (ph) and Kasigluk.

14
15 MS. KENNER: I won't spend too long on
16 it. That's a really good question and I'll look into
17 it. Some of these -- well, these priority information
18 needs for whitefish came out of a strategic plan for
19 whitefish research, and these communities were put into
20 these priority information needs that came out of the
21 strategic plan. And it could be that for some reason
22 communities around those communities had already been
23 surveyed, or the type of whitefish species that were
24 most interested in for the purposes of managing
25 subsistence fisheries weren't being caught abundantly
26 in those communities. Those could be a couple of the
27 reasons why they were left off, meaning they were
28 looking for communities that were maybe more
29 representative.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right. Mr.
36 Aloysius, did you have a comment.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I hate to bring
39 this up again, but, you know, my favorite topic is
40 abandoned beaver dams. And even now today it's the
41 active beaver dams that are causing more of a problem
42 for migratory home fish. Those are the whitefish and
43 the pike. And the annual report didn't even mention
44 the simple fact that abandoned beaver dams cause
45 adverse impact and multiple incidents to the whitefish
46 and the pike population of this area. It only
47 mentioned things about hunting and edible plants and
48 rubber boats and small boats, but nothing about the
49 real issue of why I keep bringing it up. Abandoned
50 beaver dams are a detriment to our whitefish

1 population, and the pike population, because they
2 restrict and literally stop the migratory of those
3 fish. And so our whitefish populations have been going
4 down. Our pike populations have been going down. And
5 it would be great if there was some effort to really
6 address how we can help the whitefish and the pike
7 increase in number, and the ability of our people to
8 harvest those fish.

9

10 Now, I don't know how else to say it,
11 because I'm not really fluent in English and I get
12 frustrated because I can't express myself nicely a lot
13 of time. I get frustrated and I started getting very
14 emotional.

15

16 But there's got to be something done
17 with the abandoned beaver dams, especially up in the
18 higher areas. Mainstream I have no problems with
19 beaver dams in the main streams, because they help the
20 salmon populations. All right. But it's the abandoned
21 beaver dams and now there's more problems with the
22 active beaver dams in the whole delta. So, you know,
23 I'd like to see something done to rectify that problem.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: MR. Rivard.

28

29 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 I've heard Bob's concerns and others on
32 this Council for most of the time that I've been here,
33 which is almost 12 years now. And we don't take it
34 lightly. We know that it's something that's a concern
35 for you and others.

36

37 As far as how this may or may not fit
38 into the resource -- the Federal Subsistence Management
39 Program, if what you're trying to do is maybe study the
40 effects of these abandoned dams on certain fish
41 populations, that may be something that could be funded
42 under this program. If what you're really trying to
43 get at is help us remove these beaver dams, if that's
44 really what your goal is, then this is not the way that
45 you would do it, because we're not going to be able to
46 fund under this program actually removing the dams.
47 That's done with the management agencies such as the
48 National Wildlife Refuge, and it's one of your topics
49 of your annual report, and in that it talks about going
50 through a State agency for getting some of these dams

1 removed.

2

3 So maybe I just need a clarification
4 from you is if your goal is really to get rid of these
5 dams, then we need to try to look at something else.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

8

9 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'd really like to find
10 some way for OSM to help us get the process started,
11 you know. Where can we go and what can we do, you
12 know, at the residents of this area who depend on the
13 whitefish and the pike for subsistence food. It's
14 getting to a point where it's more and more frustrating
15 every year where you can't go from one place to another
16 because you have to avoid that stream, except this
17 summer when the water really high. But normally you
18 can't go from a village to a berrypicking area or a
19 fishing area for whitefish and pike, because beaver
20 dams are blocking the access.

21

22 But if there was some way that you can
23 help us get something started and how to approach the
24 State and their whatever they call that, you know, to
25 help us get something going.

26

27 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Pippa.

30

31 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa Kenner with
32 OSM.

33

34 Bob, through the Chair, are you looking
35 for a funding source to help support removal of these
36 abandoned dams?

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

39

40 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, I'm not looking for
41 support to remove the beaver. I'm looking for support
42 on finding ways to secure funding to get rid of these
43 abandoned beaver dams with whoever has the authority to
44 remove those beaver dams. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Got that, Ms.

47 Pippa.

48

49 MR. RIVARD: Pippa, you were asked a
50 question.

1 MS. KENNER: Can I have that question
2 repeated please? There was some noise and I can't hear
3 Bob very well. what was the question.

4
5 MR. RIVARD: Did you hear the last
6 things that Bob said about trying to find funding
7 sources for getting these dams removed.

8
9 MS. KENNER: Okay. I can't hear Bob
10 very well, but it sounded like his response is, yes, he
11 is looking for funding sources.

12
13 MR. RIVARD: Well, that wasn't his
14 answer.

15
16 MS. KENNER: Okay. This is Pippa
17 Kenner again from OSM.

18
19 So I will contact -- Mr. Chair, I'll
20 contact Bob on the side after the meeting and talk to
21 him about it. There are ways of removing abandoned
22 dams. And it has come up at this meeting quite a few
23 times in the past, and we have gotten some good
24 responses from State and Federal Staff about how it can
25 be done. And because I've had the pleasure of being at
26 a lot of those meetings, I have that information more
27 specifically, and I'll bring it to them.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.

32
33 Anything else on this monitoring
34 program. Mr. Brown.

35
36 MR. BROWN: Since I see this broad
37 whitefish, I just want to -- this is my concern. I
38 just want to express that we use four-and-a-half mesh
39 size. That's the common size that we use for broad
40 whitefish. I just want to legalize that mesh size for
41 whitefish, if it's possible.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

44
45 MR. RIVARD: Well, Mr. Chair. Mr.
46 Brown. That's a regulatory issue and it doesn't
47 addressed with the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
48 Program. I'm not sure, I don't have the book in front
49 of me as to what the regulations are, but I believe you
50 can already fish legally for whitefish with four-and-a-

1 half-inch mesh net would be my guess. My
2 understanding. Do you think that it's not legal to
3 fish with that size net?

4
5 MR. BROWN: Under fish or protection,
6 sometimes some of the folks they say -- I think it's
7 just a rumor that some of the people, they're kind of
8 afraid their mesh size is kind of smaller. But to me,
9 that we use common size, pink sizes, four-and-a-half
10 mesh.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do we have.....

13
14 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. I'll research
15 that a little bit, what the regulations are. I don't
16 have a regulation book in front of me and it might take
17 a little bit of time, and I can get back to Mr. Brown
18 either through Alex or give him a call directly.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

21
22 Any more discussion on the monitoring
23 program priority needs.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I think we've
28 covered this enough, so we can go on to the next item.

29
30 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Identify FY 2012
33 annual report topics. Is that you, Mr. Jenkins.

34
35 DR. JENKINS: Yes. David Jenkins, Mr.
36 Chair.

37
38 And this is your opportunity to
39 identify those topics for our next annual report.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council members.

42
43 DR. JENKINS: Pardon me. There are on
44 Page 174 guidance for submitting these if you need to
45 refresh your memory, but you probably.....

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 124 you said?

48
49 DR. JENKINS: 174.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 174.

2

3 DR. JENKINS: If you need to refresh
4 your memory.

5

6 Briefly these reports to the Federal
7 Subsistence Board identify your current concerns on any
8 subsistence issues that have arisen in this last year.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that
11 again?

12

13 DR. JENKINS: You have the opportunity
14 now to write a letter to the Federal Subsistence Board
15 through your annual report about any of the subsistence
16 issues over this last year that are of concern to you.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Hear that, Council.
19 You have any other topics besides that. Ms. Mary, Ms.
20 Gregory.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I read the
23 Federal Subsistence Chair response to our annual
24 report. And in it there were lots of things that were
25 happening, and a lot of people were not understanding
26 our language. And the way we were talking in English
27 were not legible to people who were on the receiving
28 end. And I know, because me, I think like Yup'ik and I
29 talk like Yup'ik even if I'm speaking in English. And
30 when I speak in Yup'ik talk and process, it's different
31 from yours.

32

33 So I was kind of offended by that,
34 because you couldn't -- you told us to speak in good
35 English terms. That was my concern. If we don't speak
36 good English, then you have to put up with us and ask
37 us what do we mean by that, not ridicule or (In
38 Yup'ik).

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, anyway we're
41 down to identifying the fiscal 2012 annual report
42 topics.

43

44 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just make sure that
47 you stick to that topic. Mr. Roczicka.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 MS. KENNER: Mr. Chair. This is Pippa.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: I thought we were on

4 Page 174.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That is the
7 guidance for annual reports is there on Page 174. And
8 one of the report contents was identified by Mr.
9 Jenkins as being identification of current and
10 anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife
11 populations within the region.

12

13 Mr. Nick.

14

15 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick,
16 Council coordinator.

17

18 It's the same thing that you've been
19 doing.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Every year.

22

23 MR. NICK: Every year. And what Mr.
24 Jenkins is looking for, what we're looking for a topic
25 and a recommendation how that issue is going to be
26 dealt with by the Federal Board.

27

28 Mr. Chair.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
31 Nick.

32

33 MR. NICK: And for your information, we
34 need to get these topics so that we could provide a
35 draft annual report during your winter meeting.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
38 current anticipated subsistence uses of our wildlife
39 population within our region. Any concerns that you
40 would like to put out.

41

42 Mr. Roczicka.

43

44 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
45 This is more of a broader scope, and I was going to ask
46 this directly of Alex, but as I understood it's not
47 going to get finalized until next February, so you are
48 just looking for topics at the moment. And one of the
49 main concerns we had, of course, is, and we've tried to
50 bring it up in the past, being dissatisfied with

1 replies and so forth, so specifically the issue at the
2 heart of a lot of our problems is in a previous
3 response that we received that the Federal Board does
4 not have any authority, and in essence their member
5 agencies and departments do not old any accountability
6 for providing for subsistence needs through managing
7 their populations to provide for subsistence. The
8 Board has no authority over that, and it's just kind of
9 shoved off. They say, we can't do anything about it.

10

11 So what I would like to have to bring
12 that issue back, how can the Board -- what do we need
13 to do as Council members or
14 representatives of our various constituencies to bring
15 these agencies into a level of accountability.

16

17 And this issue of bycatch that people
18 have brought up consistently with the fisheries. Maybe
19 we ought to get a representative from the Federal Board
20 or from the subsistence community on the North Pacific
21 Fisheries Management Council. On the other side,
22 getting NMFS involved, getting the Fish and Wildlife
23 Service. But get some direct feedback, what needs to
24 be changed? What needs to happen to bring these other
25 Federal, the management agencies, into providing
26 managing their populations to provide for subsistence.
27 Or if, as in the case probably with the National Park
28 Service, they say, well, we don't do that, period. But
29 I really want it to be addressed through the Federal
30 management system to the maximum extent possible.

31

32 How essentially the Fish and Wildlife
33 Service can stand up and say, people are just going to
34 have to find something else to eat, which has happened
35 in different occasions. It happened last year with
36 fish and fortunately we do have other species we can do
37 it, but on the wildlife things, in some cases where,
38 and I go back again to the Unimak Caribou Herd, where
39 the Wilderness Act and other Federal policies were
40 given equal consideration, were done internally at an
41 administrative level, were elevated to the point of
42 saying that they had equal consideration as Title VIII
43 of ANILCA, and nowhere in any of that legislation or
44 policy was there Congressional priority putting in
45 place such as there was in Title VIII of ANILCA and its
46 whole reason for being there.

47

48 So that's my issue, is how do we make
49 these other agencies accountable. And if they're not
50 accountable, they need to say so.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
2 Roczicka.
3
4 Any other. Ms. Gregory.
5
6 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. If you're
7 looking for topics, I would like to put in what
8 happened. And if you guys are offended by my language,
9 forgive me.
10
11 It was an abusive management practice
12 by those people who regulate the fish by not letting us
13 fish for our own king salmon. As a result, we're mad.
14
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other topics.
17 Any other topics that Council would like to identify.
18 Mr. Charles.
19
20 MR. CHARLES: I agree with Mary, Mr.
21 Chairman, because Fish and Wildlife Service is for
22 subsistence, and that's what I keep telling -- I'm
23 talking about since yesterday. I mentioned that, too,
24 since Fish and Wildlife Service is for subsistence, and
25 we -- I agree with you for letting us subsistence fish
26 during the king salmon season.
27
28 Thank you.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other topics.
31
32 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew.
35
36 MR. N. ANDREW: In the language that
37 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act has very fine print
38 in it which says, it does not touch aboriginal
39 entitlement for us. And the State of Alaska itself, it
40 has a constitution, Article XII, Section 12, a
41 disclaimer clause. These are some of the things that I
42 look into.
43
44 I'm in line with what Mary and James
45 are speaking about. I just wanted to bring that out
46 for your information.
47
48 Thank you.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other topics

1 that need identifying. If not, we're going to the next
2 item. Mr. Brown.

3

4 MR. BROWN: I have concern about the
5 test fishery. I'd just like to see more appropriate
6 information from the test fisheries to put this setnet
7 in the Chinook season. That would be accurate for me.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that
10 again? I didn't quite.....

11

12 MR. BROWN: Setnet beside the driftnet.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We're identifying
15 current -- that has to do with subsistence use of fish.

16

17 MR. BROWN: You know, this was mainly
18 for the commercial purposes, that test fishery was the
19 information for the escapement numbers. And I'd just
20 like to see a setnet beside the driftnetting on the
21 Bethel test fisheries for the cohos. I mean, Chinook.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

24

25 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. If this is
26 strictly for commercial fisheries, then this is really
27 something that has to be take up with the State. And
28 the State addressed it earlier in the meeting as to why
29 setnets haven't been used as part of a test fishery.
30 So this may be an ongoing issue between Mr. Brown and
31 ADF&G, but it's not something that the Federal program
32 would be involved with at all.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you hear that?

35

36 MR. BROWN: (No audible answer)

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other topics
39 that you would like to identify.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, we'll go on
44 -- Ms. Gregory.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. Mr. OSM.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: You told us that it was

1 not an OSM problem, but I think what MR. Brown is
2 saying is that you guys are supposed to look out for
3 our interest, and therefore he's asking you to help in
4 pursuing what his concern is.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

7

8 MR. RIVARD: Thank you. Ms. Gregory,
9 Charlie just made it very specific that it's for
10 commercial fishing. I just heard he wanted setnet
11 testing for commercial fishing for coho.

12

13 MS. GREGORY: For Chinook.

14

15 MR. RIVARD: And Chinook. And/or
16 Chinook. So that's something that's an issue that has
17 to be dealt with with the State, Alaska Department of
18 Fish and Game.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

21

22 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. My personal
23 understanding of Charlie's intent and the comment is
24 that there also be -- and the term maybe that some
25 people will understand, supplemental method of doing
26 test fishery, like set gillnets. And the reason why I
27 speak up is because of the fact that the test fishery
28 here in Bethel is not only for commercial, it's also
29 used for -- it also affects the subsistence fishing up
30 and down the Yukon -- or rather Kuskokwim.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Is that
33 what you were after.

34

35 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmative)

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Brown.

38

39 Any other topics. Well, we're going
40 then -- are there any more topics before we go on to
41 the next item.

42

43 MS. GREGORY: I voiced my concern
44 already.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's go on
49 to the next item, please.

50

1 DR. JENKINS: Okay. Mr. Chair. The
2 next action item is a review of the Council charter,
3 which starts on Page 176.

4
5 And my understanding is that the only
6 thing that you could change in this charter would be
7 the name of the Regional Advisory Council. So if
8 you're sufficiently happy with how the charter reads,
9 you can take action on it and move on.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are completely
12 happy with it.

13
14 (Laughter)_

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It took us a long
17 time to come up with our name at one time, you know,
18 and that is what we chose to be called or be known as,
19 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory
20 Council.

21
22 Mr. Nick. Or Mr. Robert, I'm sorry,
23 Aloysius.

24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Now, this
26 committee? Committee? It's not a committee, it's a
27 Council. It should be Council official designation.
28 And then the next sentence says the Council's official
29 designation is. You know, let's make up our mind. Are
30 we a committee or a council? And designation is the
31 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory,
32 and then like an afterthought, Council. I need
33 clarification on that.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Jenkins, I know
36 you're going to come up with something.

37
38 DR. JENKINS: And I'm going to provide
39 absolutely no clarification for that. I don't know the
40 origins of this. My understanding however, is that
41 this is a governmental document in the charter. You
42 all can't change the charter. You can change the name
43 of the charter, but the charter is in place. So
44 whether committee or council is used for whatever
45 governmental purposes, I can't speak to. Sorry, Mr.
46 Aloysius.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
49 on the charter. Go ahead, Mr. Roczicka.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

2

3 I read that council there is just --
4 that throughout the rest of -- being that it's in
5 parenthesis, and maybe it's a typo that they should
6 have put council there both times, but the word council
7 refers to the entire name throughout the rest of the
8 document, would be my read of that, is the purpose it's
9 in parenthesis there.

10

11 But the only other question I had is
12 that you have the annual operating costs associated,
13 and, of course, these Councils have been in place a
14 long time, and I'm just wondering, is that estimated
15 annual cost, that \$150,000, is that from 15, 20 years
16 ago? Has it been something that's there all the time,
17 or has that been updated?

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Jenkins.

20

21 DR. JENKINS: And I believe that's a
22 fairly accurate figure, but I can't speak to the
23 specifics of it, Mr. Roczicka.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything else on
26 the.....

27

28 MS. KENNER: Greg, through the Chair.
29 This was signed, this particular version was signed in
30 2011, and so these are good ballpark figures as of
31 2011.

32

33 And we do oftentimes get new members on
34 the Councils, and we are required to review the charter
35 with the Councils from time to time to make them aware
36 of what their charter is, not just to possibly change
37 it.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Anything
40 else on the charter. Mr. Aloysius.

41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't see anything,
43 maybe I'm missing it, but I don't see any wording on
44 compensation.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Actually it does.

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: And we've gone through
49 this many times before that we have put in a request to
50 be compensated at least with a stipend, not only by per

1 diem. And I don't see anything in here.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Actually it does. It's
4 actually identified in 12.

5

6 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Item 12, last
9 paragraph.

10

11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Item 12.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Members of the
14 Council will serve without compensation. However,
15 while away from their homes or regular places of
16 business, Council and subcommittee members engaged in
17 Council or subcommittee business, approved by the DFO,
18 may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in
19 lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons
20 employed intermittently in government services under
21 Section 5703 of Title 5 of the United States Code.

22

23 Mr. Nick.

24

25 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
26 Council. As you remember in the past, the compensation
27 was brought up and it was recommended to OSM, and OSM
28 came back and reported to your Council that because of
29 the policies, it couldn't be done.

30

31 Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

34 Nick.

35

36 Mr. Aloysius, I know you've got a
37 comment.

38

39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, you know, we also
40 asked OSM to look into how we can change this thing of
41 non-compensation to be able to be compensated, because,
42 you know, other agencies compensate their members with
43 a stipend, and we never heard anything back, just
44 they're saying that we can't do it, you know. And
45 there's never been any information on how we can pursue
46 that.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

49

50 MR. RIVARD: Your Council as well as

1 the other ones here in the State have been formed under
2 the Federal Advisory Committee Act, FACA, F-A-C-A.
3 That's why it's called a committee initially is because
4 what the overall Federal government consider these
5 things basically, advisory committees. And your name
6 is a council. So that's why there's a little
7 discrepancy there.

8

9 But this is a Federal law, and it
10 pertains to all these type of advisory committees
11 throughout the United States, all 50 states, and so in
12 order for you to get compensated, the law would have to
13 be changed. So if you really want to pursue that, that
14 probably means going to your senators and your
15 congressman to start that process. That's why OSM
16 keeps coming back and saying, no, we can't do that,
17 because it's a Federal law and that's the way it's set
18 up. And we try to stress it. It's in your charter
19 that you will not be compensated, that this is a
20 volunteer, something you do voluntarily, and we really
21 appreciate it. We understand why you would request
22 maybe a stipend, but this is Federal law, so it can't
23 be changed from our point, nor can the Federal Board
24 change it. It's a Federal law. So I just wanted to
25 reemphasize that.

26

27 We also try to make it real clear when
28 people are appointed to again remind them that this is
29 a volunteer position that you're going into, and you
30 will not be compensated, because we don't want to have
31 any misconceptions that somehow you're going to get a
32 stipend. So I think that's made clear when anybody's
33 appointed to the Council.

34

35 Thank you.

36

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, it's very clear to
38 me, but it's still very heartbreaking, because the cost
39 of everything is going up and up and up and up. And a
40 lot of times it's a lot cheaper to stay at home.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
43 discussion on this Council charter.

44

45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I know I'm
46 the one that suffers the most, because I live in
47 Bethel. I don't get no stipend or anything. Sometimes
48 I would like to get maybe fill my gas tank for coming
49 and going to the meetings.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And that is one of
2 the reasons why we wanted to change the meeting and go
3 into other villages, but I think that's been shot down,
4 too.

5
6 On that note, Mr. Nick, one more
7 statement and then we'll go on to the next item. We're
8 burning time.

9
10 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
11 Members of the Council. As you remember, there was a
12 report given to you last winter that I believe SRC was
13 requesting to raise the per diem rate. But we don't
14 have that information right now.

15
16 Mr. Chair.

17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
19 Nick.

20
21 Okay. With that, let us go onto the
22 next item. OSM agency reports.

23
24 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. We can go
25 through these fairly quickly. It starts on Page 180.

26
27 You can see on Page 180 there's been a
28 number of staff changes at the Office of Subsistence
29 Management. Kathy O'Reilly-Doyle is now the new Deputy
30 Assistant Regional Director. She's taken the position
31 that Polly Wheeler used to hold.

32
33 We have a new Native liaison, Jack
34 Lorrigan, who came on board a couple of months ago.

35
36 George Pappas has now come over to OSM
37 and left State employ.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 DR. JENKINS: So you can read the rest
44 of the folks who are there.

45
46 A budget update. We're continuing to
47 have budget problems as we've discussed quite a bit,
48 and perhaps as much as much as 30 percent reduction
49 from 2010 fiscal year funding levels. And as you know,
50 that's truncated some of our travel and some of your

1 travel. So we're working within the budgets that we
2 have, and it's been fairly difficult. But we're
3 continuing to do as best we can with the limited funds
4 that we're getting.

5

6 And then if we can move on to the
7 Council membership -- unless there's a question about
8 staffing or budget, I can just keep moving through
9 these relatively quickly.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.
12 Roczicka, I'm sorry.

13

14 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 And on budget, you mentioned that 30
17 percent cut from the FY 2010 funding levels and so
18 forth. And what can we do and where to possibly help
19 bolster that along the lines? I mean, I've been asked
20 several times with the increased funding that have gone
21 to the Interior Department, why, we should be sitting
22 in really good shape for subsistence in Alaska. And if
23 that's a Secretarial decision, and given this current
24 President's huge statement that he's going to be seeing
25 to the needs of Native Americans and to have the
26 subsistence management in Alaska suffer, and as I
27 understand it, the vast majority of those funds did go
28 to the Park Service to build new shelter cabins and
29 things of that nature to enhance their campgrounds
30 across the country, is there something that can be
31 done? And I know you can't as an employee certainly,
32 but us as individuals and representatives of our
33 constituency, where is that funding shortfall coming?
34 Is it Congressional cuts? I would be hard pressed to
35 believe that the Secretary wouldn't have a large
36 influence, or could find a funding for Alaska
37 subsistence management program if he so chose.

38

39 DR. JENKINS: Well, you can certainly
40 work as individuals through your own senators or
41 congressmen, and express your opinions about funding
42 levels for subsistence and the structures that support
43 subsistence.

44

45 We don't yet have a 2013 budget. These
46 are projected shortfalls. It may not be as drastic as
47 that, or it may be. We're not sure. But you could try
48 your influence as citizens.

49

50 We've also been trying, OSM has been

1 trying to get the RAC travel itself exempted from our
2 budget ceiling. So this is something that we've been
3 trying to do internally. And if we can get that
4 exempted from our ceilings, then we'll have a little
5 more flexibility for everyone.

6

7 So we're working very hard internally
8 to make sure that there's sufficient funding for this
9 program to continue. But other than political
10 pressure, which is one avenue that you could take, I'm
11 not sure what else, what other options I could offer
12 you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything else on
15 the budget update.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If there isn't,
20 let's go to the next topic, Council membership
21 application/nomination update.

22

23 DR. JENKINS: Okay. This topic is
24 about applications and nominations to your Council.
25 And I want to let you know that OSM sent out over 1500
26 Regional Advisory Council applications to a variety of
27 individuals and villages and towns and tribes and
28 corporations. And the period closed on February 18th,
29 2012 -- or, pardon me, will close on February 18th,
30 2012. And we received 67 applications and nominations,
31 but we have low applications from a number of Regional
32 Advisory Council areas. And so we're concerned about
33 the low numbers of nominations and applications. Your
34 own Council has one vacancy at this moment.

35

36 And so part of this briefing is to let
37 you know that there is generally a low application and
38 nomination rate for Regional Advisory Councils. And
39 you could perhaps provide some insight into or
40 suggestions for improving those nominations and
41 applications that we are receiving, the numbers of them
42 that we're receiving.

43

44 Now, we don't yet know who will be
45 appointed to the various Regional Advisory Councils for
46 this coming year. We'll know that I think in December,
47 and at that point we'll let you know.

48

49 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
2 questions.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, let's
7 continue.

8
9 DR. JENKINS: The next topic is rural
10 determination, and as you may be aware, the Federal
11 Subsistence Board -- the Secretary suggested or
12 directed the Federal Subsistence Board to review the
13 rural determination method and process, that is, to
14 review how the Federal Subsistence Board decides which
15 areas of Alaska are rural in order to provide the
16 subsistence priority to the folks who live in rural
17 areas of Alaska. And the Board has begun that process
18 and the review.

19
20 And the first step will be a public
21 notice that will be published in the Federal Register
22 in January of next year asking for public comment. So
23 the Board has asked OSM Staff to begin the review of
24 the rural determination process with public input. So
25 we're going to ask the public what they think about
26 rural determinations and the methods that are used in
27 those determinations. And you can look at some of the
28 -- on Page 182 some of the topics that will addressed,
29 including rural definitions, population thresholds for
30 what communities are rural and which ones are not.
31 What are rural characteristics? How do you aggregate
32 various communities together into larger population
33 numbers? And so on.

34
35 So this whole process could take four
36 or five years to work through but the Board has
37 directed us to begin it in order to potentially revise
38 and improve the process of determining rural status of
39 communities in Alaska for the subsistence priority.

40
41 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
44 Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Roczicka.

45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

47
48 And, Mr. Jenkins, once that is
49 published, that's probably a 90-day review period if
50 I'm reading correctly. And what is published will be

1 the current definitions, thresholds, and so forth for
2 the public to comment on? How does that actually work?

3
4 DR. JENKINS: We're drafting the public
5 notice right now, but, yes, it will include what the
6 current areas of Alaska that are rural, the thresholds,
7 the aggregation criteria, the rural characteristics and
8 so on, and asking public input about whether these are
9 appropriate, useful, or actually work for determining
10 rural areas of Alaska. So it will be a global review
11 in that way.

12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: And is that a 90-day,
14 120-day?

15
16 DR. JENKINS: Yeah, I believe the first
17 will be a 90-day and then the RACS will be one of the
18 forum for public to provide input onto rural status and
19 non-rural status.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything else on
22 rural determination process, methods review.
23 Questions. Mr. Aloysius.

24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there any weight to
26 the simple fact that 90 percent of our villages are
27 remote and not rural?

28
29 DR. JENKINS: Currently whether a
30 community is road accessible is one of the
31 characteristics to make a rural area, so yes some
32 weight has been given to that in prior rural
33 determinations. What you call remote. So, yes, it is
34 part of the determination.

35
36 The problem becomes, Mr. Aloysius, when
37 there are communities that are being engulfed by larger
38 communities. Ketchikan is engulfing a smaller
39 community for example, and is it going to retain its
40 rural status. So part of the problem is as Alaska
41 communities grow, how do we determine what is rural and
42 what is non-rural in order that the subsistence
43 priority remains for rural folks.

44
45 So the review is probably not going to
46 any -- change the rural status of these remote
47 communities. I mean, it won't change the rural status
48 of these remote communities. But it's the less remote
49 ones that are ambiguous and at issue here.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any more questions
2 on rural determination.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, let's go on
7 down to briefing on consultation policies.

8
9 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. The Federal
10 Subsistence Board adopted its government-to-government
11 tribal consultation policy in May of 2012, and it has
12 postponed the supplemental ANCSA corporation
13 consultation policy in waiting for the Department of
14 Interior to finalize its own policy on ANCSA
15 corporations.

16
17 MS. SWANTON: It has passed.

18
19 DR. JENKINS: Did it pass?

20
21 MR. RIVARD: Yes.

22
23 DR. JENKINS: Which has passed now.
24 Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Nancy.

25
26 So we have held on September 18th and
27 19th tribal and ANCSA consultation. And over two days
28 we had -- on fisheries regulatory proposals. So we've
29 consulted with some tribes and some ANCSA corporations
30 on these fishery regulatory proposals, some of this
31 you've read and talked about. On September 18th and
32 19th we had 10 tribes call in and 8 ANCSA corporations
33 were represented on one of the calls.

34
35 We had two Board members who
36 participated, Tony Christianson, one of the rural
37 members was available on the tribal call, and Joel
38 Hard, who was acting from Sue Masica of the National
39 Park Service was available for the ANCSA corporation
40 call. So the Federal Subsistence Board members are
41 part of this consultation process.

42
43 So it's beginning, and we're trying to
44 figure out ways to best implement how to consult with
45 tribes and ANCSA corporations.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions. Mr.
50 Aloysius.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Did I hear you say that
2 ANCSA corporations were considered tribes?

3
4 DR. JENKINS: No, they're not
5 considered tribes, but we're required to consult with
6 ANCSA corporations.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
9 concerning the briefing on consultation policies. Mr.
10 James Charles.

11
12 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13
14 That's what -- the tribal consultation
15 is what I like the tribal from this area to understand
16 and to have something to say to the policy makers, and
17 from this area, but there has been no tribal people in
18 interested in that. I don't know why they don't --
19 they seem to be like me. I don't understand things
20 right away. So they may not know that they can be
21 recognized as tribal when we want something changed on
22 Federal side. They seem like they don't understand,
23 but if they understand, maybe they will have -- there
24 will be more people to help you with the proposals or
25 other things that you want to work on.

26
27 So that's my -- that's what I want
28 people or the RAC members to understand. Because they
29 may not know that they can be used as helpers.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
34 discussion on consultation policies. Mr. Roczicka.

35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37
38 Just to comment on the last one, and I
39 actually passed this out to Mr. Nick when he informed
40 me of the last tribal consultation that was scheduled
41 the third week of September right at the end of moose
42 season, and I realize that you guys maybe were under
43 some kind of time constraints, but if you would have
44 chosen a date when you were probably going to minimize
45 participation, the third week of September is one of
46 those, just like the middle of June is.

47
48 DR. JENKINS: Thank you for that
49 comment. And we're certainly not trying to minimize,
50 we're trying to maximize participation, and we will

1 continue to try to maximize participation.

2

3 And to Mr. Charles point, if you all
4 could help in your regions to alert tribes to the fact
5 that they can now have government-to-government
6 consultation, that would be greatly appreciated.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
11 or comments.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, we're going
16 down to item 12, agency reports. The first one on the
17 agenda is OSM. Does OSM have any reports.

18

19 DR. JENKINS: No, we're finished with
20 those, Mr. Chair. We're down to item B there, U.S.
21 Fish and Wildlife Service reports.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Sorry about
24 that.

25

26 MR. RIVARD: You wouldn't want to hear
27 it twice I don't think.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. I think
30 we're down to Yukon Delta National Wildlife updates.
31 The first one on the -- under Fish and Wildlife
32 Service, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge updates.
33 I didn't have that checkmarked.

34

35 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chair. For the
36 record my name is Spencer Rearden. I work for Fish and
37 Wildlife Service with the Yukon Delta National Wildlife
38 Refuge here in Bethel. And my position is a biologist,
39 mainly focused on mammals, particularly big game. I
40 work closely with Fish and Game to help coordinate
41 surveys on moose, and we try to help on some caribou
42 work.

43

44 So the handout that's coming for you is
45 just an overview of some of the moose populations. I
46 presented this to you last year about October. And the
47 one thing that's added to this is we did an Andraefsky
48 moose survey with Fish and Game.

49

50 And on the front page you can see that

1 we have five main survey areas. And so trying to get
2 these done sometimes is a task, especially with the
3 weather. We wait until wintertime when we have enough
4 snow and the moose come down, and they're aggregated
5 together so that we can get counts within our survey
6 areas, which is mainly focused along the rives, the
7 main rivers.

8

9 So this year was the Andreafsky.
10 Before this year we didn't do that one since 2002, so
11 it was overdue.

12

13 And if you turn to the second page, on
14 the table one, it kind of outlines all the population
15 data we've collected for some time for most of Unit 18
16 within all these survey areas.

17

18 The Yukon is doing phenomenal with
19 moose as we've heard and have seen. The Andreafsky
20 since we did that on, and I'm kind of focusing on that
21 since that's new information here, in 2002 we had
22 roughly 418 moose. In 2012 we're near 3,000. So just
23 the Andreafsky itself increased over 600-something
24 percent. So our moose populations, not just the Lower
25 Yukon, we focus on the Lower Yukon quite a bit and how
26 fast that was growing. At one time it was growing
27 roughly 27 percent a year, and we liberalized
28 regulations, State and Federal to match some of that
29 growth rate.

30

31 Now we can shoot two cows -- or two
32 moose, starting August 1st until the end of February.
33 And you can only shoot one bull only during -- one
34 antlered bull only during the month of September. That
35 regulation was trying to urge people to shoot cows,
36 because we're worried about this population getting too
37 big too fast. So we don't really anticipate a
38 significant increase in harvest from what we've had.
39 My experience on the Lower Yukon where I hunt a lot,
40 too, is that people's freezers are full and they just
41 could only handle so many moose. But we' at least
42 offered the opportunity for those that want to shoot
43 cows to do so.

44

45 But since we'd done the Andreafsky,
46 we've also realized that the Middle Yukon, which is
47 Mountain Village on up to Paimiut area, and the
48 Andreafsky and Paimiut survey areas comprise the Unit
49 18-Remainder. So if you look at that data, 2012,
50 roughly 3,000 in Andreafsky, Paimiut back in 2006 with

1 just over 3600, so we're pushing 7,000 moose in Unit
2 18-Remainder.

3
4 With this new data at hand, and
5 realizing that the Middle Yukon, or Unit 18-Remainder
6 has grown significantly, we started talking to locals.
7 We went to Russian Mission and Pilot Station just
8 recently with me and Robert Sundown and Tom Doolittle,
9 and talking to people, informing them of this new data
10 and asked them to consider a cow harvest in the fall
11 time. We asked what people think, and asked them to
12 discuss it amongst themselves, if that's something they
13 would support. So that's something down the pipeline
14 for later.

15
16 Right now they have a winter season
17 which is any moose, which has been extended until the
18 end of February recently. But for the fall season,
19 it's an only a bull right now.

20
21 So we're just asking local people. And
22 we have a couple more meetings. We plan on going to
23 Mountain Village and Marshall in the coming weeks, and
24 having more meetings with some of the folks there,
25 sharing this data and also asking them to consider if
26 that's something they would want, a cow fall season.

27
28 So that's kind of my update on what's
29 new from last year. And this is again just a summary
30 of what we have for moose numbers throughout Unit 18.

31
32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
35 Rearden.

36
37 Mr. Aloysius.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: What's your current
40 population for the Paimiut area?

41
42 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair. Mr.
43 Aloysius, we don't have a current population. 2006 was
44 the last year we a count in Paimiut, and that was just
45 over 3600 animals just for the Paimiut area.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Do you have any
48 estimates right now?

49
50 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair. Mr.

1 Aloysius, no, we don't have an estimate, but when you
2 look at those numbers, 98, 93, 2002, it's increased
3 each time, so my guess, and it's only a guess is that
4 it's more than 3600. We have to decide where we're
5 going to count this next year. Paimiut is a
6 consideration, and then the Lower Yukon is also a
7 consideration, because we've liberalized so much. I
8 mean, having a two-moose bag limit is almost unheard
9 of. So having liberalized so far on the Lower Yukon,
10 we're contemplating whether we're going to try Lower
11 Yukon or Paimiut, and if things work, we'd get both.
12 But we don't know, because that all depends on weather
13 and your funding, which I have yet to see how much
14 funding I'll have for helping coordinate these surveys.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that Paimiut
17 survey include all of Paimiut area, including 21E?

18
19 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chair. If you look
20 at the front page, there's a rough map. I know it's
21 kind of hard to read, but it's pretty much Marshall all
22 the way up towards just, you know, below Holy Cross.
23 So it includes the Paimiut area quite a bit.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I was in -- last
26 summer I was looking, wanting a cow, but naturally we
27 got bulls.

28
29 MR. REARDEN: Yeah, Mr. Chair. We've
30 got some feedback, not from the villages that we went
31 to, just two of them, and we had some attendance.
32 People didn't show us opposition as far as having a cow
33 harvest, and there was some support. So we're just
34 kind of feeling our way through it, you know, because I
35 know people will be concerned about shooting cows, but
36 when we show them these numbers and we talk about the
37 harvest and our current harvest and what we have for
38 numbers, we believe that if most of these bulls -- if
39 we switched the current bull harvest to cow harvest,
40 our population will still grow. So we're trying to get
41 a handle on this population a little bit, but it's just
42 an idea that we're throwing out there and feeling our
43 way through it to see if locals will support it before
44 we just dive into it.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
47 Roczicka.

48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
50

1 And I ask this question every time,
2 because it's been pretty consistent all the way
3 through, but are you seeing any kinds of -- any signs
4 whatsoever of habitat stress at this point? I mean, as
5 far as your calf/cow ratio goes you're still looking at
6 a population that's doing really healthy, and are you
7 doing any kind of nutritional tests on the cows to see
8 if their fat content is still really good. But with
9 the 65 to 70 calves per 100 cows in your natural
10 population shows that it's still plenty healthy habitat
11 and they're not stressing it yet. But, of course,
12 we're all worried when you're going to hit that tipping
13 point. And just any kind of comments you've got along
14 those lines, if they are so inclined to start stress --
15 I know there was a couple localized die-offs that they
16 think were more weather related on that Lower Yukon
17 second down by Emmo and Alakanuk way, but, anyway.....
18

19 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Through the Chair.
20 Mr. Roczicka, yeah, you're absolutely right in looking
21 at those calf/cow ratios. And that is one of our
22 indicators of habitat. Once those ratios drop, because
23 calves normally are the first to die off during winter,
24 if it was a habitat-related deal. So we watch those.
25 And it's high. I mean, and we had for the Paimiut
26 area, which is Middle Yukon, we had almost 67 cows --
27 or calves per 100 cows, and that's showing that there's
28 still potential for growth with that kind of
29 production.
30

31 But on the ground habitat work, we
32 haven't done anything on the Yukon. We haven't looked
33 at fat content. We look at those calf ratios and we
34 rely on locals to help us, to tell us what they see,
35 and we did hear about some die off, but, of course,
36 there's die off any hard winter, no matter how good
37 your habitat is or bad.
38

39 We looked for some of that actually.
40 We went down and flew a few blocks down in the Lower
41 Yukon, because we heard there was some die off below
42 Mountain Village. We couldn't find any. I don't know
43 if we got word too late or were looking in the wrong
44 place. We don't know. But while we were out there, we
45 had -- we went ahead and counted a few blocks just to
46 get an idea, just to gauge to see if our population did
47 anything. And just preliminary, what we saw is that
48 the Lower Yukon population probably increased, just
49 from those few blocks. That was just kind of a real
50 quick look to see if we've peaked or not, but I don't

1 think so. And as indicated by these calf ratios and
2 what locals are telling us, and how healthy these moose
3 are, even the winter moose, we're not seeing any
4 indication of a problem with habitat at this point.

5
6 But liberalization is two-fold. It's,
7 one, to maximize subsistence opportunity, because there
8 are people that, you know, would be fine with shooting
9 a cow, and make it easier on them, because people are
10 worried about having to travel far with fuel prices and
11 so forth. So by allowing cow harvest, that's one
12 thing, it increases subsistence opportunity.

13
14 And then the other is the anticipation
15 of this population getting high and crashing. And we
16 say that, because we've learned from other areas in the
17 State where this has happened, where moose have moved
18 in and they're relatively new, and the population went
19 real high and crashed, and crashed multiple times
20 sometimes.

21
22 Now, the Lower Yukon, they're new
23 pretty much. The Middle Yukon not as much. I mean,
24 Paimiut's had moose for a long time. But we're still
25 worried a little bit about how fast this population is
26 growing, and the way we see it, why not increase
27 subsistence opportunity while we're at it.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, one follow up on
32 that if I could. Aren't you incorporating any kind of
33 browse surveys? Because that's the other main
34 indicator that's pretty much used around the State to
35 my understanding to serve as your early warning sign or
36 population status that they might be starting to tip.

37
38 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Through the Chair.
39 Mr. Roczicka. Phillip Perry and I, with Fish and Game,
40 have talked about that. The method for doing browse
41 surveys has been developed in the Interior if I
42 understand right. And my predecessor, Eric Wald, did
43 some on the Kwethluk, and Phillip and I are talking
44 about how to do this. And it's a challenge in the
45 sense -- habitat studies are always a challenge,
46 because they're a question of scale and how you collect
47 your data, and so we've got to put a plan
48 together. And it's somewhat labor intensive. There's
49 randomization you have to choose, you have to -- a lot
50 of times you have to do -- access these area by

1 helicopters, if you have to do it right.

2

3 But the other thing, too, is that even
4 though if we go collect this data, because this is
5 different habitat than in the Interior in particular,
6 we have to wait until the moose tell us what's
7 happening also. So ideally we would like to go collect
8 the habitat data now, and then as the moose change in
9 population, in twinning rates and calf ratios, they
10 tell us what the habitat is doing. And then we can
11 match up with the data we collect to what the moose tell
12 us. So if we were to go out there and collect data
13 now, our numbers wouldn't really mean nothing unless we
14 -- unless the moose numbers are combined and we can see
15 how it -- how everything relates.

16

17 But that is something that we have
18 discussed and would like to plan doing some habitat
19 studies, because we're in a pretty unique situation
20 where moose are really growing really fast on the
21 Yukon, so it's a great opportunity to learn something
22 here.

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25

26 Just one more is that I would urge you
27 to get out there and get that just as soon as you can,
28 because you've got to establish a comparative baseline
29 sometime, and the sooner the better.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Phillip.

32

33 MR. PERRY: Okay. I just have one
34 comment. I forgot to get information to make on this.
35 This handout is the twinning rates. And that does give
36 us a pretty good indication of where we are as far as
37 habitat, if it's being over-browsed or not. And both
38 the Middle Yukon, the area from Mountain Village to
39 Pilot Station and then from there up to Paimiut, the
40 last few years our twinning rates have been about 50
41 percent, which is very high.

42

43 The lowest Yukon, the area below
44 Mountain Village towards Emmonak and Alakanuk and
45 Kotlik, for quite a while that has also been in the 50
46 percent or 60 percent range, which is pretty much as
47 high as you will ever see, This past year, the spring
48 of 2012, we conduct the surveys in late May as they're
49 kind of the peak of calving, and last year the twinning
50 rate down there was about 30 percent, which is lower

1 than it has been, but it's still not low. In a lot of
2 areas, when you start seeing severe habitat problems,
3 some of the Interior areas, it's below 10 percent, and
4 sometimes it's in the low single digits as far as
5 twinning rates. So while we know that population is
6 big, and other indicators, obviously the calf survival
7 is very high, we are seeing -- you know, just this year
8 is the first year we've seen anything lower as far as
9 the twinning rate. So that gives us an indication
10 that, you know, if we see that trend continue with the
11 twinning rate still going down, then, yeah, we're
12 higher than we should be, or close to that stage. but
13 it does give us a measure of what habitat is.

14
15 If you're going -- in a perfect world,
16 if we had the staffing and money to do it, we would
17 actually do a quantitative habitat study that Spencer
18 was talking about. We would weigh calves, do some
19 stuff in the Interior where they've done -- where you
20 look at the weight of the calves in April, and there's
21 a threshold that if they're below a certain -- I think
22 it's about 350 pounds, if they're below that, then
23 you're going to start seeing habitat-related problems.
24 And then also those twinning rates so those are kind of
25 the three other parts, three other data that we could
26 gather.

27
28 Twinning rates for us are one of the
29 easier ones to gather, and one of the cheaper.
30 Frankly, to do some of the habitat work would be as
31 expensive or more expensive than what we already spend
32 on doing population estimates. And we kind of have to
33 balance here of -- you know, we have a finite amount of
34 money, and doing population estimates in five different
35 areas, or four different areas kind of eats up what we
36 have for budget. So that's just kind of the reality of
37 the situation. We'd love to be able to gather all that
38 data, but it probably won't happen.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
41 questions. Mr. Charles. I'm sorry, go ahead, Mr.
42 Aloysius. He raised his hand first. Yes, go ahead.

43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. You know,
45 I'm from Kalskag. 18-North is just across Johnson
46 River. Why haven't you guys come over and talked to us
47 about what's going on? We're part of 18, you know. We
48 have -- within 10 miles northwest, 18-North is right
49 there. You know, we're part of 18. You want input
50 from the village people, go to Kalskag and Lower

1 Kalskag.

2

3 And the other thing is has there been
4 any sign of increase of predators, wolves, bears,
5 grizzly in those areas? Because we've been hearing a
6 lot of stories from the Russian Mission area about more
7 and more grizzlies coming in and raiding their fish
8 camps.

9

10 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair. Yeah,
11 we hear some stories, but we don't have any data to
12 show what's going on. I mean, those are hard animals
13 to count. We're hearing an increase in bears, too. I
14 mean, I don't know how true they are or how many or
15 anything like that, so we really don't know. But as
16 far as what it's doing to the moose population, we're
17 not seeing much of that up in the Yukon area.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Do you plan on going to
20 Kalskag soon?

21

22 MR. REARDEN: I don't know. We just
23 started talking to some of the villages with this new
24 data. Well, it's new as of last winter, so it's not
25 real new. And sharing it with the RAC. Hopefully you
26 guys take those back with you to your home villages and
27 share that information. So that's definitely a way
28 that we disseminate information.

29

30 We can't hit every village. I mean,
31 Unit 18's huge. I mean, there's a lot of villages.
32 There are still Lower Yukon people that hunt in
33 Remainder, I mean. So under that same principle, maybe
34 we would have to hit all of the villages, but we can't
35 do that. It's just not enough time and funding for
36 that. So we definitely hit the ones that are within
37 the areas where these regulations would affect, but to
38 say that we should hit every village is a big
39 challenge, and it's almost impossible to do.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

42

43 MR. ALOYSIUS: One more. Is there any
44 kind of program where you can transplant some of those
45 excess moose to 19A and to Kuskokwim South? I mean,
46 you know, these two areas are really hurting. Really
47 hurting. And any possible way for us to get relief
48 from the shortage of moose would be -- I know everybody
49 would be really grateful about.

50

1 MR. PERRY: I think the person that
2 knows more about any of those sorts of programs sits a
3 couple chairs over from you.

4
5 But, you know, at this time the State
6 isn't real interested in moving moose, especially to
7 areas that are having problems until we fix those
8 problems. So in parts of 19A, you know, between wolf
9 control and possible other predator control things,
10 until those happen, you know, if moose are moved to an
11 area that predators are a problem, we're just feeding
12 predators there until that problem is taken care of.
13 So that's probably at least part of the answer.

14
15 But, you know, moving moose around is,
16 especially enough to affect an area as big as you're
17 talking about, 19A, pretty expensive. To move and to
18 do enough to make a difference is probably beyond any
19 budget that we're going to have, that we'll see in the
20 foreseeable future.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
23 on the question -- or questions for the Yukon Delta
24 National Wildlife Refuge. Mr. Charles.

25
26 (John Andrew returns to meeting)

27
28 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

29
30
31 I want to thank the U.S. Fish and
32 Wildlife Service for opening the season on Kuskokwim
33 moratorium area with the State, because before the Fish
34 and Wildlife Service open the Federal grounds, Federal
35 land, there was a lot of pressure from hunters, and
36 they asked me where they could hunt for moose, hunt
37 moose. And there is no State land in this area, except
38 for corporation lands. And that was -- they had to
39 look at the map really good and -- because they were
40 scared they might go off the land and hunt moose. Now
41 the Federal opened the season in this area, and we like
42 that. We want to thank you for doing that.

43
44 But talking about the -- you might have
45 heard that they wanted the -- I mean the hunters, want
46 some extension or more moose to catch later on. But
47 I've heard some people, some hunters that State numbers
48 are high and the Federal numbers are too low, the calf
49 numbers are too low. And that's what some hunters
50 asked me to see about or talk about when I go to either

1 AC meetings or RAC meetings.

2

3 And talking about the habitat, why were
4 those moose out there in the ocean? What were they
5 doing? Are they fishing out there or what are they
6 doing? I guess you guys have heard about those moose
7 out in the ocean between Quinhagak and Kongiganak at
8 the mouth of Kuskokwim. But maybe that is because
9 there are more moose in our area.

10

11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any response to
14 that?

15

16 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Through the Chair.
17 Yeah, we understand the boundary thing with Federal and
18 State lands is a real headache. And as a hunter, I
19 don't want to study before I go hunting either. And
20 Phillip and I, we've had numerous discussions, and we
21 want to make this hunt as easy as possible, because I
22 don't like having to go and figure out what land status
23 is either. I don't like that myself. I don't like
24 having hunters have -- and Phillip feels the same way.
25 So we try to manage as best we could together, and this
26 year it actually worked out real well. We actually
27 opened, of course, on the same time and closed at the
28 same time.

29

30 However, in regards to extending the
31 season and so forth, we're still trying to grow this
32 population and walk that fine line with having some
33 hunt. Back in 2011 the Kuskokwim, we had roughly
34 almost 700 moose, somewhere in there. We'd like to see
35 that closer to 2,000 ultimately probably. But we're a
36 ways from there. And that's why it's only a bull only
37 harvest, and we have our registration hunt, and it
38 closes one we meet these quotas. We're trying to
39 maximize as best possible, but still grow that
40 population, so it's -- and with Bethel, or the Lower
41 Kuskokwim in particular, there's a lot of people here,
42 and there's a lot of people that want moose. And so
43 there's obviously not enough moose to fill everybody's
44 freezer on the Kuskokwim right now, but we hope to
45 improve that with better numbers in the future, so we
46 hope to get better at it.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay? Is there
49 anything else on the update on Yukon Delta. Mr. Brown
50 and then Mr. Aloysius.

1 MR. BROWN: Before I come here to
2 attend the RAC meeting, my people were some of the
3 people who were hunting way up further on the Kilbuck
4 Mountains behind. They were seeing the aircraft that
5 were speeding up and diving down with a loud noise and
6 they started with a Beaver aircraft. What they were
7 doing, going up and then speeding down with loud noise.
8

9 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair. Mr.
10 Brown, I'm not sure what they were doing. I'm not sure
11 what people are doing. Sometimes people fly low and
12 slow over areas looking for moose. And I understand
13 that. I mean, I've had airplanes disturb me at my
14 hunting, too, and it's really irritating, because I
15 worry about them chasing game out of the way. But I'm
16 not aware of any issues on there. I probably just
17 don't know or haven't been in the loop on that.
18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We have a number of
20 issues to go yet, and time is running short, so let's
21 keep our comments stuck to the topic.
22

23 MR. BROWN: Yeah. I've got one more.
24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
26 Brown.
27

28 MR. BROWN: During short season, moose
29 hunting season, those people were from Eek, they don't
30 want to see the aircrafts or any kind of aircraft
31 flying by, you know. They scared the game away, and
32 they said they go in the same place and wait there all
33 day and wait for moose to roam around or come out from
34 different places.
35

36 And one thing that we were watching, a
37 Super Cub landing on the side of the Kilbuck Mountains.
38 We were watching with binoculars and they landed. What
39 was the purpose that they were landing for.
40

41 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair. Mr.
42 Brown. I do know that we had one of our law
43 enforcement agents up there, up the Eek River. And
44 part of what he was doing, it was towards the end of
45 the season. We announced that there was going to be a
46 closure, and we knew people that were far up on the Eek
47 River may not get the word. So part of what he was
48 doing is he was trying to spread the word that the
49 closure was going to happen and what time so that
50 people would be aware and so they wouldn't be hunting

1 after the season. So I know that's part of it. And
2 also our law enforcement agent was obviously checking
3 people, making sure that they had the right tag and so
4 forth. But as far as the details on what happened with
5 law enforcement activity, that's really all I know.

6

7 MR. BROWN: Yeah. The last one is they
8 just didn't want to see any kind of aircraft go flying
9 by, you know, next open season, because they scared the
10 game away.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that the
15 Wildlife Refuge update now, or is there any additions
16 to that report.

17

18 MR. REARDEN: I believe Steve Miller
19 has some information for you from Kenai Fisheries.
20 Thank you.

21

22 MR. MILLER: Mr. Chair. Steve Miller,
23 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai Fish and Wildlife
24 Field Office, stationed in Bethel.

25

26 (Laughter)

27

28 MR. MILLER: What I did, I handed out a
29 packet, and basically what I had was six projects
30 there and how they addressed the priority needs that
31 were already addressed by the RAC member and by OSM.
32 When those priority needs are met, how does the Kenai
33 Fish and Wildlife Office do projects that relate to
34 those.

35

36 You're aware of both the weirs, the
37 Kwethluk River weir and the Tuluksak River weir, and
38 the State did somewhat of an update on escapements.
39 And I have that in there.

40

41 The one thing I wanted to bring to your
42 attention was the addition of the videography to both
43 systems. I know it was a concern by TNC, Tuluksak
44 Native Community, and the Organized Village of
45 Kwethluk. In 2010 we incorporated the videography with
46 the Tuluksak River weir, and that gives us 24/7, so the
47 weir is not closed at any time. In 2012 we secured
48 funding through OSM project 12-309, and we incorporated
49 the videography with the Kwethluk River weir this past
50 year.

1 Another study that we're looking at is
2 the Kuskokwim Ichthyophonus, which is a parasite that
3 affects Chinook salmon. We think that it directly
4 affects fecundity, reproduction. So that's another
5 study that we got funded for the last three years, and
6 that's through a national -- through the Fish and
7 Wildlife Service nationally. There's health fund --
8 money for health/fish issues.

9
10 The Kuskokwim broad whitefish, we've
11 had the ongoing whitefish study now since 2003 or four.
12 And if Mr. Harper was here, he could give you some more
13 information on that. He's up at McGrath right now
14 looking at the population size of a spawning aggregate.
15 And that's for broad whitefish.

16
17 And then a new study that Frank Harris
18 is doing is looking at population structure using water
19 microchemistry. And they're looking at strontium
20 levels. And the hypothesis is that the different
21 tributaries into the Kuskokwim have different
22 signatures laid down in the otoliths of fish. And if
23 they look at that signature of strontium, it varies
24 between tributaries. Right now with genetics you can't
25 define Kwethluk fish from Tuluksak fish from George
26 River fish. And they feel that with this strontium and
27 this microchemistry, it may give us some population
28 structure. So that's that study.

29
30 And then publications. We had our
31 broad whitefish report, Life History Traits of Adult
32 Broad Whitefish and Humpback Whitefish that Ken Harper
33 put together, and that was published in the Journal of
34 Fish and Wildlife Management. And then our other
35 reports from last year would be the two weir reports,
36 and you can find those online at the Kenai Fish and
37 Wildlife Field Office website.

38
39 So that's just quick. There's more
40 information in that packet, and I'll always talk to you
41 about it.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions. Mr.
44 Aloysius.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there any possibility
47 of protecting the broad and humpback whitefish in
48 Whitefish Lake, because the last three or four years,
49 the same people who almost wiped it out -- I mean,
50 wiped out the populations of those fish are back there

1 again. They're there with their five-and-a-half-inch,
2 50 fathom nets, camping. And it's supposed to a four-
3 inch by 90 foot restriction in that lake, and yet
4 there's no enforcement. And the people of Kalskag,
5 Lower Kalskag and Aniak and Chuathbaluk are getting
6 very frustrated. And something has to be done to
7 protect those whitefish, otherwise we're going to lose
8 them again like we did when Ray Baxter opened up that
9 lake for commercial fishing. And we don't want that to
10 happen again.

11
12 MR. MILLER: Yeah. Mr. Aloysius.
13 Steve Miller.

14
15 That would be a law enforcement issue
16 with the Refuge, and I guess I can bring that up with
17 Mr. Sundown. But we are aware, you brought that up
18 last year I believe, too. And there are regulations on
19 that lake, and there are regulations I believe on the
20 Johnson River with regards to whitefish. But I can
21 bring that up.

22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Something's got to be
24 done, because, you know, it's going to come to a
25 confrontation with those people from the lower
26 villages, and they know who they are. They're been
27 doing that for years. The same people who are
28 devastating the pike population in that area that we
29 talked about yesterday. The same people are doing
30 that. They're going up there and they're camping and
31 with their 50-fathom nets, fill up their boats and go
32 home. And it's not right.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any comment. I
35 noticed you've got your mic on. Do you have any more
36 comments.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
41 questions, any more reports on the wildlife refuge
42 updates.

43
44 (No comments)

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you
47 very much.

48
49 Down to item 2, Togiak National
50 Wildlife Refuge updates. Mr. Nick.

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. On Page 199 is
2 the information bulletin from Togiak National Wildlife
3 Refuge, and there's some updates on their programs and
4 their projects.

5
6 Mr. Chair. And if you have -- if the
7 Council have any questions on any of these, you may
8 call Polly Berg or Andy Aderman of that Refuge. And I
9 can provide you some contact numbers if you call me.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We are down
12 to item 3, Building Effective Collaborative Management
13 in Western Alaska. Go ahead.

14
15 MR. BARTLEY: Mr. Chair. Kevin
16 Bartley, OSM.

17
18 First I would like to recognize and
19 thank all of the Council members who volunteer to come
20 from distances near and far to share their time and
21 their knowledge. And, second, I would like to thank
22 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Subsistence Regional Advisory
23 Council for putting me on the agenda and allowing me
24 the opportunity to speak with you today.

25
26 And as I mentioned yesterday during our
27 introductions, but now for the record, I'm a student at
28 the University of Alaska-Anchorage. I also work as an
29 intern for the Office of Subsistence Management. Some
30 of you may know me as your chauffeur over the last
31 couple of evenings.

32
33 (Laughter)

34
35 MR. BARTLEY: A duty that I was honored
36 to serve in.

37
38 In June of this year, I began observing
39 the Kuskokwim River Salmon Management Working Group and
40 the Yukon River Drainage Fishing Association for the
41 U.S. Fish and Wildlife at our office in Anchorage.

42
43 And while listening to these meetings,
44 I have been greatly influenced by the concerns of rural
45 subsistence users from the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.
46 Based upon what I have heard during these meetings, I
47 developed a research project and presented it to the
48 Fish and Wildlife Service for funding. And with your
49 support, I would like to talk with and gather
50 information from members of the Y-K RAC, the Kuskokwim

1 Working Group and YRDFA. I would also like to talk
2 with people who call in by phone and participate in the
3 Kuskokwim Working Group and the YRDFA meetings. And
4 the primary goal of this research is to allow rural
5 subsistence users and advisory group members the chance
6 to share their and opinions on what has worked and what
7 could be improved in these advisory groups.

8
9 And with your support, I would begin
10 interviewing people in November, and these interviews
11 would be with one person at a time, and would be
12 informal conversations. Some of the interviews would
13 likely be conducted in Bethel, but I would like to
14 travel to some villages and talk with advisory group
15 members and rural subsistence users. And at this time
16 I am unsure which villages I will be able to visit, but
17 I hope to know more by November or December. Although
18 I am hopeful that this research will begin in November,
19 I must mention at this time there is still some
20 paperwork and approvals are needed before this research
21 may begin.

22
23 I am hopeful that his study will make
24 some positive changes in the way managers work together
25 with advisory groups and rural subsistence users. And
26 once I have completed a draft report, I would like to
27 offer this to the Council for your review. And my hope
28 is to have a draft for your review by the fall of 2013.

29
30 And if there are any questions, Mr.
31 Chair, I'll be more than happy to answer them.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
34 Kevin. Mr. Aloysius.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: No question, but it's
37 music to my ears to hear a young man acknowledge the
38 people of this area, and with such a musical voice.
39 Aso Caine (ph) talking.

40
41 (Laughter)

42
43 MR. BARTLEY: Through the Chair. Mr.
44 Aloysius. Thank you. I appreciate that.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
47 or questions to Kevin.

48
49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And I'm sure that
2 we'll be willing and able to talk to you at the time
3 that you contact us, so don't be.....

4
5 MS. GREGORY: Shy.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Don't be shy in
8 contacting any of us.

9
10 Yes, Mr. Andrew.

11
12 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman.

14
15 Thank you. So you've been working on
16 your Kuskokwim Management Working Group project. Part
17 of the project I'd like to see is for you to try to
18 figure out why the hell we're losing the fish on the --
19 and sorry about my language -- on the Kasigluk,
20 Kisaralek, and Kwethluk, including Tuluksak. Despite
21 of all our conservation efforts for the last four or
22 five years, they've been steadily declining. From what
23 my people have been telling me, people that fish, when
24 they fish early commercially after those long
25 subsistence closures, they were actually intercepting
26 our own fish that are meant for to go into these nearby
27 rivers to spawn in the headwaters. It's something that
28 they have been overlooking over the last few years.
29 Actually it's been like that, that practice has been
30 going on for a while, and you have to take a good hard
31 look at it, why we're not getting escapement out of
32 these nearby river tributary rivers all these years.
33 And Kwethluk groups, joint groups have been trying to
34 bring that up, but nobody has taken a good look at it.

35
36 And this past summer we have no data on
37 kings, reds, and chums. Only on coho. And they have
38 never have met their escapement on Chinook for four,
39 five years, too.

40
41 Thank you. Quyana.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments
44 or questions to Kevin.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you
49 very much. Go ahead.

50

1 MR. BARTLEY: Mr. Chair. I'd also like
2 to add, I heard our call, that if I would like to
3 contact you, don't be shy. And one of the things that
4 I did not do, and I apologize now for the Kuskokwim
5 Working Group, when I was visiting Mr. Roczicka, was I
6 did not bring a copy of this presentation. I'm going
7 to provide that for you all, and it has my contact
8 number and email number below as well. And I hope to
9 get soon through Alex copies of -- or some information
10 on how to contact you all as well, and I will look
11 forward to talking with you all soon. And I
12 appreciate all the time that you've given me, and it's
13 been an honor driving you around this past couple days.

14
15

16 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

17
18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
20 Rivard.

21
22

23 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
24 think when we went through the priority information
25 needs, that Mr. John Andrew was not present. And I
26 think it would be more appropriate for the kind of
27 study that he's talking about, that maybe that would go
28 under the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program as an
29 information need, and not part of Mr. Bartley's study.
30 So if you could maybe state that again, you said
31 something about the Kwethluk, the Kisaralik, and maybe
32 one other river system that you'd like to see studied?

33
34

35 MR. J. ANDREW: Tuluksak.

36
37

38 MR. RIVARD: Tuluksak, okay.

39
40

41 MR. J. ANDREW: I mentioned Tuluksak,
42 Kisaralik, Kasigluk and Kwethluk, especially Kwethluk.
43 The last four or five years have been -- and so our
44 restrictions not to do any fishing for salmon on those
45 rivers, and we're not allowed to, only with four-inch
46 mesh nets. They do catch a few incidentals, but they
47 don't make no alarming numbers.

48
49

50 MR. RIVARD: So if I may, despite all
the restrictions that have gone on, the population
numbers are still going down.

51
52

53 MR. J. ANDREW: We still never have no
54 escapement on Chinook. And all of the.....

55

1 MR. RIVARD: Okay. So you want to
2 study the reasons why there's -- go ahead.

3
4 MR. J. ANDREW: And I know some of the
5 reasons, and every time we bring some up, they always
6 tell us some form of excuse or reasons why they think
7 they're declining. And especially this past summer
8 they weren't able to put up any numbers or weirs up
9 there, because all summer we know the water was too
10 high.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 MR. RIVARD: Thank you. I've got that
15 captured.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We are down
18 to item C. BLM have any report. Agency reports.
19 Bureau of Land Management. BLM one more time.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Nobody from BLM.
24 How about ADF&G.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, three of them.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
29 Perry.

30
31 MR. PERRY: Yeah. Thank you. My name
32 is Phillip Perry. I'm the area wildlife biologist for
33 GMU 18.

34
35 I just have a real brief report, a
36 little bit about -- well, Spencer covered most of the
37 moose research that's been done in the last year, since
38 we've met. And, well, all I was going to report on is
39 the most recent hunt here on the Kuskokwim, the
40 registration permit.

41
42 Like the last few years, that hunt has
43 had a lot of participation. This year we had just a
44 little under 1500 people got permits. So far we're
45 still in the middle of getting reports back. We have a
46 little over 200 people that have not reported back yes.
47 Of those that have reported, about 1100 have reported
48 that they did hunt, which is pretty similar to other
49 years, and we harvested 102 moose during that -- it
50 ended up being an eight-day season this year that was

1 cooperatively managed between Fish and Wildlife Service
2 and Fish and Game.

3

4 I don't have the break up off the top
5 of my head. You know, we had 81 that was the quota on
6 State-managed land and 19 on Federal land. And we were
7 very close to that on both. So that's good to see.

8

9 You know, those of you that hunted
10 during that time, we anticipated this year that the
11 quota would go a little faster than it did, and I think
12 a big factor this year was that first week of September
13 was exceptionally poor weather. I think it probably
14 affected hunters more than anything. So it did go
15 eight days out of the 10. So we feel pretty good
16 about, you know, getting 102 moose no a 100-moose
17 quota. That's two percent off, that's pretty good for
18 wildlife.

19

20 The next thing I just wanted to briefly
21 talk about was caribou. We did attempt, and by we I'm
22 using a very broad term, Mulchatna caribou are the
23 caribou herd in this part of Southwest Alaska, and
24 they're in three different regions for Fish and Game,
25 and they're also cross boundaries at least wildlife
26 refuges and at least one Park Service boundary, so it's
27 a we that includes a lot of agencies and a lot of
28 agencies and a lot of cooperation that, you know, many
29 different funding sources and people that work on the
30 herd, so when I say we, it includes Togiak Refuge and
31 this Refuge and the Dillingham and King Salmon offices
32 with Fish and Game.

33

34 They did try to do a photo census which
35 we've been trying to get a good population count on the
36 Mulchatna herd for many years, and this year we tried a
37 little different method that still includes taking
38 pictures, so we're hopeful that this method we'll get a
39 -- we'll end up with an estimate instead of a minimum
40 count. ut we hope in the next few months we will have
41 a -- the analysis of that will be complete and hat
42 we'll have a new population estimate for the Mulchatna
43 herd.

44

45 They just last week completed a
46 composition count on Mulchatna caribou also, and those
47 numbers are pretty preliminary. I haven't seen the
48 final numbers, but at least the preliminary number are
49 that calf numbers look very good this fall, both in the
50 eastern portion of the herd and the western portion, so

1 that's looking up, and we're pretty happy about that.
2 It's probably nothing that we're doing. It's just, you
3 know, caribou management, a lot of times you're kind of
4 reactionary in what we can do and we can affect what's
5 going on.

6
7 So with that, I'll entertain any
8 questions people have.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
11 Mr. Perry on the season review. Mr. Roczicka.

12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Yeah, I was
14 looking here, I forget where I saw it, but somewhere
15 here it has mentioned -- oh, I think it was in the
16 Togiak report, that it mentioned a small satellite herd
17 calving reoccurring in the Kilbuck Mountains in the
18 southern area, and I wondered if that's kind of in same
19 area as that Gun Road (ph) that we had back in the
20 1980s and so forth that got swallowed and eventually
21 eradicated for recognition as a herd since they were
22 absorbed into the Mulchatna as they expanded. Are we
23 starting to see fidelity to a calving ground on this
24 side of the mountains again, and reestablishment of
25 that as a satellite perhaps of the Mulchatna.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Perry.

28
29 MR. PERRY: Yeah. And through the
30 Chair. You know, a couple years ago we did see quite a
31 few caribou that did not go as far east and calve.
32 Some of them. Kind of the general area is east of
33 Aniak Lake, some of that area is where they had calved
34 that year, and sometimes a little closer to Kisaralik
35 Lake. And we have started to see some fidelity between
36 -- well, what used to happen was, you know, all the
37 caribou, all the caribou have marked, mostly cows that
38 have radio collars would go back to the same area and
39 calve and then they would kind of ran -- it seemed to
40 us that they would randomize and spread out again. The
41 recent trend, and with caribou it's always -- we're
42 always very reluctant to look at a couple of years of
43 data and say -- and predict what caribou are going to
44 do. But in the recent last few years, we have seen
45 those animals that we can tell apart, ones that have a
46 radio collar on them, have calved in kind of two
47 separate areas, and they seem to have stayed mostly
48 separate. Whether or not that's going to continue, or
49 whether or not that means we're going to have two herds
50 10 years from now is anybody's guess, because caribou

1 do strange things sometimes for a year and sometimes
2 for four or five years, but there has been a little
3 change in where they calve. There has been kind of a
4 western portion and eastern portion. They haven't
5 spent -- or the large of them haven't calved in Unit
6 18, but they've been pretty close to the Unit 18
7 border, up where basically Unit 19B and 17B and 18, so
8 it's that, oh, you know, Kisaralik Lake, Aniak Lake,
9 the Upper Tikchik Lakes, they kind of are all in very
10 close to the same area and where that calving has
11 occurred has just been a little east of there.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.

14

15 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16

17

18 Is Heart Lake, half of Heart Lake still
19 open for same-day-airborne like it used to be?

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Perry.

22

23 MR. PERRY: Yeah. Through the Chair. I don't
24 remember exactly what year that regulation was changed,
25 but it's been, oh, five or six years or so since -- or
26 maybe longer than that, since same-day-airborne has
27 been allowed in any of the areas where Mulchatna
28 caribou have been. So, like I said, I can't remember
29 off the top of my head, but it's been a while at least.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

32

33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Maybe I'm dense, maybe I
34 forgot; I don't remember, but why is 18-South, the
35 first 10 days of September open to all residents of
36 Alaska by permit when it's the people of this area who
37 are in dire need of the protein. And why do they have
38 like an unlimited number of permits going out? It
39 should be like up at 19. There are so many permits,
40 and only locals who can prove that they are in need of
41 that moose to hunt it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have an
44 answer.

45

46 MR. PERRY: I don't off the top of my
47 head have the exact number of the number of people that
48 get these permits that are from outside the unit, but
49 it's very small. Of the 1500, I would guess it's 10 or
50 15 people that don't live in the unit that get permits.

1 If you look at the residency of the, you know, 1500
2 people who get permits, it's from all the local
3 villages. In fact, it's the highest percentage of ones
4 that are actually within the hunt area, even some of
5 the neighboring villages, say Kong and Kwig and Kipnuk
6 and Quinhagak, it's just a handful of individuals from
7 those villages that get permits and hunt. So, you
8 know, at this point the people that are participating
9 in this hunt are -- the overwhelming majority are local
10 residents.

11
12 You're talking about Tier II, and that
13 is a route that, you know, is a possibility. Part of
14 that gets into ANS numbers and harvestable surplus, and
15 it's a long, convoluted discussion that I don't know if
16 we want to have right now.

17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
21 questions to Mr. Perry.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not we'll go to
26 the next item, the Bering Sea salmon bycatch update.

27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Fish and Game.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Fish and Game.

31
32 MR. PARK: Excuse me.

33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: There are other Fish and
35 Game Staff here.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, is there other
38 Fish and Game.

39
40 MR. PARK: Chairman Wilde, yes. I'm
41 with the Subsistence Division of Fish and Game. And I
42 have a handout for you.

43
44 Mr. Chairman. Jeff Park, Alaska
45 Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence Division. I
46 have a very brief update of research we've done since
47 your last meeting in February.

48
49 The first project is the index
50 community project we started in 2011. This wa a

1 project, an attempt to estimate subsistence harvest in
2 a region by surveying certain villages in that region.
3 And in 2011 we completed five Yukon River community
4 surveys, including Marshall and Mountain Village. That
5 report will be finalized and published by the end of
6 this year.

7
8 The second project is the Donlin Creek
9 Mine subsistence project. This is a large multi-year
10 project we've done in three phases for Donlin Gold.
11 And Phase 1 has been published. It included surveys in
12 the Community of Kalskag. I actually have a copy of
13 that full report.

14
15 The second phase of the Donlin Creek
16 project took place in 2011. We surveyed six Kuskokwim
17 communities, including Tuluksak, Akiak, Kwethluk, and
18 Oscarville. The report on that phase is in press and
19 copies will be available very soon.

20
21 Phase 3 of the Donlin Creek subsistence
22 survey took place this year, earlier this winter, and
23 we surveyed Napaskiak, Napakiak and Russian Mission,
24 and we're working on writing that report. It should
25 be finalized sometime in 2013.

26
27 Also earlier this winter we were here
28 in Bethel and began the Lower Kuskokwim big game
29 survey. It was a short survey asking about harvest of
30 big game, including caribou and moose. And we surveyed
31 25 percent of the households in Bethel, which added up
32 to 475 households. And the attempt was just to get a
33 good handle on the harvest numbers of large game in
34 Bethel. That report is also being worked on and should
35 be completed by the end of this year.

36
37 And we also intend to do another Lower
38 Kuskokwim village in this project, so we're trying to
39 identify another village to gather data on large game.

40
41 The next project is an upcoming
42 project. It's going to begin early winter of 2013. We
43 are going to come back here to Bethel and do a
44 comprehensive survey, which is a very extensive 20 to
45 30-page survey, trying to cover all aspects of
46 subsistence and document harvest amounts of all
47 subsistence resources in Bethel. And again we'll be
48 attempting to survey 25 percent of the households in
49 Bethel.

50

1 Finally there's the Kuskokwim salmon
2 ethnography. This project began in 2009, so our
3 researchers visited Kuskokwim communities, including
4 Tuntutuliak, Kwethluk, and Kalskag. And that report
5 will also include an update of the 2012 season, fishing
6 season. And it should be done by the end of this year
7 as well.

8
9 Finally, we're very pleased to have a
10 new full-tim subsistence resource specialist in the
11 Bethel office. We always try to have a position out
12 here, but we're not always able to fill it, and we've
13 got somebody coming in actually starting next week. So
14 this is his contact information, and he will be there
15 full time.

16
17 I'd be glad to try to answer any
18 questions you might have.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just have one
23 question. What do you mean by ethnography? Is that
24 trying to identify different things from where they
25 come from? It hard for me to understand what you mean
26 by ethnography.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right.

29
30 MR. PARK: Yes. Mr. Aloysius. Yeah,
31 that's part of it. Ethnography tends to be separate
32 from the surveys. So that's the two ways that we
33 primarily gather this information to report on our
34 surveys with specific questions and, you know, usually
35 numerical answers. And ethnography, which we sit down
36 with knowledgeable people in the community and do more
37 of an informal interview, where we're just trying to
38 gather information, what -- a lot of times it's what
39 they feel is most important that they want to talk
40 about.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory. Are
43 you done, Robert?

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory, go
48 ahead.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. I understand that

1 to be local people who, the ethnic people who know
2 about the information and whatever you're trying to
3 get.

4
5 MR. PARK: Yes, ma'am. That's exactly
6 right. Once we enter a community, we try to identify
7 the people that will be most knowledgeable and most
8 valuable to include into the report.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
11 questions.

12
13 (No comments)

14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you
16 for your report.

17
18 MR. PARK: Thank you very much.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there anyone
21 else from the Department.

22
23 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman. This is
24 Chris Shelden from the Department of Fish and Game,
25 Division of Commercial fisheries.

26
27 Yesterday before the meeting began, I
28 distributed copies of the Departments escapement goal
29 memorandum for the AYK area to each of you. It should
30 be on your table. But if you don't have them, I have
31 other copies if you'd like to receive them. But I
32 thought I would go ahead and introduce the escapement
33 goal detail to you now if that would be all right.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That would be okay.

36
37
38 MR. SHELDEN: Okay. I'm just going to
39 read a couple of excerpts from this summary, and then
40 I'll take your questions.

41
42 So starting on the bottom of Page 2, an
43 interdivisional escapement goal review team is
44 recommending that for the Kuskokwim area, management
45 area, is recommending that a model-based, drainagewide
46 sustainable escapement goal of 65,000 to 120,000 be
47 established for Kuskokwim River king salmon. To
48 develop this goal, historical, and that's from 1976
49 through 2011, historical Kuskokwim River king salmon
50 run size was estimated using models combining available

1 escapement, harvest, run timing and abundance data.

2

3 From these estimates of total run size,
4 a spawner/recruit relationship was modeled and yield
5 profiles were constructed and used to select an
6 escapement goal range. This run reconstruction and
7 spawner/recruit modeling represented new information to
8 evaluate exploitation and escapement goals for
9 Kuskokwim River king salmon.

10

11 Changing pages. So that's a
12 drainagewide escapement goal for Kuskokwim River king
13 salmon.

14

15 In addition to the drainagewide goal,
16 currently there are 10 SEGs for king salmon stocks in
17 tributaries of the Kuskokwim River. Using the total
18 run size estimates and spawner/recruit model for all
19 stocks combined, the existing tributary goals were re-
20 evaluated in the context of the drainagewide goal. And
21 that was because the original goals were set using
22 different methodology.

23

24 With the new information provided by
25 the total run size estimation, it is apparent that the
26 goals for the George, Kwethluk and Tuluksak Rivers are
27 higher than necessary. The weir-based goal on the
28 Kogruklu River was developed using a much longer time
29 series dating back to 1976, and encompasses a much more
30 representative range of king salmon production in the
31 Kuskokwim River. Although the SEG for the Kogruklu
32 River stock was based upon inadequate time series, it
33 is likewise revised on the basis of the new run
34 reconstruction model and spawner recruit analysis.

35

36 Okay. And there we list what the goals
37 are being -- the recommended changes to the goals. So
38 therefore the review team recommends revisions to three
39 of the weir-based SEGs for king salmon. The Kwethluk
40 River previous goal, 6,000 to 11,000; recommended
41 revised goal, 4100 to 7500. George River, previous
42 goal, 3100 to 7900; recommended revised goal, 1800 to
43 3300. And Kogruklu River, previous goal, 5300 to
44 14,000; recommended revised goal 4800 to 8800.

45

46 And then for other changes to goals in
47 the Kuskokwim area, the review team is also
48 recommending that the weir-based SEG for king salmon
49 in the Tuluksak River be eliminated. This system has
50 been extensively altered by mining activity and

1 supports a very small and variable escapement of king
2 salmon. The existing SEG of 1,000 to 2100 was based on
3 relatively short and inconsistent data set. Measured
4 escapements between 1991 and 2011 have ranged from 239
5 to 2,917 fish.

6
7 The nearby Kwethluk and Kisaralik
8 Rivers support much larger escapements and likely
9 provide an adequate index of escapement for Lower
10 Kuskokwim River king salmon stocks.

11
12 And then the last thing for the
13 Kuskokwim area is the review team is also recommending
14 that the area survey-based SEG for chum salmon on the
15 Kanektok River be eliminated. And that doesn't
16 necessarily affect this RAC as much, but this is due to
17 poor weather conditions, uncertainty of relationships
18 of the surveys to peak spawning time, and availability
19 of aircraft. These counts are unreliable for
20 evaluation of a goal on this system.

21
22 Switching to the Yukon management area,
23 there's no recommendation for a change, addition or
24 deletion of an escapement goal.

25
26 In the Norton Sound area, which doesn't
27 affect us, there is a small change.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions
30 for.....

31
32 MR. SHELDEN: Chris Shelden with the
33 Department.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The gentleman who's
36 making presentation.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I have on question.
41 Why are you -- well, I know you're -- the reductions in
42 the SEGs. There was a statement made the other day
43 that -- I don't know if it was for the OEGs or if it
44 meant all the -- Mr. Aloysius, you might help me on
45 this, when you made a statement that all that you
46 wanted to keep all the escapement goals as are, they
47 are in each of the tributaries. Was that in the
48 Kuskokwim or on the Yukon.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: My concern was strictly

1 for the Kuskokwim River, the whole escapement goals
2 being lowered, and didn't want to see that happen.

3

4 MR. SHELDEN: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
5 Elison.

6

7 MR. ELISON: Mr. Chairman, this is
8 Travis Elison.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Who was that?

11

12 MR. SHELDEN: Travis Elison, the area
13 manager.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

16

17 MR. ESTENSON: Yeah. Mr. Chair, I'd
18 like to address that question. The reason, one of the
19 reasons that the goals are going down on the
20 tributaries is those goals were established using
21 limited information, or limited data. Some of those
22 goals had -- well, all of those goals had less than
23 about 10 years of escapement data, and much of it was
24 not consecutive, so there's holes in that data. And
25 according to a new criteria for establishing goals with
26 that method, we need greater than 10 years, and
27 consecutive time series to use that method. So those
28 goals are set, 2007, with limited data.

29

30 Well, we've had this run reconstruction
31 project going on for over 10 years. They started data
32 collection I think 2002, starting with radio telemetry
33 projects and then mark/ recapture projects. That gave
34 us total estimates of escapements into the Kuskokwim
35 River. And then they used this, the total run
36 estimates through a model using like Kogrukluk River
37 weir data, and were able to come up with escapements
38 going all the way back to 1976.

39

40 Another thing this information gave us
41 was return data, so we found out, this is completely
42 new information, is how many fish it takes to spawn to
43 get a certain number back. So this new goal is
44 developed using that information. And, you know, it's
45 the first time we've ever had a Kuskokwim drainage
46 goal, and so it's important for us to have a goal on
47 the same scale that we manage the fishery, which is for
48 the entire Kuskokwim River.

49

50 I also would like to mention that these

1 of this new run reconstruction model is that even in
2 years when say the Tuluksak River weir or the Kwethluk
3 River weir doesn't operate, we will be able to get an
4 estimate of escapement using those weirs that can
5 operate throughout the entire year.

6

7 The problem that we've had, one of the
8 problems that we've had in the past is sometimes we
9 have an escapement goal, and we have the water too
10 high, and we can't manage for the escapement on that
11 tributary. With a full river goal and adjusted
12 tributary goals, we will be able to assess, even if a
13 weir is out for the season, we will be able to come up
14 with a full river estimate of escapement and then be
15 able to assess back a reasonable estimate of what might
16 have reached the particular tributary that we're
17 talking about to see whether or not we achieve that
18 goal.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
21 questions. Mr. Roczicka.

22

23 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

24

25 And I guess this may be more for
26 Travis, I don't know if Chris would be up to speed on
27 that yet, but, anyway, as all of you are well aware,
28 that the reception of these numbers pretty much covers
29 the spectrum for those that it's been presented to so
30 far. Some are fairly accepting and comfortable with
31 them, versus others who, since they do pose such a
32 significant change and a lowering in many cases, and
33 those will be gone into. That's not anything we can
34 really cover here today, and hopefully we can be done
35 through this process in the coming weeks and months
36 prior to the Board meeting. I guess my concern is one
37 that I did mention this morning, that as of yesterday
38 that the codes and the ability for independent review,
39 specifically the Federal biologists and biometricians
40 or people of similar academic level, had not yet
41 received the codes and had not received the full data
42 to be able to start running their own analysis.

43

44 And the other thing that I had
45 mentioned as well is that it was put in bold letters
46 from the State's own biometrician in one of the memos
47 concerning this when you guys were coming up with the
48 escapement goals that -- strongly recommending looking
49 at alternative numbers.

50

1 And so I guess the only thing I can
2 come through with a question here at that time, because
3 again that gets into a pretty involved discussion
4 that's going to take place later, but has that
5 information been released yet so that people can start
6 taking -- I mean, two months is not a lot of time when
7 we start -- when things start coming down. Or do you
8 know?

9

10 MR. ELISON: Mr. Chair. I can speak to
11 that. This Travis Elison.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

14

15 MR. SHELDEN: Go ahead.

16

17 MR. ELISON: Yeah. That data request
18 that Mr. Roczicka was referring to, the Department
19 received on Friday evening or Friday about 5:00
20 o'clock. That data request will be fulfilled. Part of
21 it was to have a meeting and a presentation to Fish
22 and Wildlife Service on the root table construction and
23 the run reconstruction and how we came about those
24 escapement goal recommendations. And we did have that
25 meeting with Fish and Wildlife Service on September
26 7th. Mr. Rivard was in attendance. And at that time
27 there was no questions or requests from the Fish and
28 Wildlife Service. So the Department just received that
29 less than a week ago. Some of you are aware there's a
30 Board of Fish meeting that's been going on most of the
31 week so the people that requested that information were
32 tied up in those meetings, but those requests will be
33 fulfilled, and they will have time to have an analysis,
34 their own independent analysis on the escapement goal
35 recommendation before the Board of Fish meeting.

36

37 I would also like to point out we just
38 released or published the two primary reports for this
39 run reconstruction. And those reports were peer
40 reviewed, externally peer reviewed by some of the top
41 salmon scientists from Washington State. So I hope
42 that answers that question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That does, thank
45 you.

46

47 Any further questions.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have
2 anything else.

3
4 MR. SHELDEN: No, that's it.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We are
7 down to item F, any Native organizations to make
8 report.

9
10 MS. ROBBINS: Mr. Chair. Council
11 members. LaDonn Robbins, Kuskokwim Native Association
12 in Aniak.

13
14 Don's passing out an update I have for
15 you guys. It's very similar -- LaDonn Robbins,
16 Kuskokwim Native Association. It's a very similar
17 report to the one I gave you guys in February when I
18 was here for the meeting. Just a brief update on some
19 projects that we've been working on.

20
21 This summer we had the George and
22 Tatlawiksuk River weirs. And we just finished getting
23 those out this last week due to high water. They
24 finished counting at the end of September. We're still
25 waiting for all the numbers, but there are some
26 preliminary graphs on the very back of the packet if
27 you guys want to look at those.

28
29 We were able to have the high school
30 internship program at both of those weirs this summer,
31 and it was very successful.

32
33 There was also the Kalskag
34 fishwheels/sockeye run reconstruction project that we
35 worked with Fish and Game on this summer. And this
36 summer was the last year for the project. There
37 weren't very many tags recaptured. Part of it was that
38 the Kogrukluuk weir was out quite a bit this summer due
39 to high water. And they're still working on pulling
40 that one out actually right now.

41
42 Then there was another weir this
43 summer, the Salmon River weir, up the Aniak. That one
44 was put in this summer, because the Aniak sonar was not
45 operating. They wanted another way to count fish in the
46 area.

47
48 And then Mike and I have been working
49 on the location, migration timing, and description of
50 the Kuskokwim River Bering cisco spawning origins. And

1 that's funded through U.S. Fish and Wildlife, OSM. And
2 this summer we were able to put 13 tags out near
3 Kalskag at the fishwheels, and 37 tags up past Nikolai.
4 And Mike has actually conducted two flights since he's
5 gotten the tags out at the end of last month, and it
6 looks like the Bering cisco are up above Nikolai. And
7 then next year around this time we're going to go and
8 do some habitat surveys up past Nikolai, and float down
9 and see what's going on there, and write up a full
10 report.

11
12 And then we've got the high school
13 internship programs and the college internship program.
14 This year for high school interns, we had 13 interns
15 from Aniak, Kalskag, Crooked Creek and Stony River. We
16 had a few interns that did two weeks with us this year
17 since they were returning from last year, and one
18 intern who did three weeks with us, and she did a
19 really great job.

20
21 We had a new educator, Alia Chisty, and
22 she was really great with the students, did a lot for
23 the program, added some new lessons. We're really
24 excited about it for next year.

25
26 And we had four college interns this
27 year, two from Aniak, one from Emmonak/Anchorage, and
28 one from Venetie. Three of those students are at UAF
29 right now going to school. And I've kept in contact
30 with them and they're doing really great with their
31 classes, and we'll see how they're doing next year.
32 Hopefully some of them can return. And then we've got
33 one intern who's at UAA right now.

34
35 And then Mike and I are still working
36 with the Kuspuk School District to do lessons, and
37 right now we're working on a salmon incubation project,
38 so there's about five schools that are starting some
39 salmon tanks, and the eggs should be here at the end of
40 the month, and the kids are going to follow the eggs
41 from the eye stage all the way to the fry stage, and
42 then that will be the end of the school year for them.

43
44 And then we're also going to work with
45 a lot of the schools this winter when we go and do our
46 community meetings.

47
48 And then we have the post-season
49 subsistence surveys. Right now those are being
50 conducted in Aniak and I think that's all I have for

1 those.

2

3

4 And then right now Mike and I are
5 getting ready for our community meetings. We're going
6 to start those at the beginning of next month, so
7 beginning of November. We'll go to Kalskag,
8 Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, Sleetmute, Stony River, and
9 we'll have one in Aniak as well.

10

11 And if you have any questions, go ahead
12 and ask. Thanks.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
15 the young lady.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You must have given
20 a good report. Thank you.

21

22 MS. ROBBINS: All right. Thank you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to
25 future meetings, item 13. Ms. Gregory.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. The
28 minutes were postponed until you and the Vice Chair
29 were here yesterday. We didn't read them.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, we decided
32 while you were gone that we're going to go through the
33 minutes at the next meeting. We tabled them until the
34 next meeting.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Then that means
37 that the winter, fall time (In Yup'ik). September
38 meetings, whenever. The previous meeting's are not
39 approved either. So that makes two of them. The
40 minutes told me that the meeting -- the minutes prior
41 to that one were also tabled. So we need to get -- put
42 ourselves in a proper place so that our actions and
43 stuff can be (In Yup'ik). All our actions are kind of
44 not valid.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you have a
47 comment to that, Mr. Nick.

48

49 MR. NICK: Yes. Mr. Chair. The
50 Council has decided to table the meeting minutes, both
of the minutes from last meeting and this meeting will

1 be in your books in the winter for your review and
2 approval. Is that understandable to you?

3

4 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Every time we
5 have a meeting, Mr. Nick do a housecleaning job. And
6 this is our housecleaning as a group. We need to
7 straighten ourselves out.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments.
10 Mr. Aloysius.

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Is there a
13 possibility that you could mail out the minutes of this
14 meeting prior to sending out the whole booklet? It
15 would be a lot easier, because then we have then and
16 we'll have no excuse, say, well, I never got my packet,
17 so I didn't get my minutes.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Nick.

20

21 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. That is
22 possible. We can do that if you request to do so. We
23 can do that.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I request
26 that you do so.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So be it.

29

30 We are to future meetings. Mr.
31 Jenkins.

32

33 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. David Jenkins
34 with OSM.

35

36 As you look to your future meetings,
37 let me emphasize something that Tim Towarak mentioned
38 yesterday, that the Regional Advisory Councils are the
39 backbone of the Federal subsistence system, and without
40 your hard work, the Federal Subsistence Program
41 wouldn't work. So everyone is appreciative of your
42 hard efforts. And I wanted just to pass on that
43 appreciation to you as Council members.

44

45 Okay. So in winter of 2013, on Page
46 204, you have the opportunity to confirm your meeting
47 dates. It's February 27th and 28th here in Bethel. So
48 you need to confirm that date. And then you have the
49 opportunity to choose your fall 2013 meeting date.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any headaches on
2 Bethel meeting for February 27th, 28th. Mr. Aloysius.
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there any possibility
5 that we could move the location, because we've been I
6 think five times in a row in Bethel, and our villages
7 are saying, when are you going to come here.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And not just from
10 the Yukon -- I mean Kuskokwim, but this is coming from
11 all over the area that we represent. I've had several
12 requests to see if we can bring this up, to see if we
13 can get meetings out in the villages.
14
15 Mr. Jenkins.
16
17 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chair. You can make
18 that request again. It's a funding issue for us at
19 this point.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We realize that.
22
23 DR. JENKINS: But you can certainly
24 make the request again, and if funding levels change,
25 then we can act accordingly.
26
27 Thank you.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anybody have any
30 problems with February 27th, 28th in Bethel. Everybody
31 okay with that.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's people
36 shaking their heads, one person saying no. Any
37 comments. Ms. Gregory.
38
39 MS. GREGORY: I would like to go to
40 another village and hear other people especially around
41 the Kuskokwim and the Yukon, subsistence users so that
42 we can get some input from them.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, in our
45 meeting we designated February 27th, 28th in Bethel.
46 Any problems with that.
47
48 Mr. Nick.
49
50 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. This meeting was

1 scheduled to be held I believe in St. Mary's, but
2 because there's no lodging facilities there, and there
3 was analysis of the cost between Bethel, the hub
4 community was Bethel, versus another hub community, St.
5 Mary's, it has been decided that this meeting was to be
6 moved to Bethel.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. How about
9 Hooper Bay. I think they have a hotel there.

10

11 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

14

15 MR. NICK: As you heard our report last
16 few times that you requested to meeting in another hub
17 community or in a village, what we will have to do is,
18 if you approve to meet like say Hooper Bay, we will
19 have to do analysis, the cost analysis of the two
20 communities, because there's funding issues. And in
21 order to make the meeting happen in a community, we
22 will need to have a very good justification to hold
23 that meeting there.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: The justifications you
28 heard already, because people are requesting us to go
29 to their villages. What more justification do we need?

30

31 And I think I need to address that OSM
32 people, Mr. Rivard and Mr. Jackson. You just don't
33 quit because you can't open the door. You have to find
34 ways to get through that door. And you should be
35 trying to help us out like that, and with Mr. Nick's
36 help to get us to a village. And if there's a lot of
37 red tape that needs to go then get rid of the red tape.

38

39 We are representing our people in the
40 villages, not all your studies and all your other -- we
41 weren't set up to be that kind of people. We were set
42 up to help our Native people retain their lifestyle,
43 not approve every little thing that comes our way for
44 study this and study that.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are still
47 discussing the meeting in February 27th, 28th in
48 Bethel.

49

50 Mr. Roczicka.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Given that I believe I heard earlier in one of the
3 Staff reports that it's also -- that they are working
4 very hard to try to get their travel budget ceiling
5 removed, and if that can occur, then a lot of these
6 restrictions might go away. And so I guess I would
7 move with the recommendation right now that in the
8 event that you can work it out and that does occur, or
9 you can find another way to do it, that our meeting of
10 27th and 28th will be held, should be held in Hooper
11 Bay, although we had Quinhagak last time, was the one
12 that we didn't make it to, but I think their plant
13 where we planned to stay closed down there. But
14 recommend we have our meeting in Hooper Bay, and Bethel
15 always ends up as a fallback if they can't make it
16 work, but at least put that recommendation forward.
17 And I would make that a motion.

18

19 MS. GREGORY: Second.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
22 made by Mr. Roczicka, seconded by Ms. Mary Gregory to
23 hold our February meeting -- are the dates the same?

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: For the dates of
28 February 27th, 28th in Hooper Bay.

29

30 Any further discussion on this motion.
31 Mr. Aloysius.

32

33 MR. ALOYSIUS: I thought we were
34 required to meet in a hub. Is Hooper Bay considered a
35 hub? Or is that a terminal.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick. Could
38 you address that, please.

39

40 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
41 Council. You've heard in the past from the Staff that
42 there's only two hubs recognized in this region.
43 Bethel and St. Mary's. So Hooper Bay would be
44 considered a non-hub community.

45

46 Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And would you like
49 to make a friendly amendment in the event that we are
50 not able to hold it in Hooper Bay, then Bethel would be

1 the second choice.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, it was a
4 recommendation that they try everything they can to
5 make it Hooper Bay, and that the default would -- if
6 they're unable to do that, then by default, it would be
7 Bethel.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. You've heard
10 the motion to be held February 27th, 28th in Hooper
11 Bay. Any further discussion.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
18 called for. all in favor say aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
23 sign.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Aye.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.

28

29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius, go
32 ahead.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: In the event that we
35 cannot secure Hooper May, I move that we have our
36 February 27 and 28, 2013 meeting in St. Mary's.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You heard the
39 motion. Do I hear a second to the motion. Do I hear a
40 second to the motion that was just made. Last call.
41 Do I hear a second.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion dies.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to
50 select date and location of the fall 2013 meeting.

1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Before we get
2 -- run out of our agenda items, I'd like to address
3 this Council.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, you have an
6 opportunity at the closing comments. Is next.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: The next item after
9 this.
10
11 MS. GREGORY: And I was going to go
12 down and address you guys as a Yup'ik.....
13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, you can do that.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You can do that
17 also.
18
19 MS. GREGORY: As a person, not as a
20 Council member.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. You can do
23 that also. But we need at this time to select a date
24 and location for the fall 2013 meeting.
25
26 Mr. Greg Roczicka.
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I'd like
29 to move for the fall meeting to be August 28 and 29 in
30 St. Mary's.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
33 to have the -- it's a fall meeting?
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: On August 28th in
38 St. Mary's.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: 28th and 29th.
41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: 28th, 29th.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 28th and 29th. Do
45 I hear a second to that motion. Is there a second to
46 the motion. Last call for a second.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That motion also

1 dies. Failed for a second.
2
3 Any other discussion on the location or
4 the date for the fall meeting.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move for September 25
11 and 26 for the fall meeting in 2013.
12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: At what location.
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Oh, in St. Mary's.
16 Sorry.
17
18 MS. GREGORY: Second.
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
21 made to hold a fall meeting on the 25th and 26th of
22 September at St. Mary's, made by Mr. Aloysius, seconded
23 by Ms. Gregory. Any further discussion. Any further
24 discussion.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MS. GREGORY: Question.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
31 called for. All in favor say aye.
32
33 IN UNISON: Aye.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Aye.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One opposition.
40 Yes, Mr. Nick.
41
42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
43 Council. Excuse me. The two lodging places in St.
44 Mary's has been -- well, one closed down, which is the
45 Jungikilvik (ph) Corporation that members of the
46 Council met before, and at which place you met before,
47 and the lodging where you placed when you last met
48 there in 2003. And the other -- I understand that the
49 Airport Bed and Breakfast I think it is, has been sold
50 to somebody else, and there's only one small lodging

1 facility in the village, which could probably hold a
2 maximum of five or six people.

3
4 Mr. Chair.

5
6 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Madame.

9
10 MS. GREGORY: Remember when we went to
11 a place that had no hotel, you asked people to see if
12 they could house a visitor. You can do the same thing.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

15
16 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Ms. Gregory. We
17 can try that, but there's no guarantee that that will
18 happen again, because there is some policies that our
19 agency now have to abide by in order to pay vendors or
20 pay people. But we'll look in to that.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Jenkins.

23
24 DR. JENKINS: Mr. Chairman. Let me
25 make just one quick point. The Western Interior met
26 Holy Cross over the last couple of days and people
27 there opened up their homes to Council members and they
28 stayed with some of the local people there, and the
29 Staff slept at the school and I think at the youth
30 center. So there are ways to -- and there were cost
31 savings associated with that, so there are ways to make
32 things happen as Ms. Gregory suggested, that we should
33 try to make things happen. And our office will pursue
34 that.

35
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

39
40 We are down to closing comments. Ms.
41 Gregory, you wanted to address the Council.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. May I be
44 excused from this Council so I can properly address the
45 Council.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, you may.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. My name is
50 (In Yup'ik). My father's name is (In Yup'ik) and my

1 mother's name is (In Yup'ik). I was raised eating the
2 local subsistence food, and my parents taught me how to
3 harvest them, and to cure them, and to put them away
4 from winter use. And my stepfather, John John raised
5 me, and he was a good man. He was a good provider.
6

7 This summer I was a victim of abusive
8 treatment for the second time. The first time my
9 husband, and my boat was stolen from by our house on
10 Otter Street by a member of my own race. Their
11 grandchildren stole out boat.
12

13 And this summer I was a victim of a
14 different kind of abuse. Treatment by my associates
15 who were supposed to help me keep my Yup'ik way of
16 life. I was deprived from exercising my inherent right
17 as a Native person to subsist off the river as I and my
18 ancestors have been doing for eons.
19

20 At both of these experiences I was left
21 with a feeling that a member of my body was violated.
22 My emotions, my well-being, and the very core of my
23 being was violated as well. As I told you earlier, I
24 have only one decent size king salmon from a guy who
25 works for the Fish and Wildlife Department. I have
26 only 10 to 15 jacks, not the big ones, that I just put
27 up for subsistence.
28

29 The people on the Kuskokwim do not have
30 the luxury of what the Yukon people have in harvesting
31 fish in the summertime, because Yukon River have two
32 pulses, spring -- summer and falltime. And the Yukon
33 was given a second chance with the fall run if you
34 didn't catch it on the first run. Summer is limited.
35 They cannot worry about it. When we don't get our
36 pulse -- we have only one pulse in the Kuskokwim, and
37 when we don't get that fish, us subsistence users, we
38 don't get a second chance. It's gone. We're lost for
39 the year. And it is the first chance to harvest -- if
40 this first chance to harvest fish is not allowed, we
41 are robbed of our inherent life to live as our Maker
42 had intended for us to be as we need the high protein
43 foods that will sustain us through the harsh winter in
44 the environment that we live in.
45

46 And one more item that I'd like to
47 bring up. There were some people from the Kongiganak
48 and Kwigillingok area who were fishing and their boats
49 were confiscated. Their nets were confiscated. Even
50 the fish were taken away from them, the fish that could

1 have sustained them as they would have this summer with
2 my king salmon. I have other fish now. I have red
3 salmon, coho and my chum salmon.

4

5 I would like to tell you that you guys
6 need to let us older people live the rest of our lives
7 as we know it. Don't limit it. It's really sad, like
8 a dying race. If we don't take care of our elder
9 people and our native people, we are killing ourselves
10 just like we're shooting us.

11

12 I'm sorry, I always get very emotional,
13 but that's the way I am made. And if you'd consider
14 doing something about it, especially our workers who
15 are there to help us. Like I told you a while ago, all
16 the time we approve the studies and this and that, and
17 yet we can't meet in a place we want to meet. Take
18 those studies, the cost of that study and transfer it
19 over to the RACs.

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you for your
24 statements, Ms. Gregory.

25

26 We're down to closing comments. Mr.
27 Charles, do you have any closing comments.

28

29 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 I want to thank the RAC members and Staff and State
31 people and Tim, everybody who came to this meeting,
32 too. We did a lot of work, and you folks help us a
33 lot. And we ask -- many of us or all of us are users
34 for the resource, both fish and game. And I want to
35 thank everybody for hard work, long hours and try to
36 get their work done.

37

38 This work is for the people, not just
39 us right here in the building. It's the work we do is
40 for the people we serve all up and down the Kuskokwim,
41 all up and down the Yukon. Even other areas. And we
42 want to do it right for the people. It's not our -- we
43 want to live good life. And as you know, most of us
44 are here, the RAC members are users for the resource,
45 and we want to keep our resource available when we hunt
46 and fish. We hunt for moose and other game, and we
47 fish for the salmon and non-salmon to feed our
48 families. We don't get everything from the stores.

49

50 I mentioned when I was at the AVCP

1 mini-convention last April, and they wanted me to be a
2 speaker at that meeting. And I mentioned growing up
3 when I was a kid eating fish. We did not have much
4 meat those days, because my father, uncle, grandmother
5 all died in the same year, within one year from
6 tuberculosis. I was eight years old, the oldest kid in
7 the family. And my mom raised me off the land, because
8 there was no stores, no food stamps, no welfare, but I
9 grew up eating what came off the land and water. And
10 mostly fish.

11
12 The fish that we don't talk about,
13 blackfish, that we catch in wintertime. I ate those to
14 survive. I ate sticklebacks to survive. Those were
15 our food. And we don't talk about those. We don't
16 make regulations about -- on those things, but people
17 survive eating those things, even little animals off
18 the land like ptarmigan, snowshoe and other game. But
19 they are all important to us. And we don't talk about
20 them in these things. But I talk a long time that time
21 during the convention, talking about the salmon that
22 time.

23
24 On Kuskokwim River here, I grew up
25 living on the Kuskokwim, we have king salmon in spring,
26 and behind that is chum salmon, and red salmon now, and
27 cohos. Those are our important fish, because everybody
28 use them, eat them, and catch them. And we did not
29 catch too many kings when I was a kid, because we were
30 in spring camp, and if we're not too late to catch king
31 salmon, we would use homemade net. We didn't buy the
32 net from the stores to catch kings. We make our own
33 net with the twine. And it would be only 10-feet long.
34 That's a long net. And one family doesn't use that.
35 When one family is done with it, they lend it to
36 another person who does not have a net. And kings are
37 not the only fish on the river. There are chums. We
38 catch more chums than kings those days. But nowadays a
39 lot of people are after kings. And I have been
40 mentioning that kings are not the only fish on the
41 Kuskokwim. There's other salmon go up and down the
42 river. And besides those, we were living on the non-
43 salmon fish, too. Whitefish, sheefish, pike and
44 burbot. There are a lot of other species.

45
46 So I want to let you know that those
47 are all important species of fish and game that we live
48 on in the delta, Y-K Delta.

49
50 So I want to thank you for helping us

1 make these rules and regulations that we go by now. We
2 did not have rules and regulations when I was a kid,
3 but nowadays you can't shoot a moose. You can't go
4 out, catch a fish. There's too many regulations now we
5 live by.

6

7 So I want to thank everybody here for
8 working with us. Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
11 Charles.

12

13 Mr. Polty, do you have any closing
14 comments.

15

16 MR. POLTY: Yeah. I'd like to say a
17 few words to everyone, that we have the opportunity to
18 work together here, and I was amazed that when I was
19 listening to the reports on Fish and Game, not only
20 Yukon, Kuskokwim, Southeast area, the fish are
21 depleting. Let's go back to what the Bible say, second
22 coming, starvation will be upon us. We're slowly going
23 toward that. And if we're not careful working with
24 these people and everyone that's here, we're going to
25 go on through that situation of where our next
26 generation might not exist too long.

27

28 Like, for instance, when 9/11 occurred,
29 our stores here that we depend on coming in from like
30 Anchorage and Fairbanks, all that what come in. When
31 9/11 occurred, there were no small planes flying three
32 days. Our grocery store, what we depend on in store,
33 all that meat was all vanishing fast. And the only
34 thing that we depend on that time was dry fish and some
35 moose meat, anything that we could get.

36

37 Now we're here today to help our
38 people. And for you that you understand that you work
39 with us, that we thank you for all that.

40

41 Another thing is that preparation for
42 disaster is coming around the corner for our Governor,
43 starting to prepare, allocate \$3 million, put away all
44 that. When the disaster occur. And that's for two
45 large cities. But what about for us in Yukon and
46 Kuskokwim, all the small villages? How are we going to
47 survive if the disaster come around and they're the
48 only ones preparing? What do we need to do?

49

50 We're here today, we're sitting here

1 today for subsistence, Federal subsistence, to prepare
2 ourselves for coming future for our people. And when I
3 look at these things, what we discuss for couple days,
4 this is the one that makes us all hold together, that
5 we would overcome the situation where we're going.
6 With the regulations that they put in, if we don't
7 abide by them, we're going to deplete our fish and our
8 resources of moose. That's part of what the elders
9 taught us from the generation way back on, we carry it
10 on.

11
12 And I'd like to thank everyone here
13 today, and that we get together and discuss some of
14 these things so we'll -- and we'll get into obstacles
15 that are difficult ahead.

16
17 Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
20 Polty.

21
22 Mr. Andrew, do you have any closing
23 comments.

24
25 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
26 Chairman.

27
28 Three years ago when I first addressed
29 the comments, I mentioned four words. And throughout
30 the process I see the development, I see the results of
31 working together. I see us, the RAC and the Staff,
32 observing each other. I see us together comprehending.
33 And we're achieving acknowledgement. That's a process.
34 And we execute together.

35
36 I'd like to thank publicly here our
37 Chairman here. He's been keeping us together, keep us
38 in shape, although we don't run a mile a day or two,
39 but he's done this work over and beyond my expectation.
40 He's younger than me, but he's progressing.

41
42 I also see a couple other people, I
43 don't need to mention you, I heard you.

44
45 I'd like to thank the Federal
46 Subsistence Board for acknowledging us. And I'd like
47 to send a message back with you, Tim, to the
48 membership. I give them four words. Observe,
49 comprehend, acknowledge, execute. We'll prevail. I'm
50 seeing some results, ladies and gentleman.

1 The lady over here has given me some
2 experience, and I'm learning over here. As we do these
3 things, I'm learning, too. You're looking at me, a
4 grey-haired old fellow, but I'm still learning.

5
6 And I see progression here. And I want
7 to thank every one of you. We have been observing each
8 other, get to know each other. We acknowledge today,
9 and we work together.

10
11 One more thing that I'd like to mention
12 here, that I didn't appreciate this summer, 2012. The
13 RAC, the last time we met, we made a proposal
14 requesting Federal Subsistence Board to develop
15 enforceable definition. What the officials have just
16 did, did this summer, they go over and beyond
17 necessity, what is necessary. And we don't need to go
18 through that again, because my neighbors from the
19 village, their subsistence equipment were cut.

20
21 I saw and heard the lady here just a
22 moment ago. We usually have three or four Native
23 communities and corporation people here before. Maybe
24 this is one of the reasons why they didn't participate.

25
26
27 (Teleconference operator)

28
29 MR. N. ANDREW: We need to establish
30 those four words with them. The subsistence users, the
31 tribal council, corporation if you will, although I
32 don't too much go with corporation, because to me it's
33 somewhat non-Native. But nevertheless, in observing
34 our goal, I think we need them, too.

35
36 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
39 Andrew.

40
41 Mr. Wilde, do you have any closing
42 comments.

43
44 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, brother. I think
45 these boys are doing very good ever since I've been
46 with them.

47
48 I am not very young, but I am doing
49 sometime best as I can. One time one of the boys asked
50 me, how old are you, Harry? Well, I tell you the

1 truth. I am 84. I am just a young man as you are.

2

3

(Laughter)

4

5 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. And they do very
6 good job and all that. And I been listening a lot of
7 time. And I've been all over. I've been in villages.
8 I've been in Unalakleet, all that, and stay up there.
9 I'd go way back and take care of some fish. And I go
10 all over.

11

12 And only the main thing is these boys
13 do work together. First time I ever seen is when I
14 first walk in here, I was not going to do nothing, but
15 I was lazing for a while as a leader. I done that,
16 something that I never done before. This was quite a
17 years back.

18

19 Right now that I am with my
20 grandchildren. My son's taking care of youngest one.
21 Yeah. I never feel low ever since I with these boys
22 here. And my relative, my Anaan over there, they tell
23 us and feed us and all that. Sometimes they're driving
24 (ph) when we try to go up. You guys could recognize
25 my brother right here. That's my brother, younger
26 brother. We work together, try to alive our family.
27 We care for the people that who with us, like in here.
28 When the people come in, we thank you.

29

30 We appreciate what you guys done to us.
31 Helping us. Like that man over here, I know him for
32 long time, and showing -- they stay with us and work
33 with us and all that. And I want to say this, I
34 appreciate that you come here and listen to us.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
39 Wilde.

40

41 Mr. Roczicka, do you have any closing
42 comments.

43

44 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, Mr. Chairman, I
45 think I'm going to pass this time. After hearing some
46 of these others, I'd just say it's always a privilege
47 to work with everybody here.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
50 Roczicka.

1 Mr. Aloysius, do you have any closing
2 comments.

3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: It's been a very
5 exciting six years -- or, no, I forget, 12 years? Nine
6 years, yeah. 2003 to 2012 is nine years.

7
8 And every now and then I feel like
9 we're still stuck in the rut, because of the
10 bureaucratic regulations that hinder us from achieving
11 a goal of mostly preserving and our ability to harvest
12 the bounty of this land that the good Lord gave us.
13 Every Sunday when I do my homily, I always say, let us
14 give thanks to God for all that he has given us,
15 especially this land overflowing with wildlife and
16 fish, plants, berries, roots, the air we breath, the
17 water we drink, and especially the land that we live
18 on. Too many times we just take it for granted, and
19 yet it is our responsibility as told to us by our old
20 people that (In Yup'ik). We must love, honor and
21 respect this land, because without it we are nothing.
22 And without all the animals, the plants and the fish,
23 we are nothing. We wouldn't be here, because we depend
24 on them for our very living.

25
26 And too many times there's so many
27 things going on that influence us to just ignore what
28 is going on. There's so much things going on that are
29 harmful to the land and in turn harmful to us, and
30 especially to the children we have and the
31 grandchildren we have, and their children and
32 grandchildren after them.

33
34 No matter how many times I get
35 disappointed, disgusted and suffer from information
36 overload, I still have to think about how I grew up,
37 and how precious it was. And I was raised by two
38 grandmothers. I didn't grow up with brothers and
39 sisters, I didn't grow up with Mom and Dad. And so by
40 the time I was three years old, I was like a little old
41 man.

42
43 And every day they told me, (In
44 Yup'ik). Be careful how you live today and be kind to
45 your relatives. And relatives means not only your
46 human relations, but your sisters and brothers that
47 fly, roost, climb, walk, hop, jump, skip, slither,
48 burrow, and grow, and swim on Mother Earth. Those are
49 our relations. And it is our responsibility to make
50 sure that we do not disturb them unnecessarily, because

1 we depend on them. We depend on them for our very
2 existence. And how many times have you seen that in
3 the Western curriculum? Never. It's always go out,
4 make a living, earn money so you can get anything you
5 want. You cannot live like that. It's not right.

6
7 So I try my best to be a role model. I
8 live off the land as much as I can, but most of all I
9 respect that land, the water and the air, and I teach
10 that to the young people. A lot of times they say,
11 shit, you're just too damn old-fashioned. Thank you.
12 Thank you very much. Because without my connection to
13 my motherland, my Father the Creator, I'm next to
14 nothing.

15
16 And so that's been kind of my
17 foundation for being here, for applying to be here, and
18 every three years I reapply. And, you know, I have so
19 much to say, but I just -- you know, I get overwhelmed
20 listening to other people.

21
22 And I'm just a young feller compared to
23 Harry. You know, he's seven years my senior, so you
24 can figure it out yourself. And this boy here has got
25 a long ways to go and he's got a lot to learn. And I'm
26 proud of him. I've known him for as long as I've known
27 Harry. And every day I grow. My eight grandchildren
28 and one great grandson teach me every day and remind me
29 to be a good person.

30
31 And I hope that -- you know, I try to
32 live that way and I try to show it that way, but I'm
33 very impatient as you could see the last couple days.
34 But I am really humbled and honored to be part of this
35 organization, because it's the first time in my life
36 that the Federal Government has recognized that they
37 need help, and we are here to help them improve not
38 only our lives, our way of life, but to preserve what
39 is so sacred, the land that we live in. I mean, the
40 land that we live on, the air we breath and the water
41 we drink.

42
43 Quyana.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
46 Aloysius.

47
48 Anaan, do you have any comments.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Yes. I'd like to thank

1 Tim Towarak for coming out here and spending time with
2 us to get a first-hand experience with how our little
3 organization works in trying to help our Native people,
4 our constituents to be -- not to conform to other
5 things, but be themselves.

6
7 I accept everybody as they are.
8 Outside of my frustrations and expressing them,
9 exercising my right as a freedom of speech, United
10 States citizen, I like you, but a lot of times when you
11 step on my toes, I let out a howl. And I'm not
12 apologizing for my behavior. I'm just here because,
13 like I said, I'm trying to let my elders live the rest
14 of their lives in the way they only know how is to live
15 off the land, and I'm glad to be here and I'm glad to
16 see all of you that I know come back and be with us
17 here, and stuck with us throughout the whole day.
18 We've been here for like almost 10 hours.

19
20 And I thank the young man from -- young
21 people that gave reports and encourage you to -- don't
22 bring yourself or your ways to this place, because it's
23 not where you come from, but be respectful and accept
24 people as they are. Don't try to conform them.

25
26 Thank you.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Anaan.

29
30 Mr. Andrew, do you have any closing
31 comments.

32
33 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
34 Chairman.

35
36 First of all, I'll just apologize for
37 not being here 100 percent. I was just taking care of
38 my medical appointments, for you guys allowing me to go
39 up there to take care of it.

40
41 And I thank our Staff and the Staff of
42 Fish and Game, especially the Federal Subsistence Board
43 Chairman, Mr. Towarak, I thank you for your presence.
44 Quyana. And all this time you can notice probably
45 about all the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory
46 Council, our Council consists of 13 members, and
47 practically all of them are elders. And it's one of
48 the reasons why I try to be respectful to all of them.
49 There are times when you, like our Anaan sits over
50 here, and sometimes it's frustrating to be not able to

1 express yourself to the rest of the group and to our
2 Staff, try to make our sayings understandable. But I
3 really appreciate working with them all these years,
4 especially to our Chairman and his brother when he was
5 the Chair, Harry.

6

7 Quyana. Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Quyana, Mr. Andrew.

10

11

12 Mr. Brown, any comments.

13

14 MR. BROWN: Yeah. I'm kind of nervous
15 to express myself. I just wanted to thank the agencies
16 that come over to listen to us.

17

18 Like we did to moose moratorium, I
19 think the fish that we start having a problem, I think
20 we could work it out, try to solve what 's going on. I
21 think we've got to work together, not working against
22 each other. We have to listen to our elders, to the
23 agencies, and to the working group. I think we can do
24 it like we work on the moose.

25

26 I just want to thank for being here.
27 And this was my last term before I come over for tribe.
28 While I was away for a meeting, attending the AVCP
29 meeting, I was elected by my folks back home. Since I
30 was a young kid, I start working for the public and
31 learning from my elders, too.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

36 Brown.

37

38 In closing, I would like to thank the
39 Staff for coming over and enduring some of the little
40 idiosyncracies that we do have sometimes in this group
41 of gentlemen and lady that you see up here. But we all
42 have our heart in the right place, and I think I can
43 say for all of them that we grew up not just with the
44 advice that we are here to help each other get over
45 some of the tough times that we have, because that was
46 what we've been taught from the very beginning. Ever
47 since I was able to start understanding and
48 comprehending the language, I've been told that.

49

50 And I'm happy to see that my long-time

1 childhood friend, Mr. Tim Towarak, is also the Chair of
2 the Subsistence Board. And I was very happy to see you
3 get appointed to that position, and I was happier yet
4 when you accepted. And thank you also the other
5 gentleman from the Subsistence Board also for coming
6 over and observing the work that we do not necessarily
7 for you, gentlemen, but for the people that we serve.
8 And again thank you all for coming and supporting us.

9

10 And at this time we will adjourn the
11 meeting if there is a motion.

12

13 MR. TOWARAK: Before you adjourn, could
14 I make one comment? I'd like to recognize Gene Virden
15 who's on the Federal Subsistence Board, and he's
16 retiring at the end of the month. He's retiring on
17 Halloween, so he's going to be leaving us, and this
18 might be the last time you see him. But I'd like to at
19 least congratulate his retirement from the BIA. He's
20 been with the BIA and has been doing public service for
21 almost 40 years he told me, so I just wanted to
22 recognize Eugene for his work on the Federal
23 Subsistence Board as a Board member representing the
24 BIA.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

27

28 (Applause)

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And we are standing
31 a motion to adjourn.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: I'd like to thank our
34 recorder, because she's very nice and quiet.

35

36 (Laughter)

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion to adjourn.

39

40 MR. ROCZICKA: Move we adjourn.

41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion made to
45 adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Aloysius. All in favor say
46 aye.

47

48 IN UNISON: Aye.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed stay

1 seated. Thank you, very much.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (Mr. Robert Aloysius gave benediction
6 after adjournment)

7

8 (Off record)

9

10 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

