

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 November 14, 2013
13 9:00 a.m.

14
15
16
17 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42 Recorded and transcribed by:

43
44 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
45 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
46 Anchorage, AK 99501
47 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 11/14/2013)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting to order, the time is now three minutes after.

Mr. Alex Nick, would you please call the roll.

MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Members of the Council. I welcome David Bill and Harry Wilde, they arrived yesterday. And the update for the other members, Noah Andrew and Raymond Oney was -- and also Robert Aloysius was also trying to come in all those two days -- last two days. And last night as I was directed by my boss, I've advised them last night when the planes were not coming in, that they are not to travel today. That was the directive that we got, so they will not be traveling into Bethel.

Okay. Going on to the roll call.

James Charles.

MR. CHARLES: Here.

MR. NICK: Noah Andrew. Noah Andrew is unable to come in.

Evan Polty.

MR. POLTY: Here.

MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Here.

MR. NICK: Paul Manumik is excused.

Harry Wilde, Sr.

MR. H. WILDE: Here.

MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.

(No comments)

1 MR. NICK: She should be coming in
2 shortly.
3
4 Raymond Oney. He was one of those
5 people that were trying to come in.
6
7 Greg Roczicka.
8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Here.
10
11 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
12
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 MR. NICK: He was also trying to come
17 in yesterday.
18
19 David Bill.
20
21 MR. BILL: Here.
22
23 MR. NICK: And William Brown.
24
25 MR. BROWN: Here.
26
27 MR. NICK: We have eight -- rather
28 seven -- I believe seven present. We have a quorum.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. At this
31 time I would like to welcome everybody that's here this
32 morning. And if you would introduce yourselves
33 starting with Mr. Chen back there, and working on the
34 way back until all introductions are done. If you'd
35 like to come up to the mic that's fine too.
36
37 DR. CHEN: Good morning, Council
38 Members. My name is Glenn Chen. I'm the Subsistence
39 Branch Chief for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and
42 welcome.
43
44 MR. CEBRIAN: Mr. Chair and Council
45 members. My name is Merben Cebrian, subsistence
46 biologist for BLM, Anchorage.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and
49 welcome.
50

1 MR. MCKEE: Good morning. My name is
2 Chris McKee, I'm a wildlife biologist with OSM out of
3 Anchorage.

4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.

6
7 MR. PELTOLA: Good morning, Mr. Chair
8 and Regional Advisory Council members. Gene Peltola,
9 Jr., Assistant Regional Director for the Office of
10 Subsistence Management.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome, Gene.

13
14 MR. JENKINS: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
15 Council. My name is Wayne Jenkins. I'm the new Deputy
16 Director for Yukon River Drainage Fisheries
17 Association.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and
22 welcome.

23
24 MR. MOLYNEAUX: Good morning. Doug
25 Molyneaux. No affiliation. Just an interested
26 citizen.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.

29
30 MR. KESSLER: Good morning, Council.
31 Steve Kessler with the United States Forest Service.
32 I'm the Subsistence Program Leader for the region and
33 serve on the InterAgency Staff Committee.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome.

36
37 MR. MILLER: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
38 Council members. Steve Miller, Fish and Wildlife
39 Service, Kenai Fish and Wildlife Field Office.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome to our
42 meeting, Steve.

43
44 MR. BUE: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.
45 Council members. Fred Bue. Yukon River Fisheries
46 Subsistence Management.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and,
49 welcome, Fred.

50

1 MS. CHAVEZ: Good morning. Roberta
2 Chavez, ONC fisheries biologist.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Good morning, Roberta.
5
6 Did we miss anybody.
7
8 MR. RILEY: Good morning, everybody.
9 My name is John Riley from Pitka's Point, Lower Yukon.
10 Thank you.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome, John.
13
14 MR. SUNDOWN: Good morning, members of
15 the Council. My name is Robert Sundown. I'm a
16 wildlife officer and a subsistence resource specialist
17 for the Yukon-Delta Refuge.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and welcome
20 Robert.
21
22 MR. SUNDOWN: Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else.
25
26 MR. LORRIGAN: Good morning, Mr. Chair
27 and Council members. My name is Jack Lorrigan, I'm the
28 Native Liaison for the Office of Subsistence
29 Management. Good morning.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome to our
32 country.
33
34 (Laughter)
35
36 MR. LORRIGAN: Sir.
37
38 (Laughter)
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there anyone else.
41
42 MR. NICK: Good morning. Alex Nick.
43 Regional Council coordinator, Bethel. And I would like
44 the record to reflect that Mary Gregory is present.
45
46 Mr. Chair.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.
49
50 MR. ANDREW: Good morning, Mr. Chair.

1 Members of the Board -- Council. Timothy Andrew, AVCP
2 Natural Resources.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome and thank you
5 for coming Tin.
6
7 Anyone else that we haven't introduced.
8
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And at this time we'll
13 have the Council introduce themselves starting with Mr.
14 Harry Wilde on the end there. You want to introduce
15 yourself to the rest of the room.
16
17 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, my name is Harry
18 Wilde. I'm the Chairman's brother.
19
20 (Laughter)
21
22 MR. H. WILDE: I had a little bit hard
23 time coming over but I made it. Good morning.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Welcome Harry.
26
27 MR. CHARLES: James Charles from
28 Tuntutuliak.
29
30 MR. POLTY: Evan Polty, Pilot Station.
31
32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) from Bethel.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lester Wilde from
35 Hooper Bay.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka, Bethel.
38
39 MR. BILL: David Bill, Sr., from
40 Chevak/Hooper Bay/Hooper Bay/Nun'am, now Toksook Bay.
41
42 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
43
44 MR. BILL: David Bill, Sr., from
45 Chevak/Hooper Bay/Hooper Bay/Nun'am, now Toksook Bay.
46
47 Thank you.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 MR. BROWN: William F. Charlie Brown,
2 Eek.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you all and
5 welcome. Anan, would you say the invocation for us
6 this morning.
7
8 MS. GREGORY: I'll just sit here and
9 talk.
10
11 (Invocation)
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.
14
15 We will be accepting public comments.
16 Public comments are welcome for each agenda item and
17 for regional concerns not included on the agenda. The
18 Council appreciates hearing your concerns and
19 knowledge. Please fill out a comment form, a blue
20 comment form you can find back in the back on the table
21 for any comments that you would like -- for which you'd
22 like to be recognized. There will be no time limits
23 since there are not that many people, I don't feel that
24 will be coming before us this morning.
25
26 The agenda is as follows:
27
28 Item 6 -- we were supposed to have
29 election of officers this morning, or today but we're
30 going to do that in the winter meeting.
31
32 The Agenda items are as follows:
33
34 Item 6. Previous minutes.
35
36 Item 7. Reports from the Council
37 members. Chair report. Annual report.
38 Annual report reply from Federal
39 Subsistence Board.
40
41 Item 8. Public and tribal comments on
42 non-agenda items.
43
44 Item 9. Old business. Customary and
45 traditional use determination.
46
47 New Business.
48
49 State proposals.
50

1 Wildlife proposals.
2
3 WP-01 for trapping. Requiring -- oh,
4 then we have summary of tribal.....
5
6 Consultation is Item A.
7
8 And then after that we have the
9 statewide proposals.
10
11 WP14-01
12
13 WP14-02
14
15 Regional proposals are:
16
17 WSA13-01
18
19 WP14-21 moose. Revise the harvest
20 limit restriction and extend the
21 season.
22
23 WP14-23 moose. Lengthen the season and
24 remove bulls only restriction.
25
26 WP14-24/25 moose. Revise the hunt area
27 descriptor.
28
29 WP14-26 caribou. Require permit,
30 revise season dates and grant closure
31 authority to the Refuge manager.
32
33 WP14-27 moose. Establish a new fall
34 season.
35
36 WP14-21 moose. Extend the season dates
37 and revise the harvest limit.
38
39 Then we'll go on into crossover
40 proposals. They are:
41
42 WP14-22 caribou. Require State
43 registration permit.
44
45 WP14-32 moose. Redefine the descriptor
46 and the Paradise Control Use Area.
47
48 WP14-41 muskox. Season and harvest
49 limit be changed.
50

1 Item B. 2013 US Fish and Wildlife
2 Service and ADF&G, Lower Yukon River
3 Fishing Season Review.
4
5 I think we had that yesterday. That
6 review was done yesterday, wasn't it.
7
8 MR. BUE: (Nods affirmatively)
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, it was. Okay,
11 thank you.
12
13 And then we have the
14
15 Draft 2014 Fisheries Review Monitoring
16 Plan.
17
18 We had the -- oh, we didn't have any of
19 those Resource Monitoring Plans, they are:
20
21 The Yukon Overview
22
23 Kuskokwim Overview
24
25 Partners for Fisheries Monitoring
26 Program.
27
28 Item D will be the rural determination
29 process review.
30
31 We'll get a -- for those of you on the
32 Council that weren't here last night for the review,
33 we'll have it repeated today to make sure that
34 everybody has an opportunity to make suggestions.
35
36 Item E is presentation to 20 year
37 service award.
38
39 That item has been moved to directly
40 after this, approval of the agenda.
41
42 Council compensation. Robert Aloysius
43 is not here so we will strike that from
44 the agenda.
45
46 Item G. Invasive plants update,
47 presented by Pat Sampson, Kuskokwim
48 River Watershed Council.
49
50 Other Invasive Species.

1 Item H. Identify issues for the 2013
2 annual report.
3
4 A. OSM updates.
5
6 Item 1. Budget update.
7
8 Item 2. Staffing update.
9
10 Item 3. Tribal Consultation
11 implementation of guidelines update.
12
13 Item 4. MOU update.
14
15 B. Togiak Refuge bulletin.
16
17 We did the Kenai Fisheries 30 minutes
18 yesterday.
19
20 The Lower Yukon Fisheries yesterday.
21
22 Item C. Bureau of Land Management
23 Resource Management Plan; we did that
24 yesterday.
25
26 Alaska Department of Fish and Game made
27 a report on the Lower Yukon and the Kuskokwim areas.
28
29 Then we also have a report from the
30 Yukon River Drainage Fisheries
31 Association.
32
33 Draft Bycatch Resolution handout.
34
35 Item 12. Future meeting dates.
36
37 Meeting Calendar - A.
38
39 Confirm dates and location of winter
40 2013 meeting.
41
42 Select date and location of fall 2014
43 meeting.
44
45 Item 13. Closing comments.
46
47 Item 14. Adjourn.
48
49 Any additions or deletions.
50

1 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It was -- I can't
4 remember right now, Mr. Nick, was that Yukon-Delta and
5 Mr. Rearden.....
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Yesterday.....
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, it wasn't done.
10
11 MR. NICK: Excuse me. Alex Nick for
12 the record. Yesterday a copy of the revised agenda was
13 distributed to all Council members. There should be a
14 handout with all of the changes on the agenda and so
15 that's the one. And also to make this agenda legal,
16 the dates will be changed from October to November 13
17 and 14.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Did you hear
20 that correction.
21
22 Before we get into that, is there an
23 addition to the agenda that you had Mr. Bue.
24
25 MR. BUE: Fred Bue, Fish and Wildlife
26 Service, Yukon Management.
27
28 Yesterday when I gave my report, I
29 mentioned that there were Agenda Change Requests to the
30 Board of Fish and three proposals went forward. I
31 don't know that you'll have opportunity to work on it
32 today but this will come up this spring, these
33 proposals, and for your consideration, so I will pass
34 them out if you want to look at them during your break
35 or something and decide what additional work you want
36 to do.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And those are for the
39 meeting -- in the fall meeting?
40
41 MR. BUE: No. They'll be taken up out
42 of cycle. And so the Board of Fish is going to act, I
43 believe, in March, possibly at their statewide meeting.
44 There's three proposals. They're commercial related on
45 the Yukon but one's the dipnet, modify the gear
46 specifications. There's one to the fishwheel gear
47 specifications. And then there's also a proposal to
48 remove the restriction on selling kings when we're
49 having a conservation concern there. And so there were
50 three proposals that were taken up at the Board of Fish

1 work session in October. So it was short notice for
2 everybody but I wanted to make sure that you had this
3 on the record so that you could look at it and deal
4 with it as you see fit.

5

6 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right. Any other
9 additions or deletions to the agenda.

10

11 Spencer Tracy -- Spencer Rearden will
12 be on Item B under US Fish and Wildlife for the Yukon-
13 Delta report item, what was that again -- Item 11,
14 under Item 11. That will be later on Spencer, okay.

15

16 Any other deletions or additions to the
17 agenda as read.

18

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move that
23 we approve the agenda as amended.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
26 approve the agenda as amended. Do I hear a second.

27

28 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. James
31 Charles.

32

33 Any further discussion.

34

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
39 discussion.

40

41 MR. POLTY: Question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question called for.
44 All in favor signify by saying aye.

45

46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
49 sign.

50

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion is carried.
4 We're working on the agenda now.
5
6 Item 6 is approval of the previous
7 meeting minutes. Any discussion on the approval of the
8 previous minutes.
9
10
11 (No comments)
12
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any discussion on the
15 previous minutes.
16
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move that
21 we approve the minutes of February 27, 28, 2013.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
24 approve the minutes, is there a second to the motion.
25
26 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
29 discussion.
30
31
32 (No comments)
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
35 discussion.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
40 All in favor say aye.
41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed, same
45 sign.
46
47 (No opposing votes)
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
50

1 MS. GREGORY: I say nay.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
4
5 MS. GREGORY: I say nay. I never read
6 the minutes.
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Motion's
11 carried.
12
13 We are down to Council -- is there any
14 reports from Council members.
15
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any Council member
20 reports.
21
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick, is there a
26 report that we were supposed to get passed to us.
27
28 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick for
29 the record.
30
31 The Chair's report is the .805(c)
32 letter, I beli -- did I pass out a copy yesterday, I
33 think, in your packet, that is the Chair's -- part of
34 Chair's report.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Which one was that?
37
38 MR. NICK: It's the Federal Subsistence
39 Board action report from January 22-24, 2013. It talks
40 about 2012 -- rather it talks about statewide proposals
41 and also proposals the Regional Advisory Council made
42 recommendations to the Board.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I could give
45 that report.
46
47 MR. NICK: Thank you.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further --
50 anything else, Mr. Nick.

1 MR. NICK: I don't have anything else.
2 But for those of you who attended the Federal
3 Subsistence Board meeting, if you want to give a
4 summary of what happened -- I mean what it did, you can
5 do that.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There was no reports
8 from Council members so I'll just read this letter from
9 the Federal Subsistence Board addressed to myself.

10
11 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
12 Regional Advisory Council. Addressed to me in Hooper
13 Bay. The letter is as follows:

14
15 Enclosed with the letter is the report
16 of the Federal Subsistence Board non-
17 consensus agenda action items at its
18 January 22nd-24th, 2013 meeting
19 regarding proposed changes to
20 subsistence fish and shellfish
21 regulations and customary and
22 traditional use determinations.

23
24 This report only details those non-
25 consensus agenda proposals that affect
26 the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region.
27 Details of these actions and the
28 Board's deliberations are contained in
29 the meeting transcripts, copies of the
30 transcripts may be obtained by calling
31 our toll free number at 1-800-478-1456
32 and
33 [httalaskafishandwildlife.gov/asm/index/](http://httalaskafishandwildlife.gov/asm/index/cfi)
34 [cfi](http://httalaskafishandwildlife.gov/asm/index/cfi) on the internet [sic].

35
36 The Board uses consensus agenda on
37 these proposals -- I'm sorry.

38
39 The Board uses a consensus agenda on
40 those proposals where there is
41 agreement among the affected
42 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils;
43 a majority of the InterAgency Staff
44 Committee; and the Alaska Department of
45 Fish and Game concerning a proposal,
46 regulatory actions.

47
48 Let me try that again.

49
50 The Board uses a consensus agenda on

1 those proposals where there is
2 agreement among the affected
3 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils;
4 majority of the InterAgency Staff
5 Committee; and the Alaska Department of
6 Fish and Game concerning a proposed
7 regulatory action. These proposals
8 were deemed non-controversial and did
9 not require a separate discussion.

10
11 The only consensus agenda item
12 affecting the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta
13 region was Proposal FP13-2, which the
14 Board adopted consistent with the
15 Council's recommendation.

16
17 The Federal Subsistence Board
18 appreciates the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta
19 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council's
20 activity involvement and diligence with
21 the regulatory process.

22
23 The 10 Regional Advisory Councils
24 continue to be the foundation of the
25 Federal Subsistence Management Program
26 and the stewardship shown by the
27 Regional Advisory Council Chairs and
28 their representatives at the Board
29 meeting was noteworthy.

30
31 If you have any questions regarding the
32 summary of the Board's action please
33 contact me via Alex Nick, regional
34 advisory coordinator at (907) 543-1037
35 or 1-800-521-5804, extension 257.

36
37 And it's signed by Tim Towarak, Federal
38 Subsistence Board.

39
40 The statewide proposals discussed at
41 that time are reviewed at this meeting was the Yukon
42 Kuskokwim Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
43 proposal, it was 13-01, which is the following
44 description:

45
46 Rescind the requirement for a Federal
47 subsistence fishing permit to take
48 chinook salmon during the weekly
49 subsistence fishing openings by drift
50 gillnet in the Yukon Subdistrict 4B and

1 4C. The Council recommendation was to
2 support. Justification was that the
3 Council was in agreement with OSM
4 conclusion to support this. The Board
5 action adopted this proposal and the
6 justification was there are few people
7 participating in this harvest and the
8 use is low. The harvest information
9 can still be collected through existing
10 measures. This requirement results in
11 duplicate effort and is burdensome on
12 the users.

13
14 Proposal 13-03 establishes a daily
15 harvest limit to three northern pike in
16 all waters of the Yukon River from Holy
17 Cross down stream to and including
18 Paimiut Slough and only one pike may be
19 over 30 inches. Council recommendation
20 was to oppose. The justification was,
21 when subsistence users travel a long
22 distance to harvest what they need for
23 their food supply, it is not considered
24 sportfishing. Subsistence fishers want
25 to harvest as many as they can and
26 sometimes they return on the same day.
27 Subsistence users travel a long
28 distance to harvest what they need and
29 at times remain in the area for five,
30 six or even up to 10 days to travel a
31 long distance costs subsistence users a
32 lot of money for gasoline and supplies.
33 The Board action rejected this
34 proposal. Justification for the
35 rejection was if adopted there would be
36 no effect on Federal lands since State
37 regulations apply within the Refuge,
38 which is a fair distance from the GASH
39 area. A similar proposal was recently
40 rejected by the Alaska Board of
41 Fisheries. Plus, if adopted
42 subsistence would be subjected to lower
43 harvest limits that govern in the same
44 area for the sport users and the State
45 regulations. Adopting this FP13-03
46 would be detrimental to subsistence
47 users, especially gillnetters.

48
49 Proposal 13-06/07 and 08. Description.
50 Proposal FP13-06, FP13-07 and FP13-08

1 address customary trade regulations for
2 the Yukon River drainage chinook.

3
4 FP13-06 seeks to limit customary trade
5 of Yukon River chinook salmon to those
6 with a current customary and
7 traditional use determination for the
8 Yukon River and Yukon River chinook
9 salmon.

10
11 FP13-07 seeks the same limitation but
12 only in time of shortage, when there is
13 no Yukon River chinook salmon
14 commercial fishery and restrictions on
15 subsistence fisheries are in place.

16
17 FP13-08 also seeks to limit customary
18 trade of Yukon River chinook salmon to
19 those with a current customary and
20 traditional use determination and to
21 insure that any individual who
22 purchases chinook salmon under
23 customary trade uses it only for
24 personal or family consumption.

25
26 Council recommendation at the time was
27 to support each proposal.
28 Justification, the Council was in
29 agreement with OSM's conclusion on Page
30 77 of Council's workbook. The Board
31 action was to adopt with modification
32 13-06 -- FP13-06. The Board modified
33 regulations dealing with customary
34 trade along the Federally-qualified
35 subsistence users statewide and between
36 Federally-qualified subsistence users
37 and the non-rural residents.

38
39 Those actions are consistent with the
40 Western Interior Alaska Regional
41 Subsistence Advisory Council
42 recommendation and with the intent of
43 two other Regional Advisory Council
44 recommendations as expressed in the
45 preferred TRI-RAC customary trade
46 subcommittee recommendation.
47 Modification on FP13-06 clarifies that
48 customary trade will only occur between
49 users and existing customary and
50 traditional use determination for the

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

Yukon chinook salmon.

No action was taken on FP13-07 and FP13-08.

Justification was the Subsistence Regional Advisory Council and the TRI-RAC customary trade subcommittee mostly agreed to the principles outlined in FP13-06 but there is no agreement on other proposals. Until we get more widespread agreement the Board is not prepared to act on them at this time.

These actions are consistent with the TRI-RAC customary trade subcommittee preferred alternates and bring consistency without Council recommendations. This has been a difficult contentious and controversial issue in a large area with communities and users being affected differently, depending on their community of residence. The Board would like to support and recognize the collective work of users brought before us. This is a step forward in addressing customary trade of chinook salmon on the Yukon. These actions can be reassessed in the future.

FP13-09/10 requests that the Federal Subsistence Board prioritize direct personal or family consumption over customary trade of the Yukon River Drainage chinook salmon. The proponent is concerned with low Yukon River chinook salmon runs, submitted by the Eastern Interior Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

Proposal FP13-10 requests that the Board prioritize family consumption over customary trade of the Yukon River Drainage chinook salmon. The proponent is also concerned with low Yukon River chinook runs and asserts that customary trade contributes to the Yukon River chinook declines.

1 Council recommendation was to support.
2 The justification was that the Council
3 believes that there is a conservation
4 concern regarding chinook on the Yukon
5 River and curtailing customary trade
6 may aid in the population's recovery.
7

8 The Council considered each proposal,
9 discussing the difference between the
10 proposals and voted separately to
11 support each one.
12

13 The Federal Subsistence Board action
14 did not take any action on this
15 proposal. The justification was that
16 there was no consensus or agreement on
17 any Yukon River proposals with the
18 exception of FP13-06. Councils limited
19 their recommendations to only proposals
20 pertinent to their geographical
21 locations. Until we get more
22 widespread agreement from Councils and
23 the communities along the river, the
24 Board is not prepared to support any
25 additional proposals at this time.
26 Adopting FP13-06 and taking no action
27 on the remaining proposals will give us
28 the opportunity to assess the outcomes
29 in the future before taking any further
30 action regarding Yukon River chinook
31 salmon customary trade.
32

33 Proposal FP13-11 establishes a \$750
34 limit on customary trade on the Yukon
35 River chinook salmon. Council
36 recommendation at the time was to
37 support. The justification at the time
38 was that the Council is the proponent
39 of this proposal and remains in support
40 of it for the reasons stated in the
41 proposal and analysis under discussion.
42 The Board did not take any action at
43 that time.
44

45 Proposal 11-08 originally submitted in
46 2011 by the Yukon Delta Ad -- Alaska --
47 I'm sorry, let me try that again.
48

49 Originally submitted in 2011 by the
50 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Alaska

1 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
2 -- that's a mouthful, this proposal
3 requests a customary trade in the Yukon
4 River fisheries management area to Area
5 B prohibited in any year when chinook
6 salmon runs are insufficient to fully
7 satisfy subsistence harvest needs and
8 subsistence fisheries are restricted as
9 submitted the prohi -- probation -- the
10 prohibition would be -- would only
11 affect customary trade between rural
12 residents. Council recommendation was
13 to take no action. Justification was
14 the Council felt that this proposal is
15 not enforceable and was inconsistent
16 with ANILCA, which does not provide for
17 prioritizing subsistence users. The
18 Board took no action on this proposal.

19
20 Any questions.

21
22 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move we
23 accept the letter from the Federal Subsistence Board
24 Chair.

25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
27 accept the letter as written by Ms. Gregory, do I hear
28 a second to the motion.

29
30
31 (No comments)

32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Do I hear a second to
34 the motion.

35
36 MR. CHARLES: Second.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been
39 seconded. Any discussion. Mr. Nick -- Mr. Roczicka.

40
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, when
42 there's a motion to accept a report, generally under
43 Robert's Rules that means that you are endorsing what's
44 contained in there and I don't necessarily agree with a
45 lot of -- with some of their justifications that they
46 have for taking no action so I would vote against that
47 motion.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any further
50 discussion. Mr. Nick, did you -- you had your -- I see

1 you had your hand up.

2

3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick for
4 the record. I personally think that, you know, no
5 action is needed on this report from the Federal Board.
6 It's a report to you, your Council, what they did with,
7 you know, your recommendations on the regulatory change
8 proposals.

9

10 Mr. Chair.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion was to
13 accept this proposal. Any further discussion on the
14 motion.

15

16 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Madame.

19

20 MS. GREGORY: We don't always have to
21 have agreement on each action, or motion, you can all
22 go with me if you want to.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's absolutely
25 right and that's the reason why we're continuing as
26 stated.

27

28 Any further discussion on this motion.

29

30

31 (No comments)

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, Mr. Nick,
34 could you call the roll please.

35

36 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick for
37 the record. If I understand it correctly, the motion
38 is to accept Federal Subsistence Board's .805(c) letter
39 to YK Delta Regional Advisory Council.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That is correct.

42

43 MR. NICK: Okay. Before I -- before I
44 read -- rather before I do the roll call, it has been
45 requested by Mr. William Brown that he don't be
46 mentioned first in the roll call.....

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 MR. NICK:and that's why I've

1 been skipping him every time when I did the roll call.
2
3 Mr. Chair.
4
5 MR. NICK: Mr. James Charles.
6
7 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
8
9 MR. NICK: Noah Andrew is not present.
10
11 Mr. Evan Polty.
12
13 MR. POLTY: Yes.
14
15 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
18
19 MR. NICK: Mr. Paul Manumik is excused.
20
21 Mr. Harry Wilde.
22
23 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
24
25 MR. NICK: Ms. Mary Gregory.
26
27 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
28
29 MR. NICK: Mr. Raymond Oney is not
30 present.
31
32 Mr. Greg Roczicka.
33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: No.
35
36 MR. NICK: Mr. Robert Aloysius is not
37 present.
38
39 Mr. David Bill.
40
41 MR. BILL: Yes.
42
43 MR. NICK: Mr. William Brown.
44
45 MR. BROWN: Yes.
46
47 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. We have seven
48 for and one against the motion.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. The

1 motion's been adopted.

2

3 We are down to Item 8 -- I'm sorry,
4 Item C. We need the annual report, Mr. Nick.

5

6 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. On Page.....

7

8 MS. GREGORY: 32.

9

10 MR. NICK:26, I believe, in your
11 book. I don't know if the page numbers are correct in
12 all the books. On Page 26 is your annual report that
13 was submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board and on
14 Page 29 is the Federal Subsistence Board's reply.

15

16 Mr. Chair.

17

18 I assume that Council members has
19 already read over these. When the books were sent to
20 all of the Council members by special delivery, by Era,
21 to almost all of -- to almost all of the Councils in
22 September.

23

24 Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions on the
27 annual report.

28

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
33 continue on to Item B, the annual report reply from the
34 Federal Subsistence Board, it's on Page 29 as Mr. Nick
35 stated. Are there any questions on the reply from the
36 Board, the Federal Subsistence Board.

37

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, Mr.
42 Nick.

43

44 MR. NICK: Yeah, Mr. Chair. If it's
45 okay with the Council maybe at this time we could take
46 a break and take care of the award.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry, I got
49 carried away. I forgot that we were going to make a
50 presentation to one of our members here for 20 year

1 service and I believe Mr. Peltola or somebody's going
2 to give that award.

3

4 Mr. Peltola, you have the floor.

5

6 MR. PELTOLA: Yes, Mr. Chair, Regional
7 Advisory Council members. Before I start, on behalf of
8 Tim Towarak, our Federal Subsistence Board Chair, he
9 wanted to thank each and every one of you for your
10 patience with regard to rescheduling our Regional
11 Advisory Council meeting, and any inconvenience caused
12 by the partial government shutdown earlier in the year.
13 I know it was very inconvenient for all of us and we do
14 appreciate the efforts in rescheduling.

15

16 Okay, if I could, could I have Harry
17 come up please.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 MR. PELTOLA: The Regional Advisory
22 Council and the Federal Subsistence Board process
23 benefits from individuals who live and understand the
24 culture, know the people and convey that traditional
25 and local knowledge into the Federal Subsistence Board
26 process that we have before us. We definitely benefit
27 and have benefitted greatly from individuals who have
28 provided years and years of leadership capacity and
29 roles and Mr. Wilde is a perfect example of that.

30

31 And in recognition of 20 years of
32 service, the Office of Subsistence Management and the
33 Federal Subsistence Board have some items to present to
34 you.

35

36 First off we have a plaque here and it
37 says:

38

39 Presented to: Harry Wilde, Sr., on
40 October 2nd, 2013 (the original date of
41 our meeting) in recognition of 20 years
42 of service on the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta
43 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
44 13 of those years as Chairman and a
45 lifetime of dedication to subsistence
46 in the region.

47

48 And what we have here is OSM sponsors
49 an art contest for children and we had a plaque made up
50 for the award and then we passed the hat to the Federal

1 Subsistence Board members and the Staff at OSM and we
2 all contributed to have them framed so you could hang
3 this in a room of your house, and so here we also have
4 this picture of the award here. Because we're the
5 government, when we buy gifts for individuals we're
6 limited to a certain dollar figure so the Office of
7 Subsistence Management purchased knife sets as a little
8 token of our appreciation from the Program. We did
9 pass the hat for the awards because we wanted to give
10 something just more than the knife set -- excuse me --
11 and so we have a multiple knife set.....

12

13 MR. H. WILDE: Um-hum.

14

15 MR. PELTOLA:so they're kind of
16 (In Yup'ik) because one's supposed to be a capeing
17 knife and the other one is a skinning knife but they're
18 a good knife set, I have this knife set myself.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 MR. PELTOLA: And also we have the
23 Regional Director's excellent award for outstanding
24 partner presented to Harry Wilde, Sr., from the Region
25 7 Fish and Wildlife Service in Alaska. So here's the
26 first one here.

27

28 Quyana. (In Yup'ik)

29

30 (Applause)

31

32 MR. PELTOLA: And here's your knife
33 set.

34

35 (Applause)

36

37 MR. PELTOLA: And here's.....

38

39 MR. H. WILDE: Thank you.

40

41 MR. NICK: Gene, can you pose with him.

42

43 MR. PELTOLA: Okay.

44

45 (Photo op)

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If you don't know how
48 to smile just say cheese.

49

50 (Laughter)

1 MR. PELTOLA: Harry, thank you.
2
3 MR. H. WILDE: Thank you.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, very much,
6 and, Harry that's well deserved.
7
8 Thank you for all the service and all
9 the help and everything that you've done to bring us
10 along and especially myself.
11
12 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.
15
16 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, go ahead.
19
20 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) for his
21 patience. A lot of times we go through hairy
22 times.....
23
24 (Laughter)
25
26 MS. GREGORY:when we are
27 discussing things and he showed the most patience and
28 the ability to lead and be impartial.
29
30 (In Yup'ik)
31
32 (Applause)
33
34 MR. H. WILDE: I appreciate this. I
35 appreciate this even though sometimes it was kind of
36 hard for me. Tony Knowles when he was the Governor, we
37 had to go up to mouth up above the Yukon River with the
38 people up there, meet with them, we had to meet with
39 them, work with them and we talk to each other, what we
40 going to do if there's hardly any king salmon left in
41 the Yukon. We work together with them people up there
42 and also people down river, all the way from the mouth,
43 sometimes it get to me, Canada, I feel myself very low
44 because I never do this before at that time when I were
45 younger, but still today I thank everyone who trust me
46 to do this work.
47
48 Thank you.
49
50 (Applause)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.

2

3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick,
4 Council coordinator. I wanted to thank Mr. Wilde for
5 not stepping down last meeting and attending this
6 meeting and I wanted to thank him for all of his
7 encouragement to work as your coordinator and a lot of
8 times, you know, when he travels to Bethel, not because
9 it was our fault but because there was something that
10 was not showing in the computers or something, he would
11 be held until the situation on the tickets is resolved
12 and I thank Mr. Wilde for all of his patience, like
13 Mary, even though he was very frustrated a lot of times
14 he didn't show it, those -- those years.

15

16 So thank you very much Harry for your
17 encouragement and help to all of us.

18

19 Qu yana.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Nick.

22

23 You know Mr. -- the Mr. Wilde has been
24 a really -- had a lot of influence on my life. He's
25 brought me up from the time that I was two years old
26 until -- in fact today I still depend on his advice and
27 I am appreciative of the recognition that he's getting
28 today because he deserves it and thank you on his
29 behalf and for my good feeling and well being thank you
30 for the presentation to Harry.

31

32 (Applause)

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. At this time we
35 are going to go on down with our agenda.

36

37 Are there any public and tribal
38 comments on non-agenda items.

39

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments on non-
44 agenda items, at this time it's a good time for you to
45 make discussion.

46

47 Mr. Tim Andrews.

48

49 MR. ANDREW: Yes, good morning, Mr.
50 Chair. Members of the Council. Timothy Andrew with

1 AVCP Natural Resources.

2

3 This past week I was involved in a
4 meeting in Anchorage regarding Arctic shipping and this
5 is something that's been developing very rapidly in the
6 Bering Sea. We've had up to 60 vessels that have gone
7 through the Bering Straits from northern Russia from
8 northern parts of Canada, Greenland on into the Asian
9 markets. And as the global situation starts getting
10 warmer and more longer terms of ice free periods they
11 anticipate the increased Arctic shipping and that
12 causes a lot of concern of people along the coastal
13 areas and we're no different because along with
14 Anchorage International Shipping there's some issues
15 that come along with it. Like, for example, vessels
16 strandings, perhaps potential oil spills, perhaps
17 vessels drifting and grounding. And there's a lot of
18 concern about the lack of infrastructure in the coastal
19 communities.

20

21 I'll use the village of Mekoryuk as an
22 example quite a bit for these purposes. Imagine a
23 2,500 person vessel grounding near the village of
24 Mekoryuk, you know, there's only 200 people there, they
25 have a limited store that carries a limited inventory,
26 they have a very limited runway, they have limited
27 amounts of gasoline, and absolutely no infrastructure
28 to support 2,500 people that would suddenly appear in
29 that village if a vessel were to ground in close
30 proximity.

31

32 The other issue would be
33 transportation. Can you imagine flying 2,500 people
34 from Mekoryuk with the airplanes that do go in, perhaps
35 the maximum of 10, it's going to take 250 trips to get
36 2,500 people out of there.

37

38 So it's a developing situation.
39 There's a lot of concern. And it's something that's
40 really concerning to us because we have a lot of people
41 that reside along the coastal areas which depend on the
42 coastal resources. There might be implications of
43 perhaps changes in migration of some of our resources
44 that we have out there, whale, beluga whales, our
45 northern cousins, they're very much afraid that the
46 increased vessel traffic may alter the migration of the
47 bowhead whale which they depend on tremendously. The
48 St. Lawrence people are very much concerned about the
49 effect on walrus, since that's their primary economy
50 and subsistence food as well.

1 So it's a really alarming situation for
2 all of us along the -- in the Bering Sea. We also had
3 a Congressional Delegation at that meeting and they
4 indicated that this past summer there was a grounding
5 of a Korean trawler outside of -- in one of the remote
6 areas of the Russian coastline. And it took days and
7 days, perhaps several weeks to finally respond to the
8 potential impacts of that Korean trawler in Russian
9 waters.

10
11 But, you know, even for us it's a
12 pretty alarming situation.

13
14 The Coast Guard was also there and they
15 indicated if there's ever a situation that would occur
16 in the Bering Strait, the amount of their response time
17 is a maximum -- or a minimum of four days. It would
18 take four days for the Coast Guard to finally get there
19 with their vessel. They can do immediate responses
20 with C-130s and helicopters but that would be extremely
21 limited.

22
23 So we have a lot of issues that could
24 possibly affect our resources that's coming down the
25 pipe with this increased Arctic shipping.

26
27 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.
30 Are there any questions for Mr. Andrew.

31
32
33 (No comments)

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.
36 Mr. John Riley. State your name.

37
38 MR. RILEY: John Riley, Sr., from lower
39 Yukon, Pitka's Point. I'm AC Advisory Committee member
40 since it started.

41
42 We're getting affected, some of us, for
43 not having king salmon. I lived in Bethel for many
44 years, or I should say 20-some years, I had four kids
45 and I live off the river, commercial fishing in Bethel
46 and then I moved back to Yukon, my hometown and another
47 20-some years, I fed my family with king salmon
48 commercial fishing. You know some years back they
49 start cutting our king salmon, 8.5, 8 and a quarter,
50 now I believe it was three years ago we traded our nets

1 with 7.5 mesh, our king salmon webbing we traded the
2 webbing with 7.5 and that 7.5 mesh we used it only one
3 season, that was for subsistence use and after that
4 we're not allowed to use any net to get king salmon
5 this summer, the whole river never get king salmon for
6 themselves. And if we're lucky like myself and my son,
7 I transferred my permit to my younger son, he brought
8 home a few kings and he said he brought one red one, I
9 went out there and checked it because I'm 69 years old,
10 I never eat red king salmon in my life before, and I
11 already know how it will taste, it'll taste like watery
12 because it's going up to St. Mary's River or -- why
13 would State of Alaska or someone, Fish and Game, Fish
14 and Wildlife, Federal, why would they just completely
15 shut us off like that from eating our king salmon. We
16 need it. We need the king back to our table once again
17 in our lifetime.

18
19 Every weekend by October we'd have --
20 all these years we'd have some sort of sourdough
21 pancake and king salmon every weekend, now we don't see
22 nothing, we don't have none. Why. Because the State
23 of Alaska -- why would they treat us like that. The --
24 where -- region-wide there and the Boards and all that
25 because we are the people, we -- if it wasn't for us
26 they wouldn't be here -- we wouldn't be here, you
27 wouldn't be on the Board, completely taking our food
28 away is not right. They shouldn't have authority over
29 us trying to feed the family.

30
31 There's been a lot of -- I've talked to
32 elders, they're hurting too. This is first time in the
33 history, the history of Alaska, first time, we're not
34 allowed to fish for commercial fish -- subsistence fish
35 for king salmon, first time. Record breaking. The
36 whole world. Why. We hear about king salmon being
37 low, Pilot Station Sonar two years it showed pretty
38 good escapement, then I hear now they never make it to
39 their escapement, to the spawning ground, where'd they
40 go after Pilot Station Sonar. I don't think they have
41 other sloughs to spawn, they got to go to Canada. And
42 then we get -- Y2 especially gets blamed, not blamed,
43 but they take the -- take it away from us even this
44 summer first time in the history they never allowed us
45 with any mesh to catch king salmon. And when they
46 opened us this summer this dipnet, first time in the
47 history, it showed up in the Yukon, commercial
48 fishermen did good with dipnet because they released
49 the king salmon and then they announced -- the
50 Department of Fish and Game announced that subsistence

1 open, nine hours, dipnet only. Who has dipnet. We
2 don't have dipnet. That's the first time in the
3 history Yukon ever have dipnet. And then the
4 Department used that dipnet as a tool again. When we
5 were debating in Anchorage in front of the Board that
6 dipnet was only mentioned to somehow open a commercial
7 fishery, it never once announced -- it never once
8 mentioned about subsistence users. It is -- we need to
9 bring back fish to our table. We have no salt fish, we
10 got absolutely nothing.

11
12 Excuse me, I'll go back to that red
13 salmon. My wife cooked the head and tail and salted a
14 couple gallons of that red salmon, king salmon, chinook
15 what we call, all winter all these years, all winter we
16 eat fish off the ground, then summertime when we get
17 king salmon, man that's -- and that's our food, the
18 richest fish, richest fish in the whole world. Taking
19 absolutely down to zero, that is not right. They got
20 to give us some fish back, at least one more time
21 lifetime or half a lifetime, you know.

22
23 And I also heard this summer at Pilot
24 Station Sonar I wasn't active this summer with
25 teleconference because I just want to take a break. I
26 heard announcement from Pilot Station Sonar, whoever's
27 working there, they're going to put buoys around their
28 sonar so nobody will fish there. And here people at
29 Pilot Station that live there, they were born there and
30 they started drifting where Fish and Game put their
31 sonar when the fishing -- when they first started
32 drifting way back, that's where they -- the people, the
33 local people claim that area then Fish and Game started
34 their camp there and then they started putting buoys
35 saying you can't fish there and I heard they cited two
36 people for dipnetting for trying to eat. And I never
37 heard of that, and I never seen that -- it should be
38 written down, black and white before they take food
39 away from you. That's not right.

40
41 You know I can speak here over and over
42 about king. What happened this summer, it's going to
43 affect us. It's already affecting us now. Because in
44 October we usually have pancakes and salmon once a week
45 but we always had strips or dry fish on the table every
46 dinner, now we don't have none. You know when they
47 announced this summer, wife and I we go ahead and put
48 up summer chums, early summer chums, they're not bad
49 but you can't beat the king salmon.

50

1 Thank you, so much.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thanks, John.

4

5 Is there any response to some of the
6 questions by anyone here that John asked -- Mr. Bue,
7 would you like to give it a shot since you're the
8 handiest.

9

10 (Laughter)

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

13

14 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 Fred Bue, Fish and Wildlife Service, Yukon Management.

16

17 I guess I don't have a lot of response.

18

19 I understand this has been a long, long
20 painful experience for a lot of people, people like
21 John, people like many on this Council have been
22 dealing with this issue of fewer and fewer kings all
23 the time and people are looking -- it's a challenge.
24 People are trying to figure out, on the one hand people
25 need fish, but people are also looking towards their
26 own future and they know that they need fish in the
27 future and these decisions are difficult for everybody
28 here, you know, having a fish today and spreading it
29 out, having a fish for tomorrow and having a fish for
30 your neighbor. I understand that.

31

32 And I understand a lot of the
33 communication difficulties we have under -- when we go
34 to meetings talking about some of these issues. It's
35 hard to keep so many different things going on in your
36 mind and in the front of your mind. We've been trying
37 to come up with solutions on how to share the fish that
38 we do have. We don't know the reasons for why there's
39 not as many fish. But we do know that -- everybody
40 here sees there's fewer fish now than there used to be.
41 I think that's, you know, we don't all agree on how
42 many fish there are exactly, why those fish aren't
43 coming back, but we all recognize it's not like it used
44 to be.

45

46 I think -- you know, and as far as
47 that, that's why I come to these Council meetings so
48 that I can get feedback from you. I can't talk to
49 everybody on the river so I rely on people here to go
50 to their communities and bring information back to help

1 me do my job better, you know, I'm working for you and
2 through a big public process, and it's frustrating and
3 what we get is usually a compromise. People have a lot
4 of different ideas but people don't always agree, and
5 so we end up compromising and that doesn't feel very
6 good when it doesn't feel like it's in your favor.

7
8 The Pilot Station Sonar, I think what
9 the problem was unforeseen circumstances this summer.
10 The dipnet commercial fishing, it was a new gear type.
11 We didn't know how effective it would work, we didn't
12 even know that people would really even want to use it
13 but all of a sudden it caught on and people really did
14 like to use it. And like Mr. Riley said, that area
15 right in front of the sonar is a really good spot,
16 that's where fish travel, it's on a bend in the river
17 and all the fish funnel down and hit that spot, and
18 that's really good for a dipnetting type situation, the
19 fish are running one right after another as they go
20 through there. The problem with normal commercial
21 fishing, again, this commercial fishing was the main
22 issue and I'm not the one that calls those shots, but
23 gillnet fishing, we have one period every couple of
24 days, or four or five days for six hours. What was
25 happening this year is dipnetting was going every day
26 for about a week and a half, two weeks for nine to 12
27 hours or so, they were long periods. And what that was
28 doing was those dipnets were going right down, right
29 where the sonar is trying to shoot into the group of
30 fish and so the sonar wasn't functional, you know,
31 there was a lot of disturbance. And when you just have
32 a gillnet period every once in awhile you can kind of
33 -- you know, the sonar pretty much goes off but you can
34 add what's before the period and after the period and
35 kind of make up for what was in between there, expand
36 and extrapolate but when you're doing the every day for
37 that amount of time you could no longer expand it,
38 extrapolate for that amount, so all of a sudden the
39 sonar wasn't functional, it wasn't working and we did
40 have a meeting in Pilot Station and tried to talk with
41 people. I think we need to have more discussion, and I
42 think we can work out something there. But it was
43 really frustrating and, you know, in the heat of the
44 moment a lot was on the line, you know, there's people
45 -- it's a commercial fishing period, people don't want
46 to move, it's expensive to find a different place and
47 this is a good spot. So I think like Mr. Riley says
48 there is a lot of frustration. We did have a pretty
49 hot meeting there in Pilot Station. I attended myself
50 and I think we still need to talk about that more this

1 winter.

2

3 Mr. Chairman.

4

5 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

8

9 MS. GREGORY: The reason why you guys
10 are here and you guys are working and practicing what
11 you were taught in college is because of me and my way
12 of life, my welfare, as well as my fellow Yup'iks.
13 Don't you forget that. The reason why you're getting
14 paid is because of my welfare. Because of my being a
15 Yup'ik person and I want to be continued as a Yup'ik
16 person and do the things that I do, live off the land,
17 because we were taught when we were small, to eat and
18 hunt and live off the land and that's the only way that
19 we know how to live. And when you -- before you make
20 all these un -- what do you call it -- (In Yup'iks), is
21 -- how do you say that in English.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Regulations.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Uh?

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Regulations.

28

29 MS. GREGORY: Unenforceable laws, you
30 should consult with us. You should -- we're here to
31 help you. We're here to help you to take better care
32 of us and you just can't go and dream up something that
33 will frustrate the Native people, I don't want that. I
34 am 76 years old and I've lived off the land all those
35 years and if you think it's funny, try it. You never
36 get years of really cold and really sore because of
37 what you're trying to get for your family.

38

39 (In Yup'ik)

40

41 Because you're trying to take the food
42 away from the baby's mouth and give it to the dogs.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I know there are a lot
45 of different -- Fred is -- he's like us, he works for
46 somebody and his orders are given to him by somebody
47 that is above him but he does -- and I know there's --
48 it's frustrating for the way that we're going right now
49 and I've got to think about a lot of different things
50 when we're saying that somebody is -- is responsible

1 for the rules and regulations that are being put in and
2 actually the resource is the one that we're usually
3 trying to protect and I understand that, you know,
4 there's a lot of frustration among us, you know, among
5 our people but one thing that we've got to take into
6 consideration along with that is that those regulations
7 are put in place for the future of our people, the
8 future of our children to make sure that the resource
9 is there when they want to draw on that resource.

10

11 There is -- I can't really come out and
12 say that any one person within the Department or within
13 the Department or in the Bureau has any -- can be
14 blamed for what's going on out in the ocean and can be
15 blamed for the regulations that are being put in place
16 to correct what is not the responsibility of any one
17 person within this world because I think the blame goes
18 for the shortage of our -- and the frustrations that we
19 have right now is the -- not the blame of any one
20 person, it's the climate change for one thing, there
21 are some -- a lot of different things that affect our
22 resource that nobody can actually be blamed for. If
23 you want to blame somebody I guess we've got to blame
24 the whole United States and the method that we use to
25 warm ourselves in the winter that emits the gases and
26 whatever other elements that go into the problem that
27 we have with the weather. You can tell that right now
28 with the problem, with the change in the weather, what
29 is really funny -- it's not really funny but if you sit
30 around where I come from, around the coast, you'll have
31 sunshine in the morning, rain in the afternoon, snow in
32 the evening or all three of them all at one time and
33 that's never happened to me in my lifetime before and
34 I've never seen the environment act the way it does out
35 there ever. And all the people that live out there,
36 the elders, the people -- we've lost a lot of our
37 elders but the people that are now turning elders know
38 that there's something that's got to be done, not just
39 by the Department but there's got to be -- something's
40 got to be done to fix the problem by all of us who live
41 on this -- who live on our Earth, our Mother Earth.

42

43 Somebody told me a long time ago, if
44 you hurt any part of this world it's going to take a
45 long time to get it back to where it is. If the
46 metal's being taken out, the mines that are going, the
47 pollution that is being emitted into our atmosphere and
48 into the soil and into the Earth as we know it, those
49 things have a lot of influence on what's going on, not
50 just for the resources within the water but on land

1 also.

2

3 And I really can't blame or point the
4 finger to any one person and say you are the one that
5 are causing the problem, that you or your department
6 are the ones that are causing this. It's not the
7 Department or anybody that has the authority to
8 regulate the resource. I can't really blame any one of
9 them. They're just reacting to the influence of the
10 environment that we're having to live under and that,
11 in turn, is the cause of the shortage of our resources
12 that we depend on.

13

14 That's all I had to say.

15

16 Thank you, Mr. Bue. Do you have
17 anything else to add.

18

19 Go ahead, Mr. Bill.

20

21 MR. BILL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

22

23 It seems to me that the regulations are
24 wrong closing the rivers where the fish comes in for
25 the people that use them. Why don't -- the people --
26 if you ask the North Pacific Fisheries Management
27 Council to do something about it down in high seas,
28 they're the ones who are throwing them away. They're
29 throwing king salmon and chum salmon by bycatching. It
30 seems to me that the people are closing the fishing in
31 the wrong place. I know we tried to stop the high sea
32 fishers, they're the ones that are really causing
33 everything. When the fish catch in the trawl net, it's
34 dead, you can't bring them back. Even though they
35 throw them away, it's not going to bring them back.

36

37 We should try to stop that with you
38 guys. Many times I heard you say you work with us and
39 we'll work with you. Maybe we should do something
40 about it and do something about high seas fisheries by
41 working together.

42

43 In 2009 there was there was three
44 (indiscernible) trying to provide what's right for our
45 (indiscernible) people, industry, the high seas
46 fishers, their proposal was the 60 percent of the
47 bycatch, our Alaskans have two, one was 45 and one was
48 30, or 32 at the most. Industry talk with one language
49 which is 60 percent and we lost, Alaskans lost big
50 time. That was the wrongest way to do it. It seems to

1 me that you can leave these rivers open for subsistence
2 and do something about it before they come into the
3 river out of the high seas. And I might hurt
4 somebody's feelings in here by saying this, it's okay
5 to tell the high seas fishers that they can throw that
6 many fish because state of Alaska gets money from those
7 people for income tax. I know that. I was there when
8 Governor Hickel said, I'm glad that we got CDQs going,
9 it's more money for state of Alaska on our income tax
10 by paying taxes. I was there. I've been there ever
11 since way before those CDQs started until the end where
12 -- which they started around 1990. They opened the
13 CDQs in 1990, not in 1991, I was there. I was there
14 for four and a half years lobbying them.

15

16 Thank you.

17

18 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Whoever's typing
19 mute your phone.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

22

23 Any other comments.

24

25 Mr. Brown.

26

27 MR. BROWN: Yeah, I have a question on
28 Yukon, how many sonars you guys have in that river?

29

30 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Brown. We
31 have -- primarily we have the Pilot Station Sonar that
32 monitors the fish as they come into the river. This is
33 the main river sonar so it's mixed stocks, all the fish
34 going up the river are usually looked at. Then we have
35 a sonar at the Yukon/Canada border, what you see is
36 what's coming out of the end of the river and that's --
37 those are both for chinook. We have a sonar in the
38 Anvik River -- the State of Alaska has a sonar in the
39 Anvik River for, and this primarily counts chum salmon.
40 Fish and Wildlife Service has a sonar on the Chandalar
41 River which counts fall chum salmon. Just last summer,
42 for this past season, Fish and Game's trying to develop
43 a sonar on the Tanana River near Manley and that's to
44 try to see what's going into the Tanana River for
45 chinook and all species of salmon so that would be a
46 big addition but there's a lot of challenges there
47 because it's a really -- it's a fast river, a lot of
48 debris and there's a lot of different species of fish
49 there so I don't know if that's going to work but it's
50 in a feasibility phase right now.

1 Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Is there any
4 further questions for Mr. Fred -- Mr. Bue. Go ahead,
5 John.

6

7 MR. RILEY: Yes, I do. Well, I guess
8 we will have to sit face to face.

9

10 I have a question, you know, this
11 summer or last -- the year before I heard sonar was
12 doing okay for some and this summer we were talking,
13 since we're not allowed to get kings maybe that sonar's
14 going to jump up. And I heard that -- not from very
15 many people, but I heard that it was doing okay, the
16 kings were going by. Then I asked again after the
17 season was over, how was the -- how did the kings do,
18 did they make it to their spawning grounds and the
19 answer I got was it was low again. And that got me
20 when they said it was low again. If we didn't -- we
21 definitely didn't take them, so it didn't make any
22 difference to the spawning grounds if we took them or
23 if we didn't take them, you know, that's -- that's all
24 I have.

25

26 Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

29

30 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

33

34 MR. POLTY: The one that John was
35 talking about was on the other side of the sonar, you
36 know, where they do the net drifting and calculate the
37 scales and how big the chum run -- king run is, and do
38 they have any sonar there that the runs during the
39 summer right across the other side of the sonar?

40

41 MR. BUE:Mr. Chairman. I think to
42 respond to some of these questions.

43

44 First, Mr. Polty, the sonar works on
45 both sides of the river there at Pilot Station and so
46 you have a transducer on both sides beaming into the
47 river. So it is looking at both sides, not only the
48 one side where the dipnetters were but it's also
49 shining in the other side.

50

1 Is that close to your question?

2

3 MR. POLTY: Yeah, that's -- another
4 thing is that that's where mostly what John was saying
5 about our ancestors have been fishing in that area
6 right where they mainly catch most of their subsistence
7 and the marker that -- the first time the marker showed
8 up further down where they had it, where it used to
9 have -- they never had any marker there before that
10 dipping came around and right now, last summer, that
11 marker came further down where most of the fishermen
12 subsistence and commercial fishermen usually set their
13 net out, beyond that, I think what they need to do is
14 during commercial fishing for dipnet or with net need
15 to possibly could set that sonar off on the other side,
16 just let the one running because every year the count
17 still remain the same regardless if you have one on the
18 other side or one on the right side, that you need to
19 consider and discuss that with your higher echelon,
20 look these people need to get their fish. They need to
21 turn the one on the other side, that marker there is
22 starting to pop up wherever they want it. So the
23 radius -- you got to give the radius like up where it
24 was before. If they don't come up with a solution it's
25 going to go further down and where they commercial fish
26 and subsistence right across Pilot, there wouldn't
27 hardly be anybody fishing in that area for their
28 consumption.

29

30 So that's my main priority that needs
31 to be discussed before commercial or subsistence comes
32 up for this coming summer. And you need to meet with
33 the Advisory Board, Lower Yukon Advisory Board and
34 subsistence Board and the villages that something needs
35 to be discussed so they wouldn't start giving out left
36 and right citations for dipnetting.

37

38 That's all I have, Chairman, thank you.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
41 any further comments from the public on non-agenda
42 items.

43

44 Mr. Bue.

45

46 MR. BUE: I apologize, you just told me
47 to be quiet, but I wanted to respond to Mr. Riley
48 also.....

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

1 MR. BUE:he asked me a question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

4

5 MR. BUE: And so, yes, I think backing
6 up -- it wasn't a surprise to us, like you say it
7 looked like a good run this spring but managers, we
8 were aware of that, everybody knows it was a really
9 late, late breakup and when you have a late breakup
10 it's not uncommon for fish to stack up off the coast
11 outside the ice and so when they first come in you have
12 this big group of fish come in all at once and once
13 that group went by -- we protected those fish but there
14 wasn't very much after that, it just trickled in for
15 the rest of the season and so to a lot of people it
16 looked like a lot of fish and there were all in that
17 one group but when you add them all together for the
18 whole season it wasn't very much and our count was
19 pretty close to the same as it was in 2012. 2012 I
20 think we had 109,000 total run, this year it was
21 114,000 total chinook, that wasn't very much.

22

23 The sacrifices people did do got fish
24 up to the border and actually we did -- the runs were
25 about the same size, we got a few more fish to the
26 border than we did in 2012 but it was really
27 frustrating to a lot of people. And that's all I can
28 about that.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 And I appreciate your time, Mr.
33 Chairman. Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. There was
36 one more comment, go ahead.

37

38 MR. MOLYNEAUX: This is Doug Molyneux
39 and my history is mostly with the Kuskokwim but a
40 little bit on the Yukon. But in thinking about Charlie
41 Brown's question about the different sonar projects,
42 you gave off quite a list of projects, Fred, I don't
43 mean to put you on the spot but can you address a
44 little bit about the species apportionment issues or
45 challenges with sonar, specifically king salmon for
46 Pilot Station, just so they're clear on some of those
47 issues.

48

49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bue.
2
3 MR. BUE: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
4 Chairman. Mr. Brown. Mr. Molyneaux.
5
6 Yeah, sonar counts targets, it doesn't
7 know if the fish is a chum or a whitefish or a king so
8 it can tell it's a fish but -- you know a 10 pound
9 fish, is it a king salmon, a chum or a coho, it's
10 difficult to tell, and so sonars have to keep counting
11 but we also need to do test fishing. And the nets that
12 go through that zone tells us, by what we pull up in
13 our nets, we have an idea what fish are swimming
14 through the sonar at that time so that you have the
15 numbers of fish, the counter counts, bing, bing, bing,
16 adds them up and then we look at what's caught in the
17 net and then we -- then we put the two together and if
18 it was 30 percent.....
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Can you put the mic
21 closer to you.
22
23 MR. BUE: Pardon.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Pull your mic closer to
26 you.
27
28 MR. BUE: I'm closer to the mic.
29
30 (Laughter)
31
32 MR. BUE: So, yeah, it takes both the
33 test fishing and the sonar to come up with an estimate
34 of what's going through, passing the river at that
35 point in time. And so we also need consistent movement
36 of fish through there, if it's disrupted by commercial
37 fishing, you know, a lot of you can see on the sonars
38 on your boats, when you go through a school of fish the
39 fish kind of squirt out and disrupts and so sometimes a
40 fish will go around your activity and so it makes it
41 difficult to count and be consistent.
42
43 There's not very many places on the
44 river where the sonar actually is usable. What's
45 required is a real even bottom, it's not flat, but it
46 has to fit the beam of the sonar. The sonar goes out
47 in kind of a cone shape and it has to have a real flat
48 bottom taper and the water needs to be flowing really
49 in a uniform fashion and so there's only a very few
50 places that it's really very good. Some places you

1 could put the sonar farther up river but, you know,
2 that doesn't work very well for management if you have
3 fish here today but you have to wait five days before
4 we get a count because the sonar's too far up, well,
5 you missed your opportunity to fish or protect fish,
6 whichever the case may be.

7

8 MR. MOLYNEAUX: Thank you, Fred. This
9 is Doug Molyneaux.

10

11 But also just to make sure it's clear
12 with Mr. Brown that because king salmon are in such
13 relatively low abundance in general and things like
14 chum salmon can be really, really abundant. There
15 could be a little bit of a problem with some of that
16 species apportionment because they kind of get flooded
17 by chums and it can make for some errors so that's kind
18 of a challenge with getting sample size and stuff.

19

20 But that's all I wanted to say.

21

22 Thank you, Fred, for that
23 clarification.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Thank you,
26 Fred.

27

28 I'm sorry, I think Fred there might be
29 a question here.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Bue. What's the
32 difference between a sonar and a weir?

33

34 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Ms. Gregory.

35

36 A weir counts every single fish or
37 attempts to count every single fish that goes up and it
38 visually or physically counts that fish. A sonar is a
39 depth finder, and it essentially shoots out a signal
40 and it goes out there until it hits a target or hits a
41 fish like -- what they key it off of is the swim
42 bladder inside of a fish and it's kind of an echo
43 chamber and the sonar signal goes out then it bounces
44 back and there's a receiver that records that signal
45 when it comes back.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. One more
48 question.

49

50 MR. POLTY: I forgot one more question.

1 You recall several years ago they were planning on
2 moving the sonar further down below Hills Island where
3 the depth of that river, Yukon River, all the way
4 across it, 25 feet, so did they ever check that area
5 for moving the sonar below Pilot where they could
6 monitor chinook migrating up river.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bue.

9

10 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Polty.

11

12 Yes, they've done -- they're constantly
13 looking. In fact, Pilot Station, they have to
14 constantly look because the river changes. Everybody
15 knows there's sand bars that maybe weren't there and
16 things are constantly changing and so even at Pilot
17 they move the sonar, you know, 100 yards back and forth
18 because that bottom is always moving. And they've gone
19 down as far as other sites, moving, picking up and just
20 plain moving, they've gone, you know, all the way down
21 to Mountain Village and back up looking for suitable
22 places. The best place they found so far is at Pilot,
23 that's why they're there, they've gone up as far
24 Russian Mission. But the problem is, is, you know,
25 it's a trade off, how good a count do you want versus
26 fishing disruption and activities so it's a challenge.

27

28 I think for management we like to have
29 the sonar as close to the mouth of the river as we can
30 so that people get information as soon as they can when
31 it makes the most difference to them. But, yes, you're
32 right, Fish and Game is constantly looking for new
33 places.

34

35 MR. POLTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bue.

38

39 Prior to starting this I forgot to
40 recognize the people that are on the teleconference. I
41 apologize. I think at this time we should find out how
42 many people are listening on the teleconference and
43 who's also there.

44

45 Is anyone on teleconference at this
46 moment.

47

48 MS. HYER: Yeah, good morning. This is
49 Karen Hyer with Office of Subsistence Management.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and,
2 welcome.
3
4 Anyone else.
5
6 MR. LIEBICH: Yeah, this is Trent
7 Liebich with the Office of Subsistence Management.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.
10
11 MS. KENNER: And Pippa Kenner with the
12 Office of Subsistence Management.
13
14 REBECCA: Rebecca with KNA.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else.
17
18
19 (No comments)
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there anyone else.
22
23 MR. BROOKS: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
24 This is Jeff Brooks with the Office of Subsistence
25 Management in Anchorage.
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and,
28 welcome.
29
30 Anyone else.
31
32 MR. HARPER: Yes, Mr. Chair. Ken Harper
33 with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Kenai Fishery
34 Office.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Anyone
37 else.
38
39 MR. CRAWFORD: Drew Crawford, Alaska
40 Department of Fish and Game in Anchorage and I'll be
41 giving State comments on the wildlife proposals you'll
42 be discussing today.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, and,
45 welcome.
46
47 Anyone else.
48
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not we'd like to
2 welcome you all and thank you for coming on the
3 teleconference. At this time we would like to welcome
4 Mr. Bob Aloysius to our midst and thank you for coming
5 down.

6
7 At this time let's take a well deserved
8 10 minute break.

9
10 (Off record)

11
12 (On record)

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, I'll call the
15 meeting back to order. We're still on public and
16 tribal comments, non-agenda items.

17
18 REPORTER: Lester. Lester.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have one person,
21 Mr. James Sipry, would you like to address the Council.

22
23 MR. SIPRY: Mr. Chairman, and audience
24 and Honorable Board, Councils.

25
26 I am James Sipry and I'm from Toksook
27 Bay. I am James Sipry and I'm from Toksook Bay and I
28 am one of those people who has a big concern over the
29 resources that our beautiful home of Alaska offer to
30 us.

31
32 My concern is our people's survival
33 regardless of where they're from, coastal villages,
34 Interior villages.....

35
36 (Cell phone interruption)

37
38 MR. SIPRY:Interior villages all
39 the way up to -- even all the way up to the border of
40 Canada and to my belief, our people's survival is far
41 more important than what we're doing today.

42
43 And through the ANCSA, Title VIII, the
44 Federal government and the State government has the
45 protection for our survival.

46
47 Now, from what I heard -- once I heard
48 that the residents in Bethel, because there are over
49 6,000 people, are not exempt for subsistence use, that
50 was what I heard, and from the other story that I

1 heard, using the Nelson Island people, which are Newtok
2 to Toksook and Nightmute, if that law passes and
3 they're totaling 7,000 people then they are not going
4 to be eligible for subsistence use. Now, our people,
5 their only survival is from the land itself and it is
6 very important. So, therefore, the Federal government,
7 from my true understanding, years ago even before our
8 forefathers came up with the 1916 Migratory Bird Treaty
9 Act, which covers the whole country and that included
10 our Native people across the state to follow that law
11 or they'll arrested, and so they -- AVCP came up with
12 the, what's called Hooper Bay Management Plan, which is
13 now -- what was called Yukon Kuskokwim Goose Management
14 Plan and when that first started nobody liked it and
15 everybody was against it. And, today we see that the
16 plan was very effective and it worked for the recovery
17 of these resources for the people to use. And now we
18 are coming to the concern of these five species of
19 salmon. Now, the Federal government, to my
20 understanding, has a law that's protecting these
21 migratory birds and the five species of salmon are
22 protected by Stevens-Magnuson Act, why, because our
23 people depend upon those across the state. Heavily
24 these resources are depended upon for the Yukon people
25 and the Interior people, Kuskokwim, Bristol Bay,
26 Togiak, Goodnews Bay and up north and those rivers are
27 not mentioning. Now, to my belief, I hope that we come
28 into unity with our people and work for the recovery of
29 those five species of salmon. And maybe the best
30 choice is to come up with the five salmon management
31 and conservation plan for everybody to follow for the
32 dream of the recovery of these resources and for the
33 hope to bring them back to the history level and that
34 can be done today.

35
36 Even we are the users, like if we look
37 back into the history, we have seen management plans
38 that have worked in the migratory birds when they were
39 down to only 25,000 Canada geese, 90,000 white fronted
40 geese and today they have recovered and we have 250,000
41 cackling Canada geese and over 600,000 white fronted
42 geese and today, why, because our people have followed
43 that management plan and worked really hard for the
44 recovery of those migratory birds. Now we are in
45 danger of losing some of our species in the salmon,
46 salmon resources, one of them is the chinook salmon and
47 we're really -- really our concern. And I think the
48 only way to encourage our communities across the state
49 is to work together, unit themselves to put together a
50 good management plan for the conservation -- management

1 and conservation of the five species of salmon. Not for
2 us, but for the future of our children, and I think
3 that's very important.

4
5 I'm sorry that I pitched in and now I
6 have to go and I have to travel to the villages, but I
7 just wanted to be -- I just wanted to testify not only
8 for the people in the coastal villages, but for the
9 people that depend upon these resources. I think it is
10 very important to protect those people across the
11 state.

12
13 And thank you very much for your hard
14 work, for the concern and well being and health of our
15 people. I really hope that some day that we will be
16 talking about putting together a management and
17 conservation plan for the salmon species for the future
18 to come. And our people need to be encouraged to
19 participate and also to support those people who are
20 trying to -- who are working their heads off and their
21 energy for the conservation of these resources. And
22 the people -- we, the people, need to be encouraged to
23 be supportive to those people that are working for the
24 conservation of all of our resources here at home in
25 Alaska.

26
27 Thank you very much for listening to me
28 and giving me the opportunity to sit in front of you on
29 behalf of our people, that is what I ask.

30
31 Thank you, very much.

32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Spiry.
34 Are there any questions for Mr. Sipry.

35
36 Mr. Roczicka.

37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Not a
39 question, James, but I don't know if you're aware or
40 not but there is a movement to do pretty much exactly
41 what you're suggesting through AVCP and Tanana Chiefs
42 Conference. And they've gotten support up through AFN
43 as well to establish Inter-Tribal Commissions on both
44 the Kuskokwim Rivers. At the AFN Convention it really
45 picked up a lot of momentum, we had the Congressional
46 Delegation there because it will take Congressional
47 action to do that but there's a strong momentum going
48 forward with that so we see that occurring through that
49 process and I see it fitting in with exactly what
50 you're trying to say.

1 MR. SIPRY: And we also need to -- if
2 we are to urge the public we need to write up a letter
3 format to be sent to our villages urging them to send
4 some sort of a message, even to the Congress itself and
5 the State, and I think that's the best way to do it.
6 And most important of all we need -- because of the
7 management plans that have worked in the past, we need
8 to draft -- I think we need to draft a management plan
9 for the conservation and management of the salmon
10 resources across the state.

11
12 We can do it.

13
14 But we need to in the form and educate
15 our people, this is what we got to do and this is what
16 we need to do.

17
18 Thank you, very much.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you for your
21 comments.

22
23 Any further questions or comments.

24
25 Mr. Charles.

26
27 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

28
29 James, (In Yup'ik)

30
31 Thank you for letting everybody here
32 know of your concern.

33
34 (In Yup'ik)

35
36 The Goose Management Plan, Alex and I
37 were RITs those years and we went to the villages even
38 if we didn't feel like it, going to some places because
39 some places, they didn't want to take us but we went
40 there to the users or hunters those years, so I like
41 the idea there.

42
43 (In Yup'ik)

44
45 I've been pushing for RITs to pass the
46 information to villages because even though we send a
47 letter to the Village Council sometimes they don't get
48 it but if you go out there and meet with the people, or
49 public, too, they'll get an idea. So I'm for the
50 conservation, too, for both rivers on the Kuskokwim and

1 Yukon. So if they do the same as we did before that
2 might let the public learn more about the conservation
3 of the salmon.

4
5 Quyana.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

8
9 MR. SIPRY: Doi. Quyana.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Before we go any
12 further, any further comments by Council members.

13
14
15 (No comments)

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
18 thank you very much.

19
20 MR. SIPRY: Doi. Quyana.

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Quyana. We are down
23 to our -- on our agenda to Item 9 old business and
24 under old business is the customary and traditional use
25 determination. I was informed that somebody on the
26 teleconference would be covering that. Mr. Nick, who
27 was supposed to be covering the customary and
28 traditional use determination.

29
30 (Pause)

31
32 MR. NICK: I think it's Jack.

33
34 MR. LORRIGAN: I believe that was me.
35 But I believe one of your Council members has an issue
36 with it at this time so I'll let him speak to it.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
41 understood maybe there were some time constraints and
42 that maybe people wouldn't be available to get some
43 things on the record but I was going to move to table
44 this issue until we got to the rural determination
45 process review because there is a draft resolution that
46 had been prepared to.....

47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: I can't hear you.

49
50 MR. ROCZICKA:bring before the

1 Board at this time -- or at that time.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Pull your mic closer to
4 you, I can't hear.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: So if there were time
7 constraints where you wanted to put something on the
8 record go ahead but.....

9

10 MR. LORRIGAN: It's up to you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, the agenda item
13 is there and since you're available you might as well
14 take it on the agenda.

15

16 MR. LORRIGAN: Good morning, Mr.
17 Chairman and Council members. On Page 35 of your book
18 I'll be giving the customary and traditional use
19 determination briefing. This is the first time I've
20 presented this briefing and Mr. Kessler will assist in
21 any questions you might have since he's been with the
22 program much longer than I have.

23

24 So with that I'll try to be brief but
25 be thorough with this briefing.

26

27 The Federal Subsistence Board and the
28 Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
29 would like your recommendation on the current customary
30 and traditional use determination process. The Federal
31 Board last asked the Councils a similar question in
32 2011 as directed by the Secretary of the Interior and
33 the Secretary of Agriculture. All of the Councils with
34 the exception of the Southeast Council indicated that
35 the existing customary and traditional use
36 determination process was working. At the request of
37 the Southeast Council, this additional review is being
38 conducted for your input.

39

40 I'll describe briefly the history of
41 customary and traditional use determinations and
42 illustrate the differences between those determinations
43 and ANILCA Section .804 analysis; and then ask for the
44 Council's discussion and recommendations. Our focus is
45 not on how customary and traditional use determinations
46 are made, but why.

47

48 The Southeast Council would like you to
49 recommend as a Council, to eliminate, amend or make no
50 changes to the current customary and traditional use

1 determination process.

2

3 ANILCA does not require customary and
4 traditional use determinations. Customary and
5 traditional use regulations were adopted from the State
6 when the Federal Subsistence Management Program was
7 established in 1990. In the 1992 Record of Decision
8 the Federal Subsistence Board considered four customary
9 and traditional use options and recommended to the
10 Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture that State
11 customary and traditional use determinations continue
12 to be used. The State's eight criteria for determining
13 customary and traditional use were subsequently
14 slightly modified for Federal use. Since the
15 establishment of the Federal Subsistence Management
16 Program the Federal Board has made about 300 customary
17 and traditional use determinations.

18

19 The Board adopted the State's customary
20 and traditional use criteria and renamed them factors,
21 they were anticipating the resumption of State
22 management of Federal public lands but that hasn't
23 happened. It appears the Federal Subsistence
24 Management Program will be permanent and you can see
25 more of that on Appendix A on Page 38 and it'll also
26 cover the eight factors.

27

28 The Board does not use customary and
29 traditional use determinations to restrict amounts of
30 harvest. The Board makes customary and traditional use
31 determinations relative to particular fish stocks and
32 wildlife populations in order to recognize a community
33 or area whose residents generally exhibit the eight
34 factors of customary and traditional use. The
35 Southeast Council is concerned that the effect is to
36 exclude those Federally-qualified rural residents who
37 do not generally exhibit these factors from
38 participating in these harvests.

39

40 In 2009 the Secretary of the Interior,
41 Ken Salazar, announced a review of the Federal
42 Subsistence Program, part of that review focused on
43 customary and traditional use determinations.
44 Specifically in 2010 the Secretary of the Interior,
45 with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture
46 asked the Board to review with Regional Advisory
47 Council input the customary and traditional use
48 determination process and present recommendations for
49 regulatory changes. All 10 of the Advisory Councils
50 were asked for their perspective on C&T use during the

1 2011 winter meeting cycle. Nine Councils did not
2 suggest changes to the process, and you can see that
3 information on Appendix B on Page 39. The Southeast
4 Council, however, suggested one modification included
5 in their annual report, and I'll read it as follows:

6
7 100.16(a)

8
9 The Board shall determine which fish
10 and wildlife have been customarily and
11 traditionally used for subsistence.
12 These determinations shall identify the
13 specific community or area's use of all
14 species of fish and wildlife that have
15 been traditionally used in their past
16 and present geographic areas. For
17 areas managed by the National Park
18 Service where subsistence uses are
19 allowed, the determination may be made
20 on an individual basis.

21
22 So in other words, once a customary and
23 traditional use determination is made for an area,
24 residents in that area would have customary and
25 traditional use for all species and there would be no
26 need for a C&T determinations for specific fish stocks
27 and wildlife populations or on a species by species
28 basis.

29
30 The Southeast Council formed a work
31 group to analyze the C&T use determination process.
32 They went through the transcripts of all the Councils
33 and determined that the Councils were not adequately
34 briefed on the Secretary's request for Council
35 recommendations on the process. The Southeast Council
36 drafted a letter and a briefing document, which we
37 provided to all the Regional Advisory Councils during
38 their 2013 winter meeting cycle, these are included in
39 your meeting materials.

40
41
42 In the work group's findings the
43 Southeast Council emphasized the following:

44
45
46
47 The current customary and traditional
48 use determination process is being used
49 to allocate resources between rural
50 residents, often in times of abundance.

1 This is an inappropriate method of
2 deciding which residents can harvest
3 fish or wildlife in an area and may
4 result in unnecessarily restricting
5 subsistence users. The Southeast
6 Council has a history of generally
7 recommending a broad geographic scale
8 when reviewing proposals for customary
9 and traditional use determinations.
10 Subsistence users primarily harvest
11 resources near their community or
12 residence and there is normally no
13 management reason to restrict use by
14 rural residents from distant
15 communities. If there is a shortage of
16 resources, Section .804 of ANILCA
17 provides direction and the correct
18 method for allocations.
19

20 The Southeast Council does not support
21 retaining the current customary and traditional use
22 determination process, instead the Council suggests
23 that, when necessary, the Board restricts harvest by
24 ANILCA Section .804 criteria. The three criteria are:
25

- 26
- 27 1. Customary and direct dependence
28 upon the populations as a mainstay of
29 livelihood;
- 30
- 31 2. Local residency;
- 32
- 33 3. The availability of alternative
34 resources.
35

36 The Federal Subsistence Board and the
37 Southeast Council would like your recommendations on
38 the current C&T use determination process.
39 Specifically the Southeast Council would like you to
40 consider whether to:

- 41
- 42 1. Eliminate customary and traditional
43 use determinations and use .804
44 criteria, or
45
- 46 2. Change the way determinations are
47 made by making area wide customary and
48 traditional use determinations for all
49 species, not on a species by species
50 basis or by particular stocks and

1 wildlife populations; or

2

3 3. Make some other change; or

4

5 4. Make no change at all.

6

7 The Council input will provide the
8 basis for a briefing to the Federal Subsistence Board
9 in response to the Secretary's directive to review the
10 C&T determination process and present recommendations
11 for regulatory change, if needed. The Board could
12 recommend that the Secretaries eliminate, amend or make
13 no change to the current C&T use determination process.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What exactly do you
16 need from this Council?

17

18 (Laughter)

19

20 MR. LORRIGAN: Well, the Southeast
21 Council in their workings were curious that the
22 Councils really understood that the C&T use briefings
23 they got informed you of how ANILCA works, versus how
24 the C&T use is currently being applied to your areas.

25

26 So, Steve, do you have anything
27 further.

28

29 MR. KESSLER: One of the things I would
30 like to remind you is that this was also discussed at
31 your winter RAC meeting, and so this is coming back to
32 you again for your input.

33

34 The Southeast Alaska Subsistence
35 Regional Advisory Council believes that, at least, they
36 don't think that ANILCA is really being implemented in
37 this area. So ANILCA says nothing about making
38 customary and traditional use determinations. They
39 think that there's some other things that could be done
40 instead and they give you two alternatives. One of
41 them is just not to have any customary and traditional
42 use determinations at all and if there's not enough
43 resource to go around among all the rural people, so
44 this is only people who are Federally-qualified
45 subsistence users then we use what we call the .804
46 process, which is near the bottom of Page 36, and
47 that's how we would go about figuring out if there's
48 not enough to go around who would get the resources.
49 If there's no enough moose, okay, the people who depend
50 the most on the moose, who live locally and don't have

1 other resources, they're the ones who would get it
2 first. So that's the part that's in ANILCA.

3
4 Another option that could be considered
5 is that a community would receive customary and
6 traditional use for an area. So, for instance, Bethel,
7 in the Kuskokwim drainage. Once you were in the
8 Kuskokwim drainage then a separate C&T analysis would
9 not need to be made for caribou, for moose, for wolves,
10 for all the other species. Because what the
11 requirements now are is that a customary and
12 traditional use determination must be made for stocks
13 of fish and wildlife populations. So you might have,
14 you know, half a dozen different customary and
15 traditional use determinations for people who live in
16 the Lower Kuskokwim, does that make sense because when
17 you're gathering your subsistence resources you're out
18 gathering whatever is available to you. You're out
19 hunting, fishing, gathering, do you have to look in the
20 book and say, do I have a customary and traditional use
21 determination for that, am I allowed to take it, or am
22 I allowed to just take everything that's in that area.

23
24 So the Southeast Council is asking you,
25 is the current process okay with you. It's not okay
26 with them. And they would like to see other
27 alternatives, and not just using this process that was
28 adopted essentially from the state of Alaska in 1990.

29
30 There's also been discussions that it
31 could possibly be different region by region. So what
32 might work for you here may be different in Southeast
33 Alaska and so there could be something different in
34 different regions of the state. But they would like --
35 and ask -- and the Federal Subsistence Board asks for
36 action of this Council to, you know, maybe recommend
37 one of these two processes, something new or if your
38 Council would suggest they like it the way it is the
39 Council could just say no change at all.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any
42 comments from the Council.

43
44 Mr. Charles.

45
46 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 How long is C&T good for?

48
49 MR. KESSLER: Well, customary and
50 traditional use determinations are the same as our

1 other regulations, nothing changes until there's a
2 proposal to change. And so it's as long as a new
3 proposal doesn't come in and it depends on what the
4 reaction is by the Council and by the Board to any
5 proposals; I mean that's the current process, it's just
6 part of our regulatory process.

7

8 MR. CHARLES: Thank you. And because
9 I'm from Lower Kuskokwim here I used to hunt moose on
10 21E years ago, now I'm old and that's why I ask, how
11 long is the C&T good for or is my C&T still good over
12 there in 21E because I was 30-something years old those
13 years and now I'm 73, that's why I'm asking how long is
14 the C&T good for.

15

16 MR. KESSLER: Well, Mr. Charles, if you
17 move to a different location then you will have
18 different C&T under the current system. I think that's
19 one of the points of the Southeast Council, that just
20 because you move from here to somewhere else you are
21 still a rural resident, why shouldn't you be able to
22 harvest over here still. So I think that's sort of
23 their proposal, is, unless there's not enough to go
24 around for everybody why limit rural residents. This
25 process of customary and traditional use determinations
26 limits rural residents from where they can hunt.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was that okay -- okay,
29 Mr. Aloysius.

30

31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. This is one
32 of the things that really amazes me about our neighbors
33 down in Southeast, they take time to review things,
34 they don't just skim over the material and say, okay,
35 rubber-stamp, and that's the problem we have out here.
36 YK-RAC, Interior, Western Interior, Eastern Interior,
37 it seems like they just rubber-stamp what somebody
38 tells them. And this is the first time I really
39 listened to and understood what the problem is, and so
40 I think whoever these people are in Southeast Alaska,
41 you know, opened up my mind, that, you know, status quo
42 is not good. And, you know, I wasn't ever really
43 involved in any of these determinations but it really
44 kind of shocked me that, you know, even though we're
45 called rural residents and if we move from one place to
46 another, we move with -- I mean, you know, we bring our
47 customary and traditional hunting and fishing and
48 trapping and gathering with us but the State has come
49 up with all the different kinds of restrictions that
50 are unnecessary and so, you know, since this Council

1 was created by the ANILCA and I think ANILCA has more
2 power than the State in determining customary and
3 traditional use of the game and the fish and the plants
4 and the berries and other things like that.

5
6 Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
9 Aloysius.

10
11 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Wilde. Mr. Aloysius.
12 I do want to be clear that these are the Federal
13 customary and traditional use determinations. The
14 process was adopted from the State but these are all
15 ours now. These are the Federal customary and
16 traditional use determinations, and I think you're
17 clear on that I just wanted to make sure.

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.

20
21 Mr. Roczicka.

22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. I agree with
24 the aspect that they're bringing out on making it an
25 area determination rather than going by species by
26 species, that does make a lot of sense.

27
28 What I do feel, though, the Board needs
29 to do is when you do have conservation concerns and
30 using Section.804 along with establishing some of this
31 criteria that you have for people's use and right now
32 when you have a rural determination of everybody there,
33 just because they happen to live in a community that
34 don't necessarily practice what is recognized as the
35 customary and traditional uses, you know, having those
36 eight criteria that are there established -- you know,
37 long-term consistent patterns of use, generational
38 changes, or the passing down of knowledge from
39 generation to generation, and when you have a
40 conservation concern there are people, they're a
41 component of the population that don't have that, they
42 don't have the reliance, you -- for things -- it's
43 basically -- it came from Bethel, and through the
44 working group, on the problem we had with our salmon
45 and dealing with the non-subsistence use area issue as
46 well on the State side. But there's no ability for an
47 in between when you have a Tier I and folks that don't
48 rely on the seasonal aspect of drying and smoking fish,
49 with a fish rack and smokehouse and primarily catch
50 just to put it in the freezer or going out just because

1 they can, it's an opportunistic thing, those folks when
2 we have conservation concerns have alternative
3 resources, if you want to invoke your section .804.
4 They can fulfill their needs through other species
5 whereas people who dry and smoke their fish do not.

6
7 So there was a resolution on point that
8 was adopted at the AVCP Convention that was submitted
9 by our tribal council here in Bethel that also went
10 forward to AFN and passed at AFN to address,
11 incorporate that customary and traditional use
12 determination into the management structure and it also
13 addresses the later issue of the rural determination
14 concerns.

15
16 The thing is with having resolutions go
17 through there we've put forward resolutions through
18 both AVCP and AFN on a statewide structure and sent
19 them to the Federal Subsistence Board and sent them to
20 the Fish and Wildlife Service and speaking with the
21 Staff and following up on that, they have never
22 received a response. And I followed up personally with
23 Federal Staff on some of these issues and how come you
24 haven't responded to that or how are you going to
25 respond and have basically been told we don't know how.

26
27 So I do have a draft resolution that
28 I've changed the language somewhat from what was
29 brought forward to AVCP and passed at AFN, unanimously
30 I might add, both places, and hopefully we can get more
31 response from the Federal Board to take this up this
32 time. And incorporate, like I said, a Tier I structure
33 into your management program -- their management
34 program.

35
36 I could put that forward right now. I
37 was going to move to table the issue until we got to
38 the rural determination process because both issues are
39 addressed in this resolution.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further comments
42 on the discussion of the rural determination -- or C&T,
43 I'm sorry.

44
45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I have one comment, if
49 I may, there was some time back, some years back I
50 think a lot of you guys will remember the time where an

1 elder from our community of Bethel was stopped and I
2 don't know whether -- I can't remember if he was
3 arrested or not but one of the officers stopped him
4 because he had a whitefish in his boat that he was
5 bringing home for dinner that he did not have C&T for
6 and he was from out of town and in an area and that was
7 one of the times when I felt that, you know, the C&T
8 thing wasn't placed there to make criminals of the
9 people and the users of the resources. And ever since
10 then I've always thought of there's got to be a better
11 way to address this and the methods and means that the
12 Southeast RAC is putting forth I think is the way to
13 go. That is my own personal opinion but it really
14 bothers me a lot when our people get arrested for
15 something that they're used to using for their own
16 consumption and being arrested for somebody else's
17 regulation is something that I don't think has a place
18 in our area.

19

20 Yes, now you may comment, thank you.

21

22 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
23 that was a very good comment. And I think that you're
24 right, that Southeast Council has similar concerns and
25 that's why they have.....

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Can you pull your mic
28 closer.

29

30 MR. KESSLER: And that's why they have
31 brought some of these other solutions forward to the
32 Councils.

33

34 I just wanted to respond a little bit
35 to Mr. Roczicka, you know, that the Federal Subsistence
36 Board with the advice of the Regional Advisory Councils
37 has made a number of ANILCA Section .804 determinations
38 where we have, we, the Federal Subsistence Program, all
39 of us together, have decided that certain areas or
40 communities have -- should have the priority under
41 Section .804, customary and direct dependence, local
42 residency, availability of alternative resources, but
43 we've never made those fine divisions between people in
44 a community or an area, sort of like what you have
45 discussed, is that some people are more dependent even
46 within a given community on these resources than
47 others. There's nothing in Section .804 that would say
48 that you couldn't do that but we've never done that.
49 And I would like to point out that we have regulations
50 written for a lot of things based on the Act, we don't

1 have any regulations written for how to implement
2 Section .804, can it only be implemented between
3 communities and areas with -- so prioritize that, or
4 among the people who live in a community who are really
5 dependent on that resource.

6

7 So that's it.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any
10 further comments.

11

12 Mr. Greg Roczicka, and then yeah I'll
13 get you.....

14

15 MR. BILL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
16 Southeast.....

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, go ahead.

19

20 MR. BILL:and the Western people,
21 there's a lot of people, lots.

22

23 Starting with Southeast has all kinds
24 of commercial fisheries, big fisheries. They have,
25 what they call that, I lost the word now -- I'll come
26 back to it. We, on the other hand, Southeast -- we
27 don't hardly have commercial fisheries like that,
28 especially in 4E. Our only fishery is on halibut only,
29 226,000 pounds to provide Tununak, Mekoryuk, Hooper
30 Bay, Toksook, Nightmute, Chefornek, Kipnuk and
31 Quinagak, out of 226,000 pounds; what can you do with
32 that.

33

34 And on the commercial side there's a
35 lot of difference from Southeast to the Western part of
36 the world like ours.

37

38 Whenever us providers come back from
39 hunting our families ready to feed everybody in town if
40 we catch anything. We don't keep it alone. This year
41 is going to be the -- I think it's going to be the
42 worst hardship that we're going to have from long time.
43 The fall is late, there was no ice at this time, before
44 that we used to gather blackfish and tom cods for the
45 winter at this time, now we're not doing it. And on
46 top of that this summer most of the people did not
47 catch summer's fishing worth on subsistence, most of
48 them didn't get anything.

49

50 It's going to be hard.

1 And on top of that there's a lot of
2 high water because a lot of things down to the flats.
3 You know, I'll tell you you cannot compare Western to
4 Southeast area, there's a lot of difference. But the
5 way I look at our Native people, they're proud people,
6 they don't complain much but they do what we can do.
7 We don't catch -- people all by ourselves, we eat with
8 other people, we give them food and sometimes when
9 there's a little bit of fish or something that's --
10 someone that will catch like more than -- in some
11 words, not too much, but not too -- we never get too
12 much of it, because we're like that, passing our food
13 to other people, even though you have a lot of one
14 catching something, your wife in the house is already
15 mentioning what kind of -- how the food was used last
16 year and if she thinks that's enough she'll tell you
17 right there, stop right there, you have to stop hunting
18 now.

19
20 That's why I say, you cannot compare
21 our lifestyle to their lifestyle, it's a lot of
22 difference.

23
24 So this area, Western area has to be
25 different from Southeast side.

26
27 In 1950s I was down in Southeast for
28 two years in Sitka on a vessel, I see a lot of
29 difference from our lifestyle. So I might be wrong but
30 from what I am saying, but I would not compare
31 Southeast with Western world of Alaska.

32
33 Thank you.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
36 Roczicka.

37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Yeah, and I
39 recognize that the Board currently does not do that.
40 And what I'm saying is that this is a step they really
41 should take because if you look at Title VIII of
42 ANILCA, which I've got Section.804 here, to allow -- it
43 says:

44
45 Subsistence uses.

46
47 The Board's actions to date have only
48 been to manage a harvest, and to take that next step
49 and identify those uses. When you have conservation
50 concerns, to protect those subsistence uses. That's

1 the step I think they need to take.

2

3 They don't reference harvest anywhere
4 in there except at the very end where they do mention a
5 preference, the taking of the resource, the taking on
6 public lands for fish and wildlife for non-wasteful
7 subsistence uses. And in the definition it
8 specifically speaks to the customary and traditional
9 uses, and those criteria are there and the Board --
10 like I say, I know they haven't gone there yet, they
11 certainly have the authority to do it. When I hear
12 sometimes that it's illegal for them to do something --
13 another thing that might be put in here, within your
14 customary and traditional use determinations is
15 providing an opportunity for the implementation of our
16 elders fishery which, currently, now is not accepted by
17 the Federal, they could incorporate that in with
18 recognizing the deference that the Native peoples have
19 for their elders and offering that kind of provision
20 and if you actually don't -- and it needs to go up the
21 line for administrative action out of the authorities
22 in DC or Congressional if it gets there, they need to
23 hear that too.

24

25 For right now I'd move to table action
26 on this until we get to the rural criteria because of
27 the -- and then I'll pass out the papers in between and
28 you guys can have a chance to look at it and we can
29 address both issues at that time.

30

31 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair. I second the
32 motion on the table.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made and
35 seconded to table.....

36

37 MR. POLTY: Roll call.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE:this issue.

40

41 MR. POLTY: Yes. Roll call.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Until a later time on
44 the agenda we'll be discussing this.

45

46 Mr. Aloysius, yes, go ahead, you have
47 the floor.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question, is
50 this an action item?

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, it is an action
2 item.
3
4 There's a motion on the floor to table
5 this until later on in the agenda when this can be
6 discussed.
7
8 Further discussion on this.
9
10 MR. BILL: Second.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second's been made
13 already.
14
15 MR. BILL: Question.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
18
19 MR. POLTY: Roll call.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A roll call vote,
22 please, Mr. Nick.
23
24 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Alex
25 Nick for the record.
26
27 I wanted to make certain that I capture
28 your motion before I do the roll.
29
30 Motion is to table C&T until this item
31 is back on the agenda, Council agenda.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It's already on the
34 agenda but.....
35
36 MR. NICK: I mean in the future or.....
37
38 MS. GREGORY: Until further.....
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, later on this
41 morning.
42
43 MR. NICK: Okay. Okay, thank you.
44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: To clarify, my motion
46 was to table to the time certain of when the rural
47 determination process review comes up on the agenda.
48
49 MR. NICK: Okay. Okay, I'll correct
50 that.

1 Okay, now for vote -- Mr. Charles.
2
3 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
4
5 MR. NICK: Mr. Andrew is not present.
6
7 Mr. Polty.
8
9 MR. POLTY: Yes.
10
11 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
14
15 MR. NICK: Paul Manumik is excused.
16
17 Harry Wilde.
18
19 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
20
21 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
22
23 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
24
25 MR. NICK: Raymond Oney is not present.
26
27 Mr. Roczicka.
28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
30
31 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
34
35 MR. NICK: David Bell.
36
37 MR. BELL: Yes.
38
39 MR. NICK: And Mr. William Brown.
40
41 MR. BROWN: If I have -- if I captured
42 the votes correctly there's nine yes and zero no.
43
44 Mr. Chair.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Nick.
47 At this time we're going to take a recess to lunch and
48 we will resume the meeting at 1:30. At that time we
49 will go into the report by Mr. Spencer Rearden after
50 lunch. One more comment and then we'll go eat.

1 MR. MOLYNEAUX: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.
2 Doug Molyneaux. For folks that might be interested I'm
3 going to start up a PowerPoint, like a slideshow over
4 lunch time and it has pictures of weirs and things like
5 that so if folks aren't familiar with some of those
6 things it might give them an opportunity to see some of
7 that stuff.

8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

10
11 MR. MOLYNEAUX: It'll just be automatic
12 going through.

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: Are you providing lunch
17 with it.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, we'll recess for
22 lunch.

23
24 (Off record)

25
26 (On record)

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Call the meeting back
29 to order.

30
31 On our agenda, the next item on the
32 agenda is tribal consultation, and who has that.

33
34 (Pause)

35
36 MR. LORRIGAN: Good afternoon, Mr.
37 Chairman. Council members. My name is Jack Lorrigan,
38 the Native Liaison for Office of Subsistence Management
39 for the record. I'm going to give a report to you on
40 the tribal consultations we've had this August and
41 September.

42
43 We held three consultations. August
44 14th we took care of the North Slope and Northwest
45 Arctic regions to go over their proposals and get
46 comment from them on rural determination. And then we
47 had a September 11th consultation for the rest of the
48 Alaska Regional Councils, at which time the YK Delta
49 members requested a separate consultation to take care
50 of the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta region issues because the

1 consultation would have fallen in the middle of their
2 moose hunt so we had a separate consultation for YK
3 Delta on the 16th of September and that's the one I'll
4 give you the briefing on the most. All the other
5 regions had their issues and spoke to rural
6 determination but for your interest that are germane to
7 the topics you'll be taking up, I'll go over with what
8 happened with the YK Delta consultation.

9
10 So we held a consultation by invites --
11 invitation to the Board for the tribes and the ANCSA
12 Corporations to call in and consult on the wildlife
13 proposals that you have before you and the rural
14 determination process which we had the meeting last
15 night, which they also commented at that time. And
16 some of the folks that came to the meeting last night
17 had already spoken to the record on it and I'll give
18 that to you at this time with this report.

19
20 So on September 16th, the people
21 involved agreed to combine the tribal consultation with
22 the ANCSA Corporations and so both the corporations and
23 the tribes that called in were on the same call and
24 they all agreed to it.

25
26 So in particular the proposals we'll
27 start with:

28
29 The Association of Village Council
30 Presidents supports WP14-23 as opposed. The Tuluksak
31 Native Community and St. Mary's agree with Association
32 Village Council Presidents.

33
34 For the most part AVCP commented on
35 several of the proposals and then some of the other
36 communities spoke up later.

37
38 AVCP supports WP14-24 and 14-25 and are
39 supported by the Lower Yukon Villages.

40
41 They also support including the north
42 fork of the Andreafsky River as well as the areas that
43 Mountain Village proposed, I don't know which ones
44 those were.

45
46 AVCP spoke to Proposal WP14-22
47 requiring a registration permit for caribou all across
48 the various units. AVCP had submitted a special action
49 requests to close the hunt for non-residents and non-
50 locals primarily to allow for more Federally-qualified

1 hunters to harvest but was denied by the Board. They
2 felt that implementation of this regulation to require
3 the State registration permit is a form of restriction
4 and that the area closure was justified.

5
6 AVCP was curious if there was a way to
7 require non-local hunters to register with local tribes
8 to insure wanton waste from trophy hunting doesn't
9 occur. OSM indicated that this would be a local Refuge
10 or law enforcement issue.

11
12 There was support for Proposals WP14-
13 01, which is the statewide trapping proposal, WP14-21,
14 WP14-24, WP14-25, and WP14-23 from the Atmauthuak
15 Village Council. St. Mary's commented that with low
16 king salmon returns this year many people are relying
17 more on moose meat for the winter. It's depressing for
18 locals to see so many non-local hunters out for trophy
19 hunts when their own people are increasing their
20 efforts during hunting seasons to make up for the
21 salmon shortfall.

22
23 An elder spoke in his traditional
24 language that they're hunting is for food and not
25 trophies.

26
27 A caller from Kwethluk, Inc., supported
28 wildlife proposals 14-23, 24, 25 and 26 and the
29 comments made by AVCP.

30
31 The caller from Atmauthuak Village also
32 supported WP14-28 for Unit 18 and extended moose
33 harvest.

34
35 AVCP read into the record a letter they
36 had sent to the Board Chairman, Mr. Tim Towarak which
37 reads as follows:

38
39 Mr. Towarak.

40
41 The Association of Village Council
42 Presidents submits the following comments on the rural
43 determination.

44
45 On the population thresholds rural
46 characteristics, aggregation of communities, timelines
47 and information sources AVCP does not support
48 population thresholds, rural characteristics,
49 aggregation of communities, timelines and information
50 sources based on prohibitions from hunting, fishing and

1 gathering our food sources. The fact that our
2 community population may have reached any threshold
3 does not make our people any less Alaska Native. Our
4 physical, economic, spiritual, nutritional and social
5 dependence on our resources is inherent from our
6 ancestors that derives sustenance from the resources
7 our land provides. Our physical bodies, cultures,
8 traditions and spiritual beliefs have evolved through
9 the millennia to where it is today. Without our
10 traditional food we rely on sustenance, our physical
11 bodies, our culture, our traditions and our spiritual
12 beliefs begin to die. This is regardless of where you
13 live, which includes population thresholds, rural
14 characteristics, aggregation of communities.

15
16 What AVCP does support is Alaska Native
17 priority. With international declarations on the
18 rights of indigenous people and we thank you for the
19 opportunity to comment.

20
21 Signed Myron Naneng, Sr., President.
22 That was sent in to the Board Chairman.

23
24 Napaskiak requested to be exempt from
25 any rural determination. The Native Village of
26 Napaskiak supported this stance.

27
28 Representatives from the Bethel Native
29 Corporation stated that most local villages that are
30 close to each other don't want to be grouped together
31 in a rural determination scenario. They requested that
32 representatives from the Federal Program speak to the
33 State on behalf of rural communities and their current
34 rural determinations.

35
36 The representative from BNC also
37 requested that the new minimum number for population
38 thresholds be changed from 7,000 to 12,000.

39
40 Some of the callers stated that
41 subsistence mattered no matter where they lived or how
42 much money they earned, it's an essential part of their
43 being and who they are.

44
45 One caller stated that Napaskiak,
46 Oscarville, Napaskiak had no restaurants and that they
47 relied on subsistence foods for sustenance.

48
49 A caller from Andrafsky commented that
50 subsistence resources are affected by the size of a

1 community relying them -- plus those harvesters from --
2 plus the harvesters from the outside areas. They
3 commented that population thresholds may be useful.
4 The caller supported his tribal rights stance.

5
6 A representative from BNC was in favor
7 of the 10 year review. They recommended using the
8 State of Alaska Subsistence Foods Survey and using the
9 150 pounds per person per year as a minimum threshold
10 for subsistence foods amount necessary.

11
12 The St. Mary's representative commented
13 that the smaller communities along the river were
14 probably safe from a rural determination finding but
15 Bethel could get large enough that it would be an
16 issue.

17
18 Another caller wanted to see more law
19 enforcement in their area on the outside hunters.

20
21 And finally one caller was unconvinced
22 that a subsistence priority was in practice as they are
23 seeing subsistence uses closed and sport hunters are
24 still active.

25
26 The call ended at noon. We had good
27 participation from this region and we hope to continue
28 to grow the dialogue between OSM and all the groups
29 involved.

30
31
32 We had a Board member that listened in,
33 I think Tim Towarak listened in on this one. We
34 usually had a Board member present at the consultations
35 so the -- because the invitation's from the Board to
36 the public, the tribes and the ANCSA Corporations to
37 provide comments so they were present.

38
39 Thank you.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary.

46
47 MS. GREGORY: By not allowing us to ask
48 the question while the presentation is being presented
49 -- because I always forget -- I have something to ask
50 but when he keeps going I keep forgetting so can we ask

1 him whenever we can.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may. I think
4 it's -- Mary just asked if it was possible.....
5
6 MR. LORRIGAN: I apologize.....
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE:to interrupt you
9 while you're making the presentation because of her
10 memory.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MR. LORRIGAN: Absolutely.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It's not as good as it
17 used to be.
18
19 (Laughter)
20
21 MR. LORRIGAN: Just throw a rock at me.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.
26
27 MS. GREGORY: I can't remember, I think
28 it was about those 7,000 -- those numbers and clusters
29 of villages. Can we have a little bit of decorum in
30 here, can you all not look at your computers while
31 somebody's talking please.
32
33 MR. LORRIGAN: Sorry, your question was
34 about the.....
35
36 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, it was about those
37 numbers, the villages.....
38
39 MR. LORRIGAN: I read a passage that
40 said a representative from the corporation requested
41 that the number for population threshold.....
42
43 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, those ones.
44
45 MR. LORRIGAN:be changed from
46 7,000 to 12,000. That's.....
47
48 MS. GREGORY: I told you guys I was for
49 it yesterday but I changed my mind, I don't want
50 numbers.

1 REPORTER: Mary, let me change this.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are we having some
6 technical problems.
7
8 REPORTER: No, we are not but I'm
9 taking this microphone away from Mary, it keeps
10 dinging.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MS. GREGORY: Thank you. I have
15 another -- I'm trying to recall what I had in my mind.
16 But I'd like to ask Mr. Nick if you could give me a
17 copy of what he just read.
18
19 MR. LORRIGAN: Yes, I'll give it to
20 him.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.
23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Jack, I missed it, you
25 said a corporation was that Calista or.....
26
27 MR. LORRIGAN: For the reporting I took
28 the names out. We had Kwethluk, Inc., Bethel Native
29 Corporation, I don't think Calista was on the call. I
30 don't remember that name.
31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: And then the other one
33 was -- I was checking something else, I didn't catch
34 it, also the 150 pounds.
35
36 MR. LORRIGAN: We had a representative
37 from BNC recommended using the State of Alaska
38 Subsistence Food Survey using 150 pounds per person per
39 year as a minimum threshold for subsistence -- amount
40 necessary for subsistence.
41
42 There were a variety of comments coming
43 from people.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any further
46 comments on the tribal consultation.
47
48 Mr. Aloysius.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I didn't

1 understand, you said summary of tribal consultation and
2 you said they had a meeting?

3

4 MR. LORRIGAN: It was a teleconference
5 that the tribes were invited to call in on and we held
6 it -- the tribes were invited to call in the mornings
7 from 9:00 to 1:00 and then the corporations called in
8 from 1:30 to 3:00.

9

10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right, Robert.

13 Bob.

14

15 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments or
18 questions concerning tribal consultation.

19

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,

24 thank you very much.

25

26 MS. GREGORY: I just have one more

27 question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, ma'am.

30

31 MS. GREGORY: For what purpose were you
32 gathering information?

33

34 MR. LORRIGAN: We wanted tribal
35 comments on the proposals that are before you and we
36 wanted to hear what the villages had to say and get the
37 information to you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: They went over the
40 same proposals that are here for consultation.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Does that answer your
47 question, Mary.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius, go
4 ahead.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Why weren't these things
7 brought up after -- or during the time that the
8 proposals are presented.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: They will be
11 presented.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: They will be, yes. But
14 why weren't these comments adjacent to the proposal,
15 not beforehand, it doesn't make sense to me at all.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I really don't know,
18 Robert.
19
20 MR. LORRIGAN: The idea was to get
21 these comments to you before you start listening to the
22 proposals, which are coming up next.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. You got that.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: I got it but it doesn't
27 make.....
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions
30 concerning tribal consultation.
31
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, thank you very
36 much. We are, at this time, down to wildlife
37 regulatory proposals.
38
39 The first proposal is WP14-01,
40 trapping, and Mr. Chris McKee from OSM will be
41 presenting these proposals.
42
43 MR. MCKEE: Good afternoon. If I could
44 have just a minute or so to get all these materials
45 together here.
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: McKee.
48
49 MR. MCKEE: McKee, yes.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It's all right, we
2 waited one whole day to get to these.....

3
4 (Laughter)

5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE:so we could wait
7 for you to get your things.

8
9 MR. MCKEE: Okay. I've also produced
10 kind of a summary of the proposals and that's what I'll
11 use to actually go through it so I'll try to make it
12 brief, but not too brief and if you can't hear me don't
13 hesitate to tell me to bring it closer. Can everybody
14 hear me okay.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: Just fine.

17
18 MR. MCKEE: Proposal 14-01 starts on
19 Page 52 of your meetings materials booklet.

20
21 Okay, Proposal WP14-01 was submitted by
22 Kevin Bopp of Nome and requests the establishment of
23 new statewide provisions for Federal and trapping
24 regulations that would require trapper identification
25 tags on all traps and snares, establish a maximum
26 allowable time limits for checking traps and establish
27 a harvest trapping report form to collect data on non-
28 target species captured in traps and snares.

29
30 The proposed requirements could lead to
31 more humane trapping methods under Federal
32 regulations, however, these regulatory provisions would
33 not likely be manageable on a statewide basis due to
34 vast differences in land ownership, population
35 concentrations and habitats. Regulations of this
36 nature would be better suited in response to issues on
37 an area specific basis, like similar situations
38 currently in State and Federal trapping regulations.
39 For instance, we have some special use requirements on
40 the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge with regards to
41 trapping.

42
43 Alignment issues would require a
44 substantial increase in law enforcement and public
45 educational efforts. Also requiring trappers to check
46 traps during inclement weather could lead to health and
47 safety issues for the trappers. In many instances
48 Federally-qualified subsistence users could simply trap
49 under regulations to avoid the additional proposed
50 Federal restrictions that they're asking for in this

1 proposal.

2

3

4 Certainly a lot of the information
5 gathered from a harvest report form of non-target
6 species caught in traps and snares could provide useful
7 information, it would be an unnecessary requirement for
8 Federally-qualified users. The report would require
9 additional time commitments for Federally-qualified
10 subsistence users and Federal Staff, which are
11 currently unwarranted. Similar reports would be more
12 useful in areas with specific issues with the capture
13 of non-target species such as areas where threatened or
14 endangered species or significant user conflict issues.

14

15 For those reasons the OSM preliminary
16 conclusion is to oppose WP14-01.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
19 any agency comments from the Department on Proposal
20 WP14-01.

21

22 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair, this is
23 Drew Crawford with the Alaska Department of Fish and
24 Game in Anchorage.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

27

28 MR. CRAWFORD: Regarding Wildlife
29 Proposal WP14-01, the State's recommendation is to
30 oppose this proposal. We agree with the Federal
31 assessment of this proposal and their conclusion not to
32 support it.

33

34 Over.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you. Is
37 there any Federal agency comments.

38

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick, no comments.

43

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any Native
48 village, tribal or other comments.

49

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any comments
4 from AVCP.
5
6 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7 Timothy Andrew with AVCP.
8
9 We would oppose this proposal based on
10 the additional cost it would cost our trappers.
11 Additionally it's just a very much unneeded extra
12 regulation for -- to be imposed upon our people.
13
14 Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Is there
17 anyone here from the InterAgency Staff Committee,
18 comments.
19
20
21 (No comments)
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone on the
24 teleconference from the InterAgency Staff.
25
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, is
30 there any Advisory Group comments, neighboring Regional
31 Council comments.
32
33
34 (No comments)
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Were there any written
37 comments from the neighboring -- Mr. Nick.
38
39 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Alex Nick for
40 the record. We received three written comments --
41 public comments from Miki and Julie Collins of Lake
42 Minchumina. The other one is from AHTNA, Inc.,
43 Customary and Traditional Use Committee. And the third
44 comment is from a Donald Woodruff from Eagle. All
45 three comments opposed the proposal.
46
47 Mr. Chair.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
50

1 MR. NICK: And the comments are on Page
2 58.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Local Fish
5 and Game Advisory comments. Mr. Charles.
6
7 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. No
8 comments, we didn't work on that proposal last time or
9 a couple of days ago.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.
12 National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission
13 comments.
14
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone on the
19 teleconference.
20
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, Mr.
25 Nick, are there any summary of public written comments.
26
27 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, my apologies.
28 Those were the summaries of written comments.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.
31
32 Regional Council recommendations.
33
34 Motions.
35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.
39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Move to
41 support Proposal 14-01.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Since all motions will
44 be made in the positive, Mr. Roczicka has stated to
45 support.....
46
47 MS. GREGORY: Second.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE:Proposal WP14-01,
50 seconded by Ms. Gregory.

1 Any further discussion.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Question.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I would
8 suggest and hope that we all oppose this proposal
9 because it doesn't make sense, especially in weather
10 conditions like this. We set our traps through the
11 trees and all of a sudden we have a two week delay and
12 we can't go check our traps or snares. Same thing in
13 the wintertime, you get a blizzard, sometimes it lasts
14 four or five days or more and you can't go out and
15 check your traps and snares.
16
17 So this doesn't make sense. It's hard
18 to believe that somebody would write up a proposal like
19 this, and how are they going to enforce it.
20
21 Thank you.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other
24 comments, Council comments.
25
26 MS. GREGORY: Question.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Gregory.
29
30 MS. GREGORY: Question on the motion.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for,
33 roll call vote, please.
34
35 Mr. Nick.
36
37 MR. NICK: Excuse me, for the record
38 Alex Nick, Regional Council coordinator.
39
40 My understanding is the motion -- the
41 motion is to support WP14-01.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's correct.
44
45 MR. NICK: Mr. James Charles.
46
47 MR. CHARLES: No.
48
49 MR. NICK: Mr. Noah Andrew is not
50 present.

1 Mr. Evan Polty.
2
3 MR. POLTY: No.
4
5 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No.
8
9 MR. NICK: Mr. Paul Manumik is not
10 present.
11
12 Mr. Harry Wilde.
13
14 MR. H. WILDE: No.
15
16 MR. NICK: Ms. Mary Gregory.
17
18 MS. GREGORY: No.
19
20 MR. NICK: Okay. Ray Oney's not
21 present.
22
23 Mr. Greg Roczicka.
24
25 MR. ROCZICKA: No.
26
27 MR. NICK: Mr. Bob Aloysius.
28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
30
31 MR. NICK: Mr. David Bill.
32
33 MR. BILL: Nay.
34
35 MR. NICK: And Mr. William Brown.
36
37 MR. BROWN: No.
38
39 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. The results of
40 the motion is no one voted yes and we have nine nay's.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion.....
43
44 MR. NICK: Failed.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE:fails.
47
48 We are down to Item -- Mr. Nick, do you
49 need justification on the opposition of this proposal
50 or do you have it? Do you have the justification for

1 the opposition of this proposal, or do you need it?

2

3 MR. NICK: You need to provide
4 justification -- yes, we do need it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Roczicka will
7 be providing you with the justification for the
8 opposition.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. Can't you
11 just include Bob's comments.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: I was going to mention
14 that Bob had stated that on the record and that the
15 majority of the comments, we concur with the people who
16 chose to write in there in the opposition, they made
17 very good points; safety issues, and.....

18

19 MR. NICK: Excuse me. The
20 justification again.

21

22 Justification, you need to have
23 justification.

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Bob provided one to you
26 about the danger of the travel and then I also just
27 mentioned in concurrence with the three written
28 comments that came in that stated justification for
29 opposing this one quite clearly.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

32

33 MR. NICK: Okay.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. We are
36 down to Item -- according to our way of voting, we're
37 always making the motions in the -- what was that
38 again.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Positive.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Positive side and you
43 have the -- you can oppose it when you vote.

44

45 So we are down to WP14-02, black bears
46 has been withdrawn so we're down to regional proposals.
47 The first regional proposal is WSA13-01, it doesn't
48 have a title, can somebody help me out on this, what is
49 that proposal?

50

1 MR. MCKEE: That's an emergency special
2 action, 13-01. It's basically a temporary version of
3 Proposal 14-21, so I'm going to be presenting basically
4 both of those at the same time.

5
6 13-01 starts on Page 61 of your books,
7 and then 14-21 starts on Page 68.

8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, then proceed.

10
11 MR. MCKEE: Proposal 14-21 an emergency
12 special action WSA13-01 were both submitted by the
13 Bristol Bay Regional Advisory Council and requested an
14 extension of the to be announced winter season and an
15 increase in the harvest limit for moose under Federal
16 hunting regulations in Unit 17A.

17
18 The proposed regulatory changes would
19 align with the recent changes to State regulations and
20 follow recommendations of the Unit 17A moose management
21 plan. Federally-qualified subsistence users are
22 required to have a State registration permit during the
23 fall and winter moose seasons and could harvest moose
24 under the recently changed State regulations regardless
25 of the Board's decision, however, if adopted Federally-
26 qualified subsistence users would be provided with
27 additional harvest opportunity under Federal
28 regulations which include the use of the Federally
29 designated hunter regulations.

30
31 The moose population continues to
32 increase and is within the estimated carrying capacity
33 for the area. The proposed changes would provide the
34 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge manager with
35 flexibility to adjust the length of the winter season
36 and harvest limit to more effectively manage the
37 population.

38
39 With that in mind, the OSM preliminary
40 conclusion is to support Proposal 14-21 with
41 modification to delete the regulatory language found in
42 the Unit 17A may be announced season and delegate
43 authority to the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge
44 manager to open and close the season and set the
45 harvest limit for moose via a delegation of authority
46 letter only.

47
48 The modified language for that is on
49 Page -- the book that I have does not have numbers.....
50

1 MS. GREGORY: 01 is on Page 60 I think.

2

3 MR. MCKEE: I think it's on Page 75 if
4 your booklets.

5

6 MR. ALOYSIUS: The page numbers are
7 wrong.

8

9 MR. MCKEE: I don't know if your books
10 have the page numbers, mine are missing, unfortunately.

11

12 And along with that our conclusion is
13 to support the special action version of this WSA13-01.
14 As I mentioned earlier the proposed changes are
15 consistent with the recommendations of the Unit 17A
16 moose management plan, which state that the moose
17 population is increasing and approaching carrying
18 capacity. More liberal harvest regulations that allow
19 for a longer season, increase harvest limits and
20 potentially allowing for the harvest of cows should
21 help to reduce the population to more sustainable
22 levels. The proposed regulatory changes would also
23 align with recent changes to State regulations to
24 increase the harvest limit and the may be announced
25 season. Federally-qualified users would be provided
26 with additional opportunities to harvest moose under
27 Federal regulations, including, as I mentioned before,
28 the Federally designated hunter regulations. The
29 population's increasing as within the carrying capacity
30 for the area. The proposed changes, including creation
31 of a delegation of authority letter would provide the
32 Togiak Refuge manager with flexibility to adjust length
33 of the winter season and harvest limit to more
34 effectively manage the population.

35

36 That's all I have for these two.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And were you
39 suggesting.....

40

41 MR. MCKEE: I hope that wasn't too
42 quick.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE:that those two
45 proposals were acted on as one?

46

47 MR. MCKEE: Well, the reason I brought
48 them both up is because WSA13-01 is a special action,
49 so, in other words, that would be good for this winter
50 and then the proposal 14-21 would make it permanent, so

1 that's why they're both being presented to you at one
2 time.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right, thank you.

5

6 Agency comments.

7

8 Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

9

10 Any comments on Proposal 13-01.

11

12 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. Drew

13 Crawford, Alaska Department of Fish and Game in

14 Anchorage.

15

16 Regarding Wildlife Proposal 14-21 and

17 wildlife special action 13-01, the State supports of

18 these.

19

20 If adopted this proposal will align the

21 Federal season and bag limits for moose in Unit 17A

22 with existing State regulations.

23

24 Over.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Are there any

27 comments from the Fish and Wildlife.

28

29

30 (No comments)

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Federal agencies.

33

34 Mr. Nick.

35

36 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I noticed that

37 following the proposal there's -- I assume it's an

38 agency comment from Togiak Refuge.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Yes, could you

41 read that please for the record.

42

43 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Alex

44 Nick for the record. And if I mispronounce anything,

45 forgive me.

46

47 The -- I believe the comment is from

48 Suzanna Henry, Refuge manager, Togiak National Wildlife

49 Refuge in Dillingham. And I'm not sure if it's a

50 comment, a public comment or written comment from

1 someone -- Mr. Chair, maybe Greg Roczicka -- I'm sorry
2 it's from -- it's just a letter from the Chair of the
3 Federal Board to Suzanna.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. All right.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. That's an
8 example of the letter of delegation of authority to the
9 Refuge manager.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

12

13 AVCP, tribal comments.

14

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments from
19 tribal -- village comments.

20

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No village comment.

25

26 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

27

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No InterAgency Staff
32 comments.

33

34 Advisory group, is there any comments
35 from the neighboring Regional Councils, Mr. Nick.

36

37 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I don't see any
38 other comments in the book.

39

40 Mr. Chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Local Fish
43 and Game Advisory Committee. Mr. Charles, any
44 comments.

45

46 MR. CHARLES: No comments. No, we
47 didn't work on this proposal either.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

50

1 Are there any comments from the
2 National Park Service Subsistence Resource Commission.

3

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments from
8 National Park Service.

9

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, Mr.
14 Nick, is there a summary of written comments.

15

16 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I don't see any
17 written comments in the book.

18

19 Mr. Chair.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

22

23 Are there any public comments,
24 testimony concerning this proposal.

25

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
30 thank you.

31

32 At this time we will continue -- the
33 Council will take recommendations.

34

35 Mr. Roczicka.

36

37 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Move to
38 support Proposal 14-21 and special action 13-01.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
41 support Proposal 13-01, special action, and.....

42

43 MR. ROCZICKA: Proposal 14-21.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Say that again, I
46 couldn't hear you.

47

48 MR. ROCZICKA: Proposal 14-21 and
49 special action 13-01.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion,
2 do I hear a second.
3
4 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.
5
6 MS. GREGORY: Second.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
9 Charles. Any further discussion.
10
11
12 (No comments)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
15 on these two proposals.
16
17 Mr. Roczicka.
18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
20 I'll speak to my motion.
21
22 I intend to support this one. I concur
23 with the discussion items as laid out by the Bristol
24 Bay Regional Subsistence Council in their special
25 action aligning this with the State seasons. They've
26 got a population problem, or potential problem with
27 over-browsing, it's subsistence opportunity that would
28 be unnecessarily restricted under the current
29 situation. I intend to vote yes on it.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other
32 comments.
33
34
35 (No comments)
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments
38 from the Council.
39
40
41 (No comments)
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for,
46 roll call vote, please.
47
48 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Roll call, James
49 Charles.
50

1 MR. CHARLES: No.
2
3 MR. NICK: Mr. Noah Andrew is not
4 present.
5
6 Evan Polty.
7
8 MR. POLTY: No.
9
10 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
13
14 MR. NICK: Paul Manumik is not present.
15
16 Harry Wilde.
17
18 MR. H. WILDE: No.
19
20 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde, did he say no.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He said no.
23
24 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
25
26 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
27
28 MR. NICK: Raymond Oney is not present.
29
30 Greg Roczicka.
31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
33
34 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
37
38 MR. NICK: David Bell.
39
40 MR. BELL: No.
41
42 MR. NICK: I got mixed up here, just a
43 moment.
44
45 (Pause)
46
47 MR. NICK: Okay. Did I say David Bell
48 already.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (Nods affirmatively)

1 MR. NICK: Okay. Mr. William Brown.
2
3 MR. BROWN: No.
4
5 MR. NICK: Okay. I got five yes -- if
6 I'm correct, five yes and four no -- is that correct.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
11
12 MS. GREGORY: That's not right.
13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Maybe the question was
15 not understood because I thought it was very clear that
16 the motion was to support this proposal.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, I can't understand
21 why anybody would vote no then.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, were you guys --
26 -- did you all totally understand what this proposal
27 was about. Mr. Wilde, did you understand the proposal
28 itself?
29
30 MR. H. WILDE: (Shakes head negatively)
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No.
33
34 What about you, Mr. James, did you --
35 Charles.....
36
37 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE:you understood
40 it.
41
42 Mr. Polty.
43
44 MR. POLTY: Yeah, the reason I -- my
45 answer was no because they didn't indicate what the
46 population -- the moose population in that area.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
49
50 MR. POLTY: Thank you.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: It should be all in
2 here.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that again.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: The information is all
7 in here.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All that information
10 is right there, if you had have read that information
11 then you would have known what the proposal was about.
12 But according to the vote, what is the vote?
13
14 MR. ROCZICKA: Five to four.
15
16 MS. GREGORY: Five nays.
17
18 MR. NICK: Vote -- vote is five yes and
19 four no, so the motion passed.....
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Because it's.....
22
23 MS. GREGORY: No.
24
25 MR. NICK:carried rather.
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: It's five/four.
28
29 MR. NICK: I think.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I think there
32 seems to be a confusion on this, I think we should take
33 the vote over again just to make sure.
34
35 Could you please call the roll again on
36 this proposal and.....
37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE:could you
41 please.....
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Maybe you could make it
44 more clear on what you're voting for because.....
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, I was going
47 to.....
48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS:you know, a lot of
50 the people didn't understand that the numbers were

1 already in that so.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I was going to
4 make sure that that proposal is explained by the
5 gentleman that was making the presentation.

6

7 Could you go over this proposal again
8 and we will cast another vote on it.

9

10 MR. MCKEE: Do you want me to go
11 through my summary again?

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Would you please so we
14 could under -- so that all the Council members
15 understand what the proposal is about.

16

17 MR. MCKEE: Okay. The request of both
18 14-21 and special action 13-01 is to request an
19 extension of the to be announced winter season and an
20 increase in the harvest limit for moose under Federal
21 hunting regulations in Unit 17A.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, go ahead,
24 continue.

25

26 MR. MCKEE: So these changes would
27 align with State -- recent changes to State regulations
28 and also follow the recommendations of the Unit 17A
29 Moose Management Plan. The moose population continues
30 to increase in this area. Let me make sure I -- just
31 since that was a question before -- and, again, this
32 booklet that I have doesn't have page numbers on it,
33 unfortunately.

34

35 13-01 does. Page 64 of your meeting
36 materials booklet will show you the minimum moose
37 counts, the aerial surveys for moose in Unit 17A. It
38 shows that the moose population is at or close to above
39 the carrying capacity for this area. So moose
40 populations are healthy, they want to align with State
41 regulations.

42

43 And we are supporting with the
44 modification to delegate authority to the Togiak
45 National Wildlife Refuge manager to open and close the
46 season and set harvest limits for moose via a
47 delegation of authority letter.

48

49 So a lot more opportunities for Federal
50 users. The population is at the carrying capacity at a

1 point now where you try to get a handle on some of
2 these, provide more opportunities for Federal users, so
3 more opportunities, need for harvest, and it also would
4 align with State regulations and hopefully help with
5 what could become a population problem.

6

7 So that's kind of the quick and dirty
8 version but that's what supporting this would help do.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. And we'll just
11 address 13-01 at this time since there is no -- the
12 proposal is 13-01 that we're discussing.

13

14 Go ahead, Mr. Nick.

15

16 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I think my tally
17 was incorrect so the results of the vote for the last
18 motion to support 14-21 was four yes and five no.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, there was some
21 misunderstanding of this proposal by some of the
22 Council members, I think it'd be a better -- a good
23 idea to retake that vote to make sure that those
24 numbers are acceptable.

25

26 MR. NICK: Okay.

27

28 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Charles.

31

32 MR. CHARLES: That's my problem, too.
33 That on the 17A, where is that 17A, I don't -- way over
34 there, okay, I thought it was more this way.

35

36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Other side of the
37 mountains.

38

39 MR. POLTY: Dillingham area.

40

41 MR. CHARLES: That's in Dillingham
42 area.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you explain
45 where 17A is, please. Do you have a map.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Right by you, please
50 explain where 17A is.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: It's on the south side.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Beyond the.....
4
5 MR. ROCZICKA: It's the Togiak.....
6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
8
9 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
10
11 MR. CHARLES: (In Yup'ik)
12
13 MR. POLTY: (In Yup'ik)
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
16
17 MR. POLTY: Yeah.
18
19 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, are you ready to
22 vote.
23
24 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
27
28 MR. NICK: Unit 17A, part of Unit 17A
29 -- well, 17A is within the Togiak Refuge but some of
30 the villages in YK Delta do have C&T for portion of
31 that 17A.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you please,
34 gentlemen, ladies, listen to Mr. Nick, he's trying to
35 explain something to you so you could understand this.
36 Could you go over that again, Mr. Nick. Please.
37
38 MR. NICK: Okay.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I want to make sure
41 that the Council understands.
42
43 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Unit 17A, to
44 give you an idea, goes from around Cape Pearce in the
45 coast all the way over to around Cape -- what is this
46 one, I can't see it.
47
48 MR. MCKEE: Constantine.
49
50 MR. NICK: Cape Constantine. And it

1 goes back that way. It's in the regulatory booklets.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

4

5 MR. NICK: And, you know, it's very
6 hard to explain using a small map but like earlier you
7 were discussing C&T, and some of the villages, like
8 Akiachuk, they have -- Akiachuk, Eek, Tuntutuliak, I
9 believe they have C&T for caribou in that area.

10

11 Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

14

15 Any other questions from Council.

16

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you ready to vote.

21

22 (Council nods affirmatively)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Mr. Nick, please
25 call the roll.

26

27 MR. NICK: Okay. In order to -- in
28 order to provide -- avoid confusion what I'm going to
29 do is only call those who are present.....

30

31 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

32

33 MR. NICK:that will be better.

34

35 MS. GREGORY: Yes, do that.

36

37 MR. NICK: Okay. And Mr. William, I'll
38 begin from you.

39

40 Motion is to support WP14-21.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 13-01.

43

44 MR. NICK: 14.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: 13.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 13-01 is the one that
49 we're discussing right now.

50

1 MR. NICK: You already -- you already
2 voted for that earlier.
3
4 MS. GREGORY: No.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: No. No. No.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, we did not.
9
10 MR. NICK: Well, was the motion
11 withdrawn for that because we're on 21, not 01.
12
13 MS. GREGORY: No, we're not.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, that was included.
16 That 21 was included with 01.
17
18 MR. NICK: Okay.
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. So right now
21 we're.....
22
23 MR. NICK: So you're reconsidering.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're going back down
26 to -- maybe another motion is in order for WSA13-01.
27
28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move that
29 we adopt or accept 13-01.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
32 approve Proposal 13-01, is there a second.
33
34 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
37 Charles.
38
39 Any further discussion.
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Just a point of
46 clarification, it says WSA.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. WSA13-01.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: 13-01.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We are ready for the
2 roll call. The motion's been made, it's been seconded,
3 now we're voting. Mr. Nick.
4
5 MR. NICK: Who made a motion. I'm
6 sorry, who made a motion and who seconded.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made by
9 Ms. Gregory and seconded by Mr. Charles.
10
11 MR. NICK: Okay. Motion by Mr. James
12 -- Mr. Charles, seconded by Mary -- Ms. Gregory.
13
14 Okay.
15
16 Roll call?
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, please.
19
20 MR. NICK: William Brown.
21
22 MR. BROWN: Yes.
23
24 MR. NICK: James Charles.
25
26 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
27
28 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
29
30 MR. POLTY: Yes.
31
32 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
35
36 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
37
38 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
39
40 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
41
42 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
43
44 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
47
48 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.

1 MR. NICK: David Bell.
2
3 MR. BELL: Yes.
4
5 MR. NICK: Nine, yes, zero, no.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.
8
9 We are down to Item WP -- Proposal
10 WP14-21. Moose, revise harvest limit restrictions and
11 extend season.
12
13 Mr. McKee.
14
15 MR. MCKEE: That was -- that's the
16 permanent version of what you just voted on.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
19
20 MR. MCKEE: So WSA13-01 is an emergency
21 special action for this winter. The 14-21 is the
22 permanent version. So same information.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Since all that
25 introduction and the agency comments and the other
26 comments were made for both of those proposals, we are
27 in order to vote on Proposal WP14-21, moose.
28
29 What is the wish of the Council.
30
31 MS. GREGORY: So moved.
32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.
38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
40
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I would
42 move and ask unanimous consent given the action we just
43 took on the previous proposal to support Proposal WP14-
44 01.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made for
47 unanimous consent for WP14-21, any opposition.
48
49 (No opposing votes)
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone that opposes.
2
3 (No opposing votes)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any opposition for 14-
6 21.
7
8 (No opposing votes)
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, motion's
11 carried. The proposal's adopted.
12
13 We are down to WP14-23 moose. Lengthen
14 the season and remove bull only restrictions.
15
16 Mr. McKee.
17
18 MR. MCKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
19
20 Luckily, 14-23 in my booklet, it does
21 have page numbers, so I can tell you that the proposal
22 14-23 starts on Page 80 of your meeting materials
23 booklet.
24
25 Proposal WP14-23 was submitted by the
26 Yukon Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory
27 Council and requests and extension of the moose season
28 in Unit 18, that portion north and west of the Kashunuk
29 River, including the north bank from the mouth of the
30 river up stream, the old village of Chakaktolik to
31 Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon River
32 drainages up river from Mountain Village from August
33 1st to the last day of February to August 1st to March
34 31st. It also requests removal of the bull only
35 restriction from August 1st through September 30th.
36
37 The area of this proposal has
38 experienced rapid growth of the moose population since
39 the end of the moratorium in 1994. You can see a
40 figure illustrating that on Page 85 of your booklet.
41 With an average growth a rate of 27 percent between
42 1994 and 2008. In 2011 composition data showed 30
43 bulls per 100 cows, 69 calves per 100 cows, and 55
44 percent of the cows having calves. This data most
45 likely reflects a growing moose population since the
46 last 2008 population survey along the lower Yukon
47 survey area. Land managers have expressed concern
48 about the moose population exceeding the carrying
49 capacity of the habitat and the Refuge has preferred a
50 more proactive approach to management, more liberal

1 seasons and harvest limits reflect this approach.

2

3 The hunter success has increased in the
4 Lower Yukon area of Unit 18 in both the fall and winter
5 season since 2005. Between 2005 and 2010 the average
6 annual reported fall and winter moose harvest was 152
7 and 34 moose respectively. Total reported harvest
8 remains lower than anticipated despite the any moose
9 harvest limit provided during the 2009 season.

10

11 If adopted, this proposal would provide
12 additional harvest opportunities for Federally-
13 qualified subsistence users by lengthening the season
14 by one month and eliminating the bull only restriction
15 between August 1st and September 30th. Given the
16 rapidly increasing moose population in the Lower Yukon
17 River portion of Unit 18 this proposal would help limit
18 the growth of a population by reducing recruitment
19 rates via targeted harvest of cows in some cases.
20 Since the reduction it'll also help habitat degradation
21 along the Lower Yukon that could lead to a population
22 crash if left unchecked.

23

24 For these reasons the OSM preliminary
25 conclusion is to support WP14-23.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the
28 presentation and introduction.

29

30 Are there any agency comments from the
31 Department of Fish and Game.

32

33

34 (No comments)

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any comments
37 from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Proposal
38 WP14-23.

39

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none.....

44

45 MR. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, continue, go
48 ahead.

49

50 MR. CRAWFORD: I'm sorry, I had my mute

1 on.

2

3

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

Over.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: And I didn't quite get what -- was the Department in favor of this proposal?

MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, sir, they support this proposal.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

Any comments from Federal agencies.

Mr. Spencer Rearden.

MR. REARDEN: Spencer Rearden with Fish and Wildlife Service, Yukon-Delta National Wildlife Refuge. The wildlife biologist in dealing with moose and caribou and such things.

We do not support one aspect of this proposal for a couple of reasons.

At the end where it says two moose, only one of which may be antlered, antlered bulls may be only harvested from August 1st through September 30th, the last time we dealt with this regulation we proposed that, and the reason being is that we're trying to encourage people to shoot cow moose to slow down the growth of that moose population.

And the second reason is we've got to be careful, there could be user conflict issues with allowing bull harvest, trophy bull hunting in the months of October and November.

So that's the reason we left that

1 regulation in there.

2

3 And I have one more reason why not to
4 change that, is if we change that that's going to be
5 different from the existing State regulation. We match
6 the State regulation in the past with this so if we
7 change that the State regulation will be different.

8

9 So that's where we're coming from, from
10 the Refuge.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any questions.

13

14 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. David Bill.

17

18 MR. BILL: I wanted to find out.....

19

20 REPORTER: Mr. Bill.

21

22 MR. ROCZICKA: Microphone.

23

24 MR. BILL: Oh, yeah. I wanted to find
25 out if this is on Unit 18, if this includes the
26 Kashunuk River, too.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

29

30 MR. BILL: Okay, thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: This includes Kashunuk
33 River.

34

35 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

38

39 MS. GREGORY: On Page 83 where it says
40 closed area and that's right in Bethel on the
41 Kuskokwim. My question is, is that still closed, is
42 the proposal with that closed area?

43

44 MR. MCKEE: So that.....

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I didn't quite
47 understand that either.

48

49 MR. MCKEE: I don't believe.....

50

1 MS. GREGORY: It says right here. This
2 is a closed area according to the legend, the one with
3 the lines is closed area.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: That -- this proposal
10 does not even touch that area.
11
12 MR. MCKEE: Right.
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, it doesn't. Okay?
15
16 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Yes.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
19 on this.
20
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And thank you for your
25 comments, Mr. Rearden.
26
27 Tribal -- AVCP, do you have any
28 comments. Can you just get another chair in there
29 maybe, perhaps, so we could.....
30
31 (Laughter)
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE:because, yeah,
34 we'll be asking -- there you could sit there with them,
35 too, Mr. Nick, if you want.
36
37 MR. NICK: Okay.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, now we're ready.
40
41 MR. ANDREW: Okay, thank you, Mr.
42 Chair. Timothy Andrew with AVCP Natural Resources.
43
44 AVCP would support this proposal but
45 what we.....
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I can't hear you.
48
49 MR. ANDREW: Sorry about that Bob, is
50 that better now.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 MR. ANDREW: Okay. Yeah, AVCP would
4 support this proposal but with modification.

5

6 That we take Proposal No. 28 and take
7 the contents of 28 -- or take Proposal No. 28 and put
8 it into this regulation so that the entire Lower Yukon,
9 along with the Paimiut survey area and the Andreafsky
10 survey area, which makes up Unit 18 remainder would be
11 -- would have consistent regulations.

12

13 If you look on Page -- it'll take me a
14 few seconds here -- if you look on Page 128 of your
15 book there you'll notice that back in 2008 the lowest
16 Yukon -- or the Lower Yukon area had approximately
17 3,320 moose but that population likely had increased
18 tremendously. If you look at the Paimiut survey area,
19 that was just -- the survey was just concluded last
20 year and that's up to 5,697 moose or has 3.6 moose per
21 square mile. The Andreafsky portion which was surveyed
22 back in 2012 has 2,748 moose and they don't have the
23 moose per square mile indicated there but there's
24 plenty of moose in that lower -- the entire Lower Yukon
25 area. And I took a snowmachine ride back in March from
26 here down to Ouhmuit and drove through areas where the
27 moose had wintered and some areas around Marshall,
28 below Marshall, above Pilot Station all the way down to
29 Mountain Village, all those areas have young growth
30 willows and if you look at them, it looked like
31 somebody just took a tree mower and just made it just
32 flat. And the moose population is also starting to --
33 going to the older growth and they get up on their hind
34 legs, I guess, and start taking it down, but eventually
35 what we're going to run into here is an over population
36 of moose and their feed is going to run out eventually.

37

38 And with the limited population of
39 people that we have in the area it -- that moose
40 population is (indiscernible), even with the winter
41 hunt that occurs in the Unit 18 remainder. This past
42 March, I believe I was talking to some of the people
43 that did the survey up there, they still saw over 150
44 moose on an island that was heavily targeted for moose
45 hunting from the people -- from the Lower Kuskokwim
46 area.

47

48 Additionally, it would provide
49 additional opportunity for the people that you
50 represent in the region, perhaps taking some pressure

1 off of the Lower Kuskokwim moose hunt area as well.
2 But we have plenty of moose on the -- in this portion
3 that you're responsible for in the Lower Yukon area.

4
5 And that would be my recommendation, is
6 to take Proposal No. 28 and put it into Proposal No. 23
7 and that would make consistent regulation from Paimiut
8 all the way down to the mouth, and the portions of Unit
9 18 remainder with Lower Yukon.

10
11 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.

14
15 InterAgency Staff -- is there anyone
16 from the InterAgency Staff Committee.

17
18
19 (No comments)

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: None.

22
23 Are there any comments from the
24 neighboring Regional Councils, Mr. Nick.

25
26 MR. NICK: Hold on for a moment, sorry.

27
28 (Pause)

29
30 MR. NICK: I'm scrambling today for
31 some reason.

32
33 (Pause)

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It must be the
36 weather.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 MR. NICK: It must be.

41
42 (Pause)

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Don't forget to turn
45 on your mic when you're ready.

46
47 (Pause)

48
49 MR. NICK: There's written comments,
50 public comments.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did you say there were
2 any.
3
4 MS. GREGORY: I didn't see any.
5
6 MR. NICK: Pardon me?
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was there any?
9
10 MR. NICK: Oh, I guess I don't see any.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.
13
14 Local Fish and Game Advisory. Mr.
15 Charles, was there any comments from your group.
16
17 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. No action
18 from Lower Kuskokwim AC. We started to move on that
19 but we decided not to. No action.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. National Park
22 Service Subsistence Resource Commission.
23
24
25 (No comments)
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments.
28
29
30 (No comments)
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, we do have
33 somebody from there -- oh, no, I guess that isn't --
34 that's somebody else.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We are -- where
39 in the world am I, National Park Service Subsistence
40 Resource Commission.
41
42
43 (No comments)
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there summary of
46 written comments.
47
48 (No comments)
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any public

1 comments.

2

3 Mr. Nick.

4

5 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. There is one
6 written public comment from Donald Woodruff from Eagle.
7 It's on Page 87 and it's to support Proposal 14-23.

8

9 Mr. Chair.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Is there
12 any public comment concerning WP14-23.

13

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any public comments.

18

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
23 Regional Advisory Council recommendations, motions at
24 this time.

25

26 (Pause)

27

28 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Wilde.

31

32 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. People from
33 Mountain Village and.....

34

35 REPORTER: Harry. Harry.

36

37 MR. H. WILDE:the Lower.....

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Harry, turn on
40 your mic.

41

42 MR. H. WILDE:people at the --
43 hunters -- moose hunters, I think that they're getting
44 tired of why they move them around so much area, like
45 Kashunuk all the way up to -- close to Mountain
46 Village, in that area, now this year they be changing
47 it up river. There are so much moose in that area down
48 there, even in the Kashunuk area, but they move them
49 around too much by Fish and Game. People are getting
50 tired, why they -- some of them that -- even elders,

1 they say, how come they play with it so much after
2 we've been working hard and tried to introduce the
3 moose where we're at.

4

5 I don't know, it's -- I think this last
6 year that continuation should be still leaving there
7 the way it is, because there are a lot of moose down
8 there. There are a lot of moose. Like in Kashunuk
9 bull moose and a lot of moose, people -- hunters
10 looking for just for the horns, just like my boys they
11 got a moose, big moose with big horns and all that and
12 we had to draw him up and hang them, get in the way.
13 It's very -- people some -- young people, too, are
14 uncomfortable because they would like to see people --
15 people that fly down to their area, they're welcome
16 because we got lots of moose. We're not against them
17 -- they could go down and moose hunting in that area.
18 Like my son saw two -- they went out hunting, they got
19 a bull moose that -- the biggest moose horns that I
20 ever seen, we're not against people that come down and
21 hunt in that area.

22

23 But only thing that some people, they
24 don't like hunting right there too close in their
25 fishing areas. In Kashunuk area it's a good place,
26 good, because our people -- people from Scammon Bay and
27 Hooper Bay and in that area -- one time that one of the
28 boys -- people was saying, hey, Harry, how come you're
29 not -- you against us going down to hunt the moose, you
30 know, we're not against no one, they're welcome to go
31 down and hunt if they want to hunt. To us it's
32 (indiscernible) that people want to go hunting. If
33 they need help -- the only thing that we only want --
34 only one we watch is right now is make sure even if you
35 hunt in that area, leave your stuff in the -- like
36 hunting -- fishing areas, camp, leave them clean, not
37 leave them the way, everything behind.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Harry, your mic.

40

41 MR. H. WILDE: Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any
44 comments from the Regional -- any recommendation from
45 the Regional Council.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Ms. Gregory.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: I really support this
2 proposal because I have a foster son that sends me
3 moose every time he catches it and I love Yukon moose
4 as well as the Kuskokwim.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is your motion
7 then.....
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support
14 Proposal WP14-23.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made by
17 Mr. Aloysius.....
18
19 MS. GREGORY: Second.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE:to support WP14-
22 23, seconded by Ms. Gregory.
23
24 Any further discussion.
25
26 Mr. Roczicka.
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I'd like
29 to hear a little bit more about the suggestion that
30 came from AVCP about expanding the area and then we
31 have a couple of other proposals, but maybe -- about
32 amending this proposal to -- I noted a couple other
33 ones that talk about changing that boundary to include
34 the Andreadsky and Kashunuk drainage that are coming
35 up, if you wanted to include that in this proposal.
36
37 MS. GREGORY: Are you amending it.
38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd like to hear from
40 the guys from over Yukon, how they feel about that.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council. Well, since
43 I don't live on the Yukon anymore I'll have to leave
44 that up to somebody else.
45
46 (Laughter)
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles, go ahead.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I didn't

1 understand what he said because there's too much
2 squeaking in the microphones from somewhere.
3
4 (Teleconference interruption - People
5 without their phone on mute)
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, could you repeat
8 what you said, Mr. Roczicka.
9
10 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.
13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Bob, I was wondering
15 about possibly amending this proposal to expand it out
16 because we have other proposals that do talk about
17 changing that boundary up from Mountain Village to
18 include the Andreafsky drainage and having that
19 discussion in there and then AVCP put forward a
20 recommendation to actually make it all the way up to
21 Paimiut as I understood it. So I was looking to hear
22 from -- before I offered an amendment I wanted to hear
23 from Yukon representatives.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.
26
27 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Polty.
30
31 MR. POLTY: On this proposal of what
32 Tom [sic] was talking about, I like the idea of
33 including all the way up to where he indicated because
34 that'll give the opportunity for those people that are
35 on the closed area season, be shorter for them to hunt
36 in that area too. So if they go ahead and change the
37 proposal they'll have opportunity to closer to --
38 they'll be able to hunt in that area.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I didn't quite
41 understand what you were talking -- could you say that
42 again.
43
44 MR. POLTY: What you're saying, extend
45 the border line down.....
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: He's not Tom, that's
48 Tim.
49
50 MR. POLTY: Tim. I'm sorry. Tim said

1 extend it, that border from mouth of Kashunuk all the
2 way up to Paimiut, that's what you were saying, right
3 -- yeah.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Wait. Wait.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, could you.....

8

9 MR. POLTY: No.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Instead of putting
12 words into Tim's mouth, we'll ask him to say what he
13 meant. Go ahead, Mr. Andrew.

14

15 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
16 Chair. It's not to change the border for the Lower
17 Yukon census area because I think that still needs to
18 remain there.

19

20 MR. POLTY: Uh-huh.

21

22 MR. ANDREW: It's still a pretty active
23 census area. It's just making the regulation
24 consistent between Unit 18 remainder and the Lower
25 Yukon. That way there will be no confusion when a
26 winter -- or when a moose hunting season is announced
27 from August -- what did the proposal say, August 1 to
28 March 31st, two moose, that will be consistent from
29 Paimiut all the way down to the mouth, and Unit 18,
30 Lower Yukon area.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And you're addressing
33 just the remainder, Unit 18?

34

35 MR. ANDREW: Yeah. And what that will
36 -- and what this amendment would do, it would totally
37 eliminate the need to address Proposal No. 28, which
38 attempts to move in that direction.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you. Is
41 that understood.

42

43 Mr. Aloysius.

44

45 MR. BILL: Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just a minute, can you
48 go through the Chair, please, I recognized Mr.
49 Aloysius, go ahead.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. This is one
2 of the things that, you know, Kalskag and Lower Kalskag
3 are part of this YK Delta RAC, I'll remind you of that
4 because you always leave us out because we're way up
5 river where you can't see us.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: We live among the trees.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: But, anyway, this is
14 something, you know, we talked about a lot of times and
15 we ask why can't we just include remainder in that
16 whole thing because the moose population is going
17 haywire, it's totally going haywire from Paimiut down
18 to the Bering Sea and so -- because we are still in
19 Tier II in the Central Kuskokwim area and it's easier
20 for us to travel north, maybe three miles, from
21 Kalskag, 33 miles from Aniak, 43 miles from Chuathbaluk
22 to go down and hunt in that area between Paimiut,
23 Kalskags all the way down to the Bering Sea and it
24 makes more sense that AVCP came up with this idea that
25 we were talking about -- and I'm going to back that up
26 because it's for the benefit of all the people in the
27 Kuskokwim River area. So it makes more sense that we
28 open it up, that possibility for people to take
29 advantage of the excess amount of moose that are over
30 there. Because we're really restricted in Tier II.
31 And these guys in the Lower Kuskokwim area are more
32 restricted than we are.

33
34 So it's going to open up a chance for
35 everybody to go north where all the moose are and
36 harvest just north of the Johnson River.

37
38 Quyana.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Bill, you
41 had a comment.

42
43 MR. BILL: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Microphone.

46
47 MR. BILL: I hunted.....

48
49 REPORTER: Mr. Bill, your microphone.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Microphone please.
2
3 MR. BILL: I hunted in this area.....
4
5 REPORTER: Thank you, Mr. Bill.
6
7 MR. BILL:all the way from
8 Toksook Bay. The moose don't go around at the mouth of
9 the Kashunuk River. The moose starts at
10 (indiscernible) area, next to the (indiscernible) where
11 the bushes are, that's where the moose hunting is had,
12 all the way up to where -- all the way up the Yukon, I
13 think, some of them. Nobody hunts in a barren area
14 because there's no moose down there, at the mouth of
15 Kashunuk, starting from (indiscernible) and
16 (indiscernible). I just want to clarify what the
17 people are saying, the moose hunting starts at the
18 mouth of Kashunuk, if you went to the mouth of the
19 Kashunuk you'd never catch anything.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I would
22 differ.....
23
24 MR. BILL: Thank you.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE:with that, Mr.
27 Bill, because if there was no moose below that river,
28 there shouldn't be any moose coming into Hooper Bay but
29 we've had moose coming into Hooper Bay right into the
30 Bay there. Last summer we had a total of six moose
31 that migrated from somewhere down to Hooper Bay to
32 visit us and then just before hunting season they moved
33 up towards Kashunuk. So there are moose down in those
34 flat areas now. Just for your information.
35
36 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.
39
40 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.
43
44 MR. BILL: I think the moose goes to
45 Hooper Bay because of the (indiscernible) of mountains
46 up there, there's some moose in that area.
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, well, that down
49 there, it's just nothing but flat but I thought that'd
50 be good information anyway.

1 MR. BILL: Okay.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comment.
4
5 MR. POLTY: Yes, Mr. Chair, how it goes
6 is that Kashunuk is right across -- mouth is right
7 across Pilot so it's open as far as around that area
8 and over to the other side. So that was the proposal
9 that's been done and now that they're planning on
10 looking at AVCP wanted the whole area all the way up to
11 Paimiut, to go ahead and open that area and I'll go
12 ahead and go along with that and if there's an
13 objection I'll make a motion to follow what AVCP wants
14 to have that unit area.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on
17 the floor already.
18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: No, not with that.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Right.
22
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Clarify it with Bob to
24 amend is motion.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did you amend that
27 motion, Mr. Aloysius.
28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: I thought Greg was going
30 to make that amendment.
31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: No, I wanted to hear
33 from him first but I wanted to hear from the guys on
34 the Yukon side first, but Evan has now offered you a
35 friendly amendment to your motion to make that change.
36
37 MR. POLTY: Yes.
38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
40
41 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
42
43 MR. POLTY: I amended it already, yeah.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could we hear that
46 motion again for Proposal WP14-23.
47
48 MR. POLTY: WP14-23.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

1 MR. POLTY: Made amendment to the
2 current regulation and -- existing regulation and amend
3 that what we have.....
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, you.....
6
7 MR. POLTY: There's no amendment,
8 right.
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: You're making a motion
11 to amend the.....
12
13 REPORTER: Bob. Bob, microphone.
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS:present
16 proposal.....
17
18 MR. POLTY: Yes, the present --
19 proposal and open the -- what AVCP have in their
20 regulation all the way from Paimiut all -- open the
21 whole Unit 18.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: AVCP does not have any
24 regulations but they have a proposal.....
25
26 MR. POLTY: Proposal, yes.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE:and an amendment
29 to that regulation.
30
31 MR. POLTY: Their proposal, uh-huh.
32 Yeah.
33
34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I second the
35 motion to amend the current motion to confer with
36 AVCP's desires.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And just to be -- for
39 the understanding, could you come back and restate that
40 portion so it's understood what we're voting for.
41
42 Mr. Andrew.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: I wish we had an
45 overhead so we.....
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's -- just a
48 minute.
49
50 There's a motion on the floor, do I

1 hear a second to the motion first before discussion.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: No, I seconded it
4 already.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mary seconded it,
7 okay.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: There was a motion and a
10 second already to amend it.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Nick -- Mr.
13 Andrew, I'm sorry.
14
15 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.
16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
18
19 REPORTER: Harry.
20
21 MR. H. WILDE: I think.....
22
23 REPORTER: No, the microphone.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Your button.
26
27 REPORTER: The microphone -- this one.
28
29 (Laughter)
30
31 MR. H. WILDE: Oh, okay.
32
33 (Laughter)
34
35 MR. H. WILDE: I think I like this the
36 way it print because you can print in different ways.
37 This one here is -- the first one I ever seen like
38 this, it's -- I think.....
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What are you talking
41 about, on Page what?
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Page 83.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: On WP14-23, Map 1,
46 Page -- what page?
47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: 83.
49
50 MR. H. WILDE: Page 83.

1 MS. GREGORY: 81.
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: 83.
4
5 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
6
7 Excuse me, sir.
8
9 (In Yup'ik)
10
11 It includes whole area.
12
13 MR. NICK: Proposal No. 23.
14
15 (In Yup'ik)
16
17 REPORTER: Alex, your microphone.
18
19 MR. NICK: I just wanted to make a
20 recommendation here because it seems like it's getting
21 more confusing, to me, at least, because there's other
22 proposals that applies to the same area. And I think
23 -- I don't know what Chris wants to do but someone
24 mentioned -- I thought someone mentioned that he would
25 like to hear whether -- rather what other proposals are
26 proposing to do in the same area.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, there was nothing
29 said about that. But there was an amendment that was
30 offered by AVCP and that was part of the motion; is
31 that correct, Tina.
32
33 REPORTER: Yes, there was an amendment
34 to the motion to include Tim's language. To the
35 original.....
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Point of clarification.
44 The amendment to the original motion was to adopt.....
45
46 REPORTER:motion, Tim's -- AVCP's
47 language is the amendment to the original motion.
48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS:the proposal that
50 AVCP has presented.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you, Tina.
2 And that, Mr. Andrew, is.....

3
4 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
5 you go to Page 80 and if you look at the very top where
6 it says, request an extension of the moose season in
7 Unit 18, that portion, Kashunuk River include -- and so
8 on from August 1 to the last day of February to August
9 1 to March 31st, it also requests removal of the bull
10 only restriction from September 1 to the 30th. And
11 what I -- what AVCP proposes to do is to take that
12 regulatory language and incorporate that into Unit 18
13 remainder.

14
15 So the regulation would read Unit 18,
16 Lower Yukon, and Unit 18 remainder, that these
17 regulations apply to it with two moose.

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

20
21 MR. ANDREW: And the other thing that
22 is really, really important is if you look on the
23 second block down where it proposes to strike out the
24 bull only harvest during that time period, is that the
25 implications of striking that out is that sporthunters
26 -- if it is struck out, that sporthunters can hunt
27 right along subsistence hunters in the month of
28 October, November, December, January, February until
29 the bull or until the bulls lose their horns. If you
30 strike that they'd be able to do that.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Strike what portion,
33 I'm sorry.

34
35 MR. ANDREW: If you look at the second
36 -- the proposed regulation, yeah, the strike -- they're
37 looking to strike that portion that says only one of
38 which may be antlered, antlered bulls may only be
39 harvested from August 1 through September 30th; we
40 recommend that we keep that to limit the sporthunters
41 to only hunt in that time period.

42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Page number.

46
47 MR. ANDREW: Page 80, sorry.

48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?

50

1 MR. ANDREW: Page 80, 8-0.
2
3 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.
6
7 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. We're
8 doing the exactly same as we have -- happened this way
9 over there at the AC meeting. We worked on the vote
10 for this proposal but we decided to start -- but after
11 we worked on 24, 25 we decided to not act on this
12 proposal and vote for the others. So that might speed
13 up things because that's what happened over there. We
14 were discussing for this same proposal for half the
15 night because we didn't get done until 11:30 at that
16 time. Exactly same -- if we vote for 24, 25 we might
17 have a better idea on this proposal.
18
19 I don't know, this is different, this
20 is Federal and we were working on the State over there.
21
22 Thank you.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comment.
25 Mr. Nick -- I mean Andrew -- seeing the both of you
26 over there, sorry.
27
28 Mr. Andrew any other comment.
29
30 MR. ANDREW: And I hope it's clear
31 that, you know, the inclusion of Unit 18 remainder into
32 this regulation here, that would eliminate the need to
33 take action on -- I believe that would eliminate the
34 need to take action on No. 28.....
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
37
38 MR. ANDREW:if we were to go this
39 route.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right. Okay.
42
43 MR. ANDREW: Yeah. And it'd also be
44 consistent with the Board of Game proposal that AVCP
45 submitted as well that's going to be considered in
46 Kotzebue in January, it's Proposal No. 3 on the State
47 side.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just for my
50 understanding, is there -- is the moratorium for the

1 Kuskokwim still in effect?

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.

4

5 MR. ANDREW: Yes.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: No.

8

9 MR. ANDREW: No, it's not a moratorium,
10 it's a limited hunt, maybe Mr. Roczicka can address it.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

13

14 The reason why I'm asking that is
15 because the remainder of Unit 18 covers Tununuk,
16 Toksook, Nightmute, Chefornek, et cetera, and then up
17 to Kalskak, Kasigeluk, Nunapitchuk, that area, and that
18 was the only reason why I was kind of concerned if that
19 has any effect on the moratorium that -- if it's still
20 in the books, but if it isn't then I guess that's no
21 concern.

22

23 Mr. Roczicka.

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. The
26 Kuskokwim hunt is a registration hunt and it includes
27 the Kuskokwim drainage and the Johnson up to the --
28 where it leaves the lake above Nunapitchuk. And the
29 Johnson above that is a part of the remainder.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, okay. Yeah. I
32 think that's understood.

33

34 So Council recommendations, there's a
35 motion on the floor, right, and there's a second to it,
36 Tina.

37

38 REPORTER: There's a motion and a
39 second, and an amendment to that motion, with a second.
40 You need to vote on the amendment first.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's a motion and an
45 amendment, we have to vote on the amendment first.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. The reason why
48 I asked her is I got a little confused in all this
49 discussion and so I need some good clear minds like Mr.
50 Aloysius. Thank you, Bob.

1 There is an amendment to the motion to
2 adopt, is there a motion on the amendment at this time.
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, an amendment.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Discussion on the
9 motion.
10
11 REPORTER: The amendment.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Discussion on the
14 amendment.
15
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any further
20 discussion on the amendment.
21
22
23 (No comments)
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for
28 on the amendment. Mr. Nick, roll call.
29
30 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I'll get the
31 right language of the motion from one of you.
32 Amendment -- vote on the amendment -- roll call?
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, roll call,
35 please.
36
37 MR. NICK: Okay. Just a moment.
38
39 (Pause)
40
41 MR. NICK: Mr. William Brown.
42
43 MR. BROWN: Yes.
44
45 MR. NICK: Mr. Charles. James Charles.
46
47 MR. CHARLES: I didn't get that
48 amendment, what was the amendment.
49
50 (Laughter)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr.....
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: The amendment was to
4 include this dark green area.....
5
6 REPORTER: Bob, your microphone, can't
7 hear you.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS:into the main
10 motion.
11
12 Okay. The amendment was to include
13 this dark green area into the main motion.
14
15 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
16
17 MR. NICK: Okay.
18
19 Mr. Evan Polty.
20
21 MR. POLTY: Yes.
22
23 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
26
27 MR. NICK: Mr. Harry Wilde.
28
29 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah.
30
31 MR. NICK: Ms. Gregory.
32
33 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
34
35 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
38
39 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
42
43 MR. NICK: David Bill.
44
45 MR. BILL: Yes.
46
47 MR. NICK: Nine for amendment, zero no.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. The amendment
50 passes. Now, on the main motion, the main motion is --

1 Mr. Roczicka.

2

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

4

5 The motion as I understand it now
6 includes the remainder of Unit 18 with the Lower Yukon
7 hunt area with a season of August 1 through March 31st
8 and retains the language that antlered bulls may only
9 be harvested from August 1 through September 30th.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion.

12

13 Mr. Aloysius.

14

15 (Laughter)

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is that a new one.

18

19 (Laughter)

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, that's the
22 discussion we've had all this time, we were discussing
23 this.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

26

27 REPORTER: Mary.

28

29 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

30

31 We're going to vote on the main motion,
32 as amended.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's the one we're
35 voting on right now.

36

37 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Is the main
40 motion understood by Council.

41

42 (Council nods affirmatively)

43

44 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.

47

48 MR. NICK: If I -- if I understood the
49 main motion, was to support WP14-23.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: As amended.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: As amended.
4
5 MR. NICK: As amended.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
8
9 MR. NICK: Okay.
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
14 Mr. Nick.....
15
16 MR. NICK: Roll call?
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE:call the roll,
19 please, yes.
20
21 MR. NICK: Mr. William Brown.
22
23 MR. BROWN: Yes.
24
25 MR. NICK: James Charles.
26
27 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
28
29 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
30
31 MR. POLTY: Yes.
32
33 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
36
37 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
38
39 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah.
40
41 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
42
43 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
44
45 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
48
49 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
2
3 MR. NICK: David Bill.
4
5 MR. BILL: Yes.
6
7 MR. NICK: Nine for, zero nay.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.
10
11 We are down to WP14-24/25.
12
13 Mr. McKee.
14
15 MR. MCKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
16
17 WP14-24/25 begins on Page 90 of your
18 meeting materials booklet.
19
20 Proposal WP14 -- I'll describe both --
21 originally they were each separate but we incorporated,
22 so I'm going to describe what each separate one is
23 asking for in my description so that's how it's written
24 in the book.
25
26 WP14-24 was submitted by the Yukon
27 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
28 and requests that the boundary for Unit 18, that
29 portion north and west of the Kashunuk River including
30 north bank from the mouth of the river up stream to the
31 Old Village of Chakaktolik west of a line from
32 Chakaktolik to Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon
33 River drainages up river from Mountain Village be
34 changed to include the Kashunuk River and the north
35 fork of the Andreafsky River.
36
37 Proposal WP14-25 submitted by the --
38 and I can't pronounce that ASA.....
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's pronounced
43 Asa'Carsarmiut.
44
45 MR. MCKEE: That would be -- okay.
46
47 (Laughter)
48
49 MR. MCKEE: It requests that the
50 boundary for Unit 18, that portion north and west of

1 the Kashunuk and the previous language, Old Village of
2 Chakaktolik, west of a line from Chakaktolik to
3 Mountain Village and excluding all Yukon River
4 drainages up river from Mountain Village be revised to
5 include the south bank of the Kushunuk River for its
6 entire length. It would also liberalize moose harvest
7 for a small area up river of Mountain Village that
8 would be included in the lower Yukon hunt area instead
9 of Unit 18 remainder.

10

11 Both proponents are requesting the
12 boundary change being made so that recognizable
13 landmarks are used to designate unit borders. Using
14 drainages as boundary lines is seen as more ideal than
15 using straight line designations since most subsistence
16 users aren't using GPS units.

17

18 As mentioned in the previous proposal,
19 14-23, the moose population along the Lower Yukon has
20 been expanding rapidly in the last 20 years with
21 seasons and harvest limits being liberalized to help
22 try to get a check on this population, survey results
23 along the Andreafsky survey area between 1995 and 2012
24 have also shown an increasing population with an
25 estimated 3,170 moose. The estimated moose density in
26 this area is 1.9 moose per square mile and the
27 population has grown substantially since 2002.

28

29 Moose harvest has increased steadily in
30 Unit 18 and local demand for moose meat is high. A
31 majority of harvest takes place in the fall with the
32 majority of moose being harvested by Unit 18 residents.
33 More than 90 percent of moose harvested in Unit 18 come
34 from the Yukon River drainage.

35

36 If Proposals 14-24 and 25 are adopted
37 it could lead to an increase in moose harvested from
38 the expanded hunt area.

39

40 Currently the harvest limit in Unit 18
41 remainder is one moose with a split season with the
42 fall season ending on September 30th and a winter
43 season beginning on December 20th. If adopted the
44 proposals would increase the harvest limit to two moose
45 with one continuous season from August 1st to the last
46 day of February adding approximately 80 days of
47 hunting. However, if the proposals are adopted the
48 hunt area boundaries would no longer be aligned under
49 State and Federal regulations, which would add to the
50 regulatory complexity in the unit. If adopted the

1 proposal would include the -- would increase the size
2 of the Lower Yukon hunt area and remove a portion from
3 the Unit 18 remainder hunt area. The populations on
4 the Andreadsky survey area, as I indicated, have grown
5 and they could likely withstand a potential increase in
6 harvest under this proposal. In addition, using well
7 known landmarks such as river boundaries should help
8 minimize confusion for Federally-qualified users when
9 hunting in the extended hunt area.

10

11 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
12 support Proposals 14-24 and 25 with a modification to
13 combine the regulatory language to make a single area
14 descriptor. And that modified language can be found on
15 Page 96. And we're looking for guidance from the
16 Council to see if the modified language that we've
17 included in here makes sense. We tried best to
18 incorporate that but I wanted to make sure that that
19 reads clearly.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that modified
22 language, is that the dark.....

23

24 MR. MCKEE: Yes. And everything in
25 bold on Page 96.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That portion north and
28 west of the Kashunuk River continuing up river along a
29 line half mile south and east of and paralleling a line
30 along the southerly bank of the Kashunuk River to the
31 confluence of the south bank of Driftwood Slough
32 continuing up river to the confluence of the Yukon
33 River across and continuing the one-half mile buffer
34 then following the north bank of the Yukon River to the
35 north bank of the Andreadsky River drainage.

36

37 Is that it?

38

39 MR. MCKEE: That's correct.

40

41 That's it for me on this one also.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That is the proposal
44 as proposed, are there any comments. Agency, Alaska
45 Department of Fish and Game, do you have any comments
46 on Proposal 24/25?

47

48 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Drew Crawford.
49 Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Anchorage.

50

1 On Wildlife Proposal 14-24/25, the
2 Department is neutral on this proposal. Local
3 residents favor changing to a new boundary because it
4 would be easier to identify in the fall when most of
5 the moose hunting occurs. However, our area management
6 biologist did comment, he felt that the half-mile
7 buffer zone along the Kashunuk River to Driftwood
8 Slough would be difficult to determine.

9

10 Over.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, thank you.

13

14 Are there any comments from the Federal
15 agencies.

16

17

18 (No comments)

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any comments
21 from AVCP.

22

23 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24 Timothy Andrew with AVCP.

25

26 At the Lower Kuskokwim Fish and Game
27 Advisory Committee we provided testimony on this
28 similar proposal that's submitted to the State process.

29

30 We supported the regulatory change to
31 use landmarks rather than a line. Being familiar with
32 the area, I know where Chuathbaluk is and I know where
33 Mountain Village hill is. During the summer it's -- it
34 worked very well, you can definitely go to the village
35 of Chuathbaluk and see Mountain Village and make a
36 straight line, but during the winter when you're
37 hunting in the Lower Yukon area, if you leave
38 Chuathbaluk and head toward Mountain Village, you know,
39 you can see the Mountain Village hill but when you turn
40 around and look to see if you can see Chuathbaluk, you
41 can't see it, so it's ideal to use landmarks. You
42 know, the Kashunuk River is a good -- a very good one
43 to use, the north fork of the Andreafsky is also a very
44 good one to use as well. It provides definite and
45 clear boundaries for people so that they don't get up
46 against the law.

47

48 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.

1 InterAgency, are there any comments
2 from the InterAgency Staff Committee.

3

4

5 (No comments)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any comments from the
8 InterAgency Staff Committee.

9

10 MR. KESSLER: No, sir.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments, okay,
13 thank you.

14

15 Are there any comments from the
16 neighboring Regional Council, Mr. Nick.

17

18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. There were none
19 from neighboring Councils that I'm aware of.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Local Fish
22 and Game Advisory Committees, Mr. Charles was there any
23 comments.

24

25 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. AC voted
26 supporting this proposal -- both of these proposals.
27 There was no amendments on this proposal either, they
28 voted for them, no amendments.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
31 Charles.

32

33 National Park Service Subsistence
34 Resource Commission, was there any comments.

35

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Being none, Mr. Nick,
40 are there any written comments.

41

42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Yes, there is
43 one written public comment from Donald Woodruff from
44 Eagle to support the proposal.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Is there
47 any public testimony on this proposal.

48

49

50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, we
2 are down to the Regional Council recommendations.
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Was there
9 any comments from the Lower Yukon AC.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Lower Yukon AC.
12
13 MR. POLTY: If there's no comment -- if
14 there's a proposal been done to go along with this one,
15 I have no objection to go ahead and adopt that.
16
17 Thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. What is the
20 Regional Council recommendation.
21
22 Mr. Roczicka.
23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25
26 I would move to support these
27 proposals, 24 and 25, with the modified language
28 developed by Staff that combines the two, WP14-24 and
29 25, but also include what was in the previous proposal,
30 in the event it didn't pass, but extending the season
31 out until the last day of March.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made and
36 seconded.
37
38 Mr. Nick, a roll call vote, please.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, there was no
41 question to vote, it's time for discussion.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Sorry. It must be
44 that time of the day.
45
46 (Laughter)
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any discussion on the
49 proposal.
50

1 MR. POLTY: Question.
2
3 (Laughter)
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for,
6 Mr. Nick, please call the roll.
7
8 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
9
10 William Brown.
11
12 MR. BROWN: Yes.
13
14 MR. NICK: James Charles.
15
16 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
17
18 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
19
20 MR. POLTY: Yes.
21
22 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
25
26 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
27
28 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
29
30 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
31
32 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
33
34 MR. NICK: Was that yes?
35
36 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
37
38 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
41
42 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Right -- right on.
45
46 MR. NICK: David Bill.
47
48 MR. BILL: Yes.
49
50 MR. NICK: The results of the vote is

1 nine for and zero nay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion is carried
4 and the proposals are adopted.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Ms. Gregory.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: If you -- I'd like to see
11 those people who are making the proposals, to make sure
12 you get the right spelling of a village, because you
13 can always ask AVCP and other Native organizations for
14 proper spellings because that's how things get messed
15 up when you misprint it.

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Mr.
18 Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

21

22 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move we recess for
23 awhile.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, instead of
26 recessing we'll take a 10 minute break.

27

28 MR. ALOYSIUS: I mean break, thank you.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'll take a 10 minute
33 break.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, when we were in
38 school it was recess.....

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 10 minute break.

43

44

45 (Off record)

46

47 (On Record)

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We are down to item
50 WP14-26, caribou.

1 Mr. McKee.

2

3 MR. McKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

4

5 WP14-26 begins on Page 98 of your
6 meetings materials booklet, the executive summary does
7 at least.

8

9 Proposal WP14-26 was submitted by the
10 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge and requests that
11 for Unit 18, that portion to the east and south of the
12 Kuskokwim River, the caribou hunt be changed to require
13 a joint State/Federal registration permit; the one-bull
14 harvest restriction be eliminated; and the split season
15 be eliminated and a continuous season from August 1st
16 to March 15th be established. Additionally the
17 proponent asks that the Yukon Delta National Wildlife
18 Refuge manager be given delegated authority to close or
19 re-open Federal public lands to all users for this hunt
20 if needed for conservation concerns after consultation
21 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the Togiak
22 National Wildlife Refuge manager, and the Chair of the
23 Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Advisory Council.

24

25 The proponent requests a change in the
26 hunt structure and season dates in order to align
27 Federal subsistence regulations with recent changes
28 made to State regulations for the Mulchatna Caribou
29 Herd. These changes modified the hunt from a general
30 hunt to a registration hunt. A registration hunt would
31 allow Federal managers to -- allow for better end of
32 season harvest estimates, and maximum harvest
33 opportunities for Federally-qualified users. Since the
34 Mulchatna herd is near the bottom of its management
35 objective a registration hunt would allow Federal
36 managers to close Federal public lands to all users in
37 order to prevent localized over-harvest.

38

39 After further discussion with the
40 proponent, it was determined that this hunt should be
41 administered via a State registration permit and not
42 the joint permit as written in the original proposal.
43 Furthermore, it was the intent of the proponent to
44 align regulations with the State season, and so to also
45 work with the State on possible changes to the harvest
46 limit so that hunters could harvest two caribou without
47 having to be concerned about taking two bulls after
48 they've already shed antlers in late winter.

49

50 The State's management objectives for

1 the herd were to maintain a population of 100,000 to
2 150,000 with a minimum bull/cow ratio of 35 to 100, and
3 to maximize opportunity to hunt caribou. However, in
4 2009 the Alaska Board of Game reduced the population to
5 30 to 80,000 -- between 30 and 80,000, saying that
6 these numbers were more realistic for the herd.
7 Harvest objectives were also reduced from 6,000 to
8 10,000 to 2400 to 8,000.

9

10 The most recent Federal photo census
11 showed a minimum estimate of 30,000, near the minimum
12 objective. Since 2001, bull/cow ratios have been
13 estimated at less than the 35 per 100, which is also
14 below the management objective for the herd.

15

16 Since 1996, the population, bull/cow
17 ratios, and calf/cow ratios have all declined
18 significantly. Specific reasons for the decline are
19 poorly understood, but are likely a combination of
20 factors, including deterioration of range, disease,
21 predation, and weather events.

22

23 Harvest on the Mulchatna Herd continues
24 to decline with the total reported harvest going from
25 just under 2200 in 2005 to 309 in 2010. In Unit 18,
26 harvest by Federally-qualified and non-Federally-
27 qualified hunters has declined since 2003 when the
28 reported harvest in the unit was highest, with the
29 exception of 2010, the last year for which data is
30 available. You can see that on Table 2 on Page 105 of
31 your booklet.

32

33 If adopted, this proposal would require
34 a State registration permit. The one bull harvest
35 would be eliminated. And the split season would also
36 be eliminated, establishing a continuous season from
37 August 1st to March 15th. Additionally the proposal
38 would give delegated authority to the Yukon Delta
39 Refuge manager to close or reopen the hunt if necessary
40 for conservation concerns.

41

42 These changes would align Federal
43 subsistence regulations with recent changes made to
44 State regulations for the herd, thereby reducing
45 regulatory complexity for hunters. The use of a
46 registration permit will allow managers to better track
47 harvest, be more responsive to in-season management
48 needs, and allow harvest opportunity for subsistence
49 users to be maximized.

50

1 The State registration permit has a
2 requirement to report harvest within five days of
3 taking a caribou, whereas the general harvest tickets
4 have a requirement to report harvest within 15 days of
5 taking the limit or close of the season. Harvest
6 reporting is an important aspect of harvest management
7 especially with fluctuating population like those in
8 the Mulchatna Herd. And reporting would likely improve
9 as reporting rates are higher with registration
10 permits.

11
12 The OSM preliminary conclusion: support
13 14-26 with modification to administer the hunt via
14 State registration permit only, retain the harvest
15 limit restrictions, and delegate authority to open or
16 close the season. The delegation of authority letter
17 and the modified regulation can be found on Page 106 of
18 your meeting's material booklet.

19
20 That's all I have for this proposal.
21 Mr. Chair.

22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the
24 introduction of the proposal. Are there any comments
25 from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Proposal
26 WP14-26.

27
28 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. Drew
29 Crawford, Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
30 Anchorage.

31
32 Regarding Wildlife Proposal 14-26, the
33 Department's recommendation is do not adopt. We
34 support elements of this proposal, but feel they are
35 best incorporated in Wildlife Proposal 14-22 as
36 amended.

37
38 With regards to Wildlife Proposal 14-
39 26, it does align the Federal season in Unit 18 with
40 Federal hunts in other portions of the Mulchatna
41 Caribou Herd's range and the State season in Unit 18.
42 We support these changes. Wildlife Proposal 14-26 also
43 requires the use of a State registration permit in Unit
44 18. We support this and recommend adopting this
45 component in Wildlife Proposal 14-22.

46
47 Wildlife Proposal 14-26 increases the
48 bag limit to two caribou in Unit 18. We are not
49 opposed to this change. Although we normally recommend
50 taking action throughout the Mulchatna Caribou

1 Herd.....

2

3

(Interference on teleconference)

4

5

MR. CRAWFORD: Justification of the original bull limit was based on poor calf recruitment and a declining bull ratio. The bag limit restriction was imposed to increase bull survival, increasing the bull ratio, and allow additional harvest of older cows that were prevalent in the population based on the population's composition and age structure.

12

13

Calf recruitment and the fall bull ratio have increased to 38 calves per 100 cows and 29 bulls per 100 cows in the western portion of the herd that is hunted in Unit 18. Even though the bull ratio is still below the management objective, the State feels that it has improved enough to give deference to the challenges faced by hunters during the season when they attempt to distinguish bulls from cows in an effort to avoid exceeding the one bull bag limit. Given the current recruitment rates, we believe that the bull ratio will continue to increase to objectives even if the bag limit is liberalized. Additionally, more liberal bull harvest limit may serve to reduce the cow harvest which is increasingly focused on younger cows based on changes in the population age structure, and aid in our efforts to increase population size and harvest potential.

29

30

31

However, Wildlife Proposal 14-26 delegates authority to close and open caribou hunting season on Federal lands to the Refuge manager without consultation with the Federal Subsistence Board. We opposed this delegation of authority for two reasons.

36

37

The current system provides adequate measures to close Federal lands on wildlife special actions should a conservation concern exist. Delegating this authority to the Refuge manager does not improve the Federal Government's ability to respond to conservation concerns, and further remove local subsistence users from the decision making process.

44

45

Number 2. Additionally, the improved performance of the Mulchatna Caribou Herd, which are acknowledged by these proposals in the form of season and bag limit liberalizations, argues against the point that additional conservation measures are needed at this time.

50

1 And the third reason for opposing this
2 portion of the proposal is closure of Federal lands
3 without a similar closure of State lands increase the
4 complexity of the hunt for local users and likely
5 result in an increase in the number of violations as
6 locals attempt to differentiate State and Federal
7 lands. The State has no intention of opening State
8 caribou hunting seasons due to recent herd performance.

9
10 Over.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Federal
13 agency comments.

14
15 MR. REARDEN: Spencer Rearden with Fish
16 and Wildlife Service, Yukon Delta National Wildlife
17 Refuge.

18
19 This proposal was from us. And as you
20 know, we've had some concern with this caribou
21 population. And we tried different avenues of trying
22 to restrict harvest, reduce harvest, reduce season
23 length, reduce bag limits. And we haven't had much
24 success.

25
26 Although you heard earlier that Fish
27 and Game came out saying that they believe the
28 population was at 30,000, there is no data to support
29 at this moment. There was some surveys that they've
30 attempted to do through using photo census, but none of
31 that information has been released. That number is
32 more of a gut feeling of people saying that we believe
33 we're at 30,000, which as you remember is the lower end
34 of the management objective.

35
36 We still believe that we could be below
37 that, and so we started looking for measures to reduce
38 harvest in one way until we get a definite number.
39 Until then we still are looking for ways to reduce
40 harvest.

41
42 We had -- our law enforcement agents
43 were out on the refuge, and they've had a number of
44 violations. And you name it, a lot of over-bag limits
45 and so forth.

46
47 So when the caribou are here and the
48 weather's good particularly in February/March,
49 everybody's out hunting, and there's quite a bit of
50 them taken.

1 We do believe that we're lacking
2 information, not only population data, but we're
3 lacking harvest data. And that's hence why the
4 registration portion of this proposal's in here.

5
6 And the other part, although some may
7 view it as liberalization, going to simply a two-
8 caribou limit, we don't view it as a liberalization.
9 We view it as simplifying the regulation and getting
10 rid of a regulation that's setting people up to fail.
11 I as a hunter and many here have gone out trying to
12 shoot a cow have seen people, and I have done it
13 myself, shot a young bull thinking it was a cow, and
14 saying, oh, gee, there's one of my animals. I can't
15 shoot another bull. So a person's doing their best to
16 try to shoot only one bull can very well shoot two
17 bulls, breaking the regulation. And we're not trying
18 to set up people to fail. A young bull and an adult
19 cow can sometimes look very similar out there in the
20 wintertime. I've seen it a number of times. I've done
21 it myself. So we're trying to get rid of that
22 regulation for that reason, not because we're trying to
23 liberalize it.

24
25 We don't believe it's going to make any
26 difference by simply going to a two-caribou limit.
27 People out there may or may not pay attention to
28 shooting one bull, one cow, or two cows, but you cannot
29 shoot two bulls. And our law enforcement folks,
30 they're not interested in trying to cite people for
31 that, especially if it doesn't make sense.

32
33 So that's the reason that's in there.
34 Although some may think it's trying to liberalize it,
35 we're not trying to do that. We're just trying to make
36 the regulations a little easier and simply say two
37 caribou, because we don't believe that limiting people
38 to one bull and one cow, or two cows, is making any
39 difference.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions. Mr.
42 Roczicka.

43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

45
46 Spencer, what about the change that's
47 been made in the Staff recommendation and the
48 modification where it has the State registration permit
49 only, striking the joint ADF&G and Federal. What's
50 your read on that.

1 MR. REARDEN: As far as striking the
2 joint permit, we're fine with that. I mean, all these
3 permits, or the registration permit, sometimes you'll
4 see it in the regulations where it says joint, but in
5 reality it's issued through the State. So keeping it
6 through the State registration permit makes it really,
7 I mean, we're not interested in trying to issue permits
8 separate from the State, and then having to combine at
9 the end. It's just easier to have it from one source,
10 being a State registration permit. So we're fine with
11 that.

12
13 And OSM's conclusion was to retain the
14 harvest limit. As I said before, we would like to see
15 the harvest simply say two caribou. And, again, for
16 the same reason I just described earlier.

17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: And if I can follow just
19 to make sure. By making it the State registration
20 permit only, then that removes the need for that letter
21 of delegation and the remainder in there that's also
22 struck in the modified language?

23
24 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair, Mr.
25 Roczicka. Not necessarily. We can have -- we often
26 have State permits or State harvest tickets issued for
27 hunts on Federal lands, although Federal lands
28 sometimes could have different seasons.

29
30 In this case, this letter of delegation
31 would close Federal lands within Unit 18 if the manager
32 so thought that it was needed. This isn't to say that
33 Federal lands will be closed or will be different.
34 It's definitely up to the Federal manager, the manager
35 of Yukon Delta Wildlife Refuge.

36
37 So they would still need a State
38 registration permit, which is separate than from saying
39 that the Yukon Delta Wildlife manager can close the
40 season if he saw fit to protect the resource. And, of
41 course, that would come with some justification and
42 consultation with ADF&G and so forth like it says,
43 Togiak Refuge, and the Chair of this RAC.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay?

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions
50 for Mr. Rearden.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.

MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Just to add one thing. Many folks don't know, but the Refuge manager already has this delegation. But it's not practiced, because it doesn't necessarily involve input. By going through the channels here, going through the regulations and putting it in the book as it's written here, it's a way that we try to reach out and get input. If the manager really feels and can justify it, which is, you know, sometimes a difficult thing with lack of data, they can close it. That person can close the Refuge down to hunt to protect the resource without having to go through this process. By putting it in here, it's kind of a to get the public input, to let people know that they have the authority, and so it's more of an involved process. Just one side note on that.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there any other questions.

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions.

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, thank you, Mr. Rearden.

We are down to Mr. AVCP. Do you have any comments.

MR. T. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the record, Timothy Andrew with AVCP.

We support this proposal to make it a continuous season from I believe it was August 1st until March 15th. And we support the elimination of the requirement to have one bull/one cow. Historically the harvest -- or the Federally-qualified harvest of the Mulchatna herd has been extremely random. Maybe some years we might get a larger harvest of cows, a larger harvest of bulls, or the ratios might be a little different. But it's extremely random.

1 We had -- concerning the Mulchatna
2 herd, we had a special action that we submitted to
3 close the hunt to non-Federally-qualified users, but
4 unfortunately the Staff from OSM and also from the Fish
5 and Game in their recommendation to oppose our
6 proposal, failed.

7
8 As you know, this has gone from 200,000
9 back in 1996/97, and I believe it was 220,000 animals,
10 down to where it is today, where that number may --
11 they, you know, seem to indicate it's 30,000. Along
12 with the drop, the population objectives have also
13 dropped. The bull/cow, the calf/cow ratio has dropped
14 as well. I don't know for what reason, to accommodate
15 the sport hunt or accommodate subsistence hunters, or
16 to possibly accommodate both.

17
18 But this caribou herd -- my concern --
19 or our concern is that at some point it's going to lose
20 its genetic diversity. And all it takes is just one
21 caribou disease and wipe out the herd. We do not want
22 to see that. We want to see this herd continue
23 building to allow for our people to hunt caribou.
24 There's many of the villages that depend on this
25 caribou, and our future generations will also depend on
26 this caribou.

27
28 So thank you, Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Andrew.

31
32 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

33
34 MR. KESSLER: No comments.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

37
38 Advisory group comments from neighbor
39 Regional Council.

40
41 Mr. Nick.

42
43 MR. NICK: No comments.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

46
47 Local Fish and Game Advisory
48 Committees. Mr. Charles.

49
50 MR. CHARLES: No action from the Lower

1 Kuskokwim AC.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Polty.
4
5 MR. POLTY: No comments, Mr. Chairman.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: National Park Service
8 Subsistence Resource.
9
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I guess no one there.
14
15 Summary of written comments. Mr. Nick.
16
17 MR. NICK: (Shakes head negatively)
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.
20
21 Are there any public comments.
22
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any public comments.
27
28 (No comments)
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, we
31 are down to the Regional Council recommendation.
32
33 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move we
34 adopt WP14-26.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made by
37 Ms. Gregory to adopt WP14-26. Do I hear a second to
38 the motion.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: Second.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
43 Charles.
44
45 Any further discussion.
46
47 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Gregory.
50

1 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)
2
3 Mr. Rearden, I have a question for you.
4 So what we're doing now is if we accept this proposal,
5 we're closing the hunt or what are we doing.
6
7 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair, Ms.
8 Gregory. No, that's not the case at all. It's
9 recognizing the authority of the Refuge manager to
10 close the hunt if he or see sees fit.
11
12 And it's also bringing the bag limit --
13 it's doing three things actually. It's bringing the
14 bag to simply say two caribou and getting rid of the
15 language that says no more than one caribou may be a
16 bull, no more than one caribou may be taken August 1st
17 through September 30th, and December 20th through
18 January 31st. That will all be struck out and it will
19 simply say, two caribou.
20
21 And the third it's also doing is making
22 it one continuous season. We have a split season in
23 there on the Federal regulations, but it was one
24 continuous season on the State regulations, meaning
25 that during that time when the Federal regulation says
26 that we're closed, a person can go and hunt under the
27 State regulations and be just fine. So obviously this
28 regulations not making any difference with caribou
29 conservation until the State and Federal regulations
30 align. So we're aligning -- we suggested just aligning
31 it. Besides, we don't believe that -- and there's some
32 data to suggest that caribou hunting isn't as prevalent
33 earlier in the winter as it is later. So we don't
34 think having that split season is necessary or making a
35 difference in conservation of caribou.
36
37 MS. GREGORY: So from August -- I'm
38 sorry, from August 1 to March 15 it's anybody can hunt?
39
40 MR. REARDEN: Yes, Alaska residents can
41 hunt.
42
43 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.
46
47 Mr. Roczicka.
48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
50

1 I'd like to offer a friendly amendment
2 if I could. On the proposed regulation as written, not
3 the modified language, but to make it in there, just
4 say by a State-Federal -- a State-registration permit
5 rather than the joint ADF&G and Federal permit.

6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you putting in
8 that as an amendment to the.....

9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, to the proposal as
11 written, not the modified language.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry, my mind
14 just went blank. Was there a motion to adopt this.

15
16 MS. GREGORY: Yes.

17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. And seconded.

19
20 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All right.

23
24 MS. GREGORY: I have one more question,
25 Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Rearden, (In Yup'ik).
30 I have -- me and my husband have a permanent hunting
31 license; does that apply in this one.

32
33 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair, Ms.
34 Gregory. Yes. I mean, that doesn't change anything in
35 this regulation -- I mean, this regulation doesn't
36 change anything with that. So your license, and then
37 you'd need a registration tag. Your hunting license is
38 valid, but you'd need to get a registration tag.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you.

41
42 MR. REARDEN: Or two if you'd want.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

45
46 Mr. Aloysius, did you have something.

47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: I was waiting for Greg
49 to finish.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: I offered it as a
2 friendly amendment to include there, and if the maker
3 of the motion accepts then, it gets incorporated in.
4 To have, rather than a joint Federal/State permit like
5 they have in the language right now, just make it a
6 State registration permit. It creates more paperwork
7 otherwise, and I'd like to speak to the motion at large
8 later.

9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, Mr. Aloysius.

11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. What's the
13 difference between the present harvest ticket and a
14 registration permit? Are they the same?

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rearden.

17
18 MR. REARDEN: No, the registration
19 permit's a new thing that's -- it's already in place
20 already. We're just playing catch up to line up our
21 regulations with the State regulations. So as of now,
22 if you want to hunt caribou, you have to go get a
23 registration permit anyway. So we're just trying to
24 make sure the Federal regulations say the same thing as
25 the State regulations as far as dealing with the
26 registration permit. It's not just an over-the-counter
27 harvest ticket. It's a registration permit.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you done, Mr.
30 Aloysius.

31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm just getting
33 confused, because I never heard of a registration
34 permit before.

35
36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Gregory.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: So even with my license
41 from the State I have to go and register in order for
42 my son to hunt for me?

43
44 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair, Ms.
45 Gregory. Yes, that's right.

46
47 And to address Bob Aloysius' comment,
48 we do have a registration permit for moose, RM 615,
49 here on the Kuskokwim. And the reason is, is it helps
50 increase reporting, because there's stipulations in

1 there that get people to report their harvest. One of
2 the tools we do not have is how much harvest is
3 occurring here on these caribou. We don't know if
4 hunting is having an effect on this population for sure
5 or not. I mean, there's always some effect, but how to
6 judge how much that is, we don't know, because a lot of
7 people do not comply with the regular harvest ticket
8 that we had before. So that's the reason the State and
9 us, the Refuge, along with other folks, are going to
10 this registration permit, because it increases
11 reporting on whether people hunted or killed a caribou
12 or so forth.

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that okay with you,
15 Mr. Aloysius.

16

17 Mr. Charles.

18

19 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20

21 If people will remember, last I think
22 it was July or sometime, we had public hearing here in
23 Bethel, and there was a public hearing, and Alex run
24 that thing for caribou registration permit, for that
25 caribou registration permit. There was not very many
26 people came by, and that was before this thing started
27 happening. So after that, because people wanted that
28 registration, it came through. (In Yup'ik) That's what
29 they were said, was it in July?

30

31 Alex remember.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.

34

35 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. There was a
36 special action request by Bristol Bay RAC sometime
37 early in the summer, and then there was a public
38 hearing regarding that, which just about the same as
39 the proposal in the book, by Bristol Bay.

40

41 And if I'm incorrect, maybe -- go
42 ahead, Chris.

43

44 MR. McKEE: I'll be talking this in
45 another proposal that covers the entire range of the
46 herd, 14-22 is what he's mentioning here in the
47 permanent regs, but I'll talking about that a little
48 bit later.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any further

1 discussion on the motion.

2

3 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bill.

6

7 MR. BILL: Is there -- I'm kind of lost
8 here. Is there two different kinds of permits that you
9 have to use on this caribou thing?

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rearden.

12

13 MR. REARDEN: I could help address
14 that. No, no. Right now it's one permit.

15

16 And to address Roczicka's comments to
17 make it only a State registration permission, we here
18 at the Refuge support that. Although we submitted this
19 proposal, it was written as a joint State/Federal
20 permit, but we realized afterwards, after discussion
21 with OSM that it would be much simpler if we just
22 simply said State registration permit.

23

24 So it would only be one permit
25 required, not different kinds or anything like that.

26

27 MR. BILL: Thank you. Mr. Chairman

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
30 on the motion as amended.

31

32 Mr. Nick.

33

34 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I believe
35 there's an amendment to the motion, the main motion,
36 Mr. Greg raised it. Is your motion to amend as -- the
37 same as the OSM conclusion; is that what I heard?

38

39 MR. ROCZICKA: No. Mr. Chairman. I
40 offered it as a friendly amendment, meaning that we
41 wouldn't have to go through the exercise of voting on
42 this with a voice call. The maker of the motion can
43 simply accept it and it becomes part of the motion.
44 Makes it a friendly amendment.

45

46 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

47

48 I accept it.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that understood

1 now. Council members.

2

3 (Council nods affirmatively)

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further

6 discussion.

7

8 Mr. Roczicka.

9

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

11

12 I did specifically stay with the
13 original language that's on there. It does strike the
14 harvest restrictions of -- it's on Page 98. The
15 original proposed regulation that struck the language.
16 It aligns the dates, but it struck the language that
17 splits the seasons and say only one bull early, and
18 that language was reinserted in the modification that
19 was put forward by the OSM Staff. And also it was not
20 supported -- or wanted to be retained by the State, but
21 I have a hard time supporting getting rid of that.
22 I'd prefer to keep the intent there of making the
23 regulation more simple for subsistence hunters. And if
24 there was a concern for the status of the bull
25 population, then I would fully expect that both the
26 State and Federal managers involved in this decision
27 should have accepted the special action request to
28 limit the hunt, and they choose not to do that.

29

30 So along with the justification that
31 was put forward and the explanation by Mr. Rearden for
32 the Refuge, I'd support the proposal as proposed and not
33 as modified. And that's what's in front of us now with
34 the exception of making it just that one State
35 registration permit.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
38 on the motion.

39

40 Mr. Aloysius.

41

42 MR. ALOYSIUS: I've got a question on
43 Page 106. It says Unit 18 caribou, August 1 to March
44 15, and right under it, it says, December 20th to the
45 last day of February. What is that little December 20
46 to February pertain.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Rearden, do you
49 have an answer to that question, or Mr. McKee.

50

1 MR. REARDEN: I could try to answer it.
2 Through the Chair, Mr. Aloysius. That was the split
3 season I was referring to earlier where you could see
4 where it used to be August -- or it currently is August
5 1st through September 30th. And then it opens again
6 December 20th to the last day of February.

7
8 We want to get rid of all that. We
9 propose making it August 1st through March 15th, and
10 that would mirror the State regulation, the current
11 State regulation, to simplify it.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

14
15 Any further discussion on Proposal 26.
16 WP14-26.

17
18
19 (No comments)

20
21 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's been
26 called. Roll call vote, please.

27
28 MR. NICK: Roll call vote for motion to
29 support WP14-26 with friendly amendment.

30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: As amended.

34
35 MR. NICK: As amended. Okay. Mr.
36 William Brown.

37
38 MR. BROWN: Yes.

39
40 MR. NICK: James Charles.

41
42 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

43
44 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.

45
46 MR. POLTY: Yes.

47
48 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

1 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
2
3 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
4
5 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
6
7 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
8
9 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
12
13 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
16
17 MR. NICK: David Bill.
18
19 MR. BILL: Yes.
20
21 MR. NICK: Nine for, zero nay.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carries.
24
25 We are down to WP14-27, moose.
26
27 Mr. McKee.
28
29 MR. McKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
30
31 WP14-27 begins on Page 113 of your
32 booklet. It was submitted by the Yukon Delta National
33 Wildlife Refuge, and requests a season for moose in
34 Unit 18, the Kuskokwim area, be established with a
35 September 1 to 30 season, and a harvest limit of one
36 antlered bull by joint State/Federal registration
37 permit. Additionally, the hunt will be closed by the
38 Delta National Wildlife Refuge manager by special
39 action when the established quota is met.
40
41 The proponent states that both the Fish
42 and Wildlife Service and ADF&G jointly manage a
43 registration permit, RM 615, in Lower Kuskokwim, and
44 that area has been opened up by special action over the
45 last several years.
46
47 Once again, upon further discussion
48 with the proponent, it was pointed out that this hunt
49 would actually be under a Sate registration permit and
50 not a joint State/Federal permit as written in the

1 original language for the proposal.

2

3 The most recent estimates in 2008 and
4 2011 show a recovery from a low of 70 moose estimated
5 in 2004, the year the moratorium in the area was
6 initiated. The population had an estimated annual
7 growth rate of 65 percent from 2004 to 2008. The high
8 annual growth rate was due to high survival and
9 recruitment rates during the moratorium, as well as
10 immigration as moose continue to colonize the area.
11 The population continued to increase between 2008 and
12 2011, but annual growth rate slowed to nine percent.

13

14 One transect survey was conducted along
15 tributaries of the Kuskokwim River in 2010 which gave
16 an estimate of 345 moose, which suggests that the
17 larger -- the hunt area in the lower Kuskokwim and its
18 tributaries likely contain over 1,000 moose. Birth
19 rates and calf survival remain high, indicating
20 continuing population growth.

21

22 The Fish and Wildlife Service and the
23 Alaska Department of Fish and Game set a potential 2009
24 fall quota of 75 moose for the entire area that had
25 been previously closed during the moratorium, which
26 included Federal public lands. These Federal public
27 lands remained closed for the 2009/2010 regulatory
28 year, and the hunt was conducted solely on the State-
29 managed lands, but the quota remained at 75. In
30 September 2009, 112 moose were reported harvested on
31 State-managed lands, which exceeded the quota.

32

33 Separate quotas were set in 2012 with
34 an allowable harvest of 81 moose on State lands and 19
35 moose on Federal public lands. Total reported moose
36 exceeded the quota by two moose, with the over-harvest
37 occurring on State managed lands.

38

39 If this proposal is adopted, it would
40 establish a moose season in the Unit 18 portion of the
41 Lower Kuskokwim River from September 1 to September
42 30th, with a one-antlered moose harvest limit by joint
43 Federal registration permit. This would allow for more
44 harvest opportunities for Federally-qualified users in
45 the area while making it easier to hunt on both State
46 and Federal lands without jurisdictional concerns.

47

48 Additionally, the hunt will be closed
49 by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge manager by
50 special action when the established quota is met.

1 Impacts to the moose population should
2 be minimal as the population has continued to increase
3 with the limited harvest since 2009.

4
5 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
6 support WP14-27 with modification to make the hunt via
7 a State registration permit only, and to delegate
8 authority to close the season and determine annual
9 quotas via delegation of authority letter. And the
10 modified regulatory language is on Page 119 of your
11 booklet.

12
13 That's it.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. You've
16 heard the introduction of the proposal.

17
18 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, do
19 you have any comments on Proposal WP14-27.

20
21 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. Mr. Chair. Drew
22 Crawford, Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
23 Anchorage.

24
25 Regarding Wildlife Proposal 14-27, the
26 Department supports this proposal with the modification
27 to make this hunt by State registration permit only.

28
29 Over.

30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Federal
32 agencies.

33
34 MR. REARDEN: Through the Chair.
35 Spencer Rearden, Fish and Wildlife Service here again.

36
37 Yeah. We proposed this. We already
38 had this hunt going on, and every year we'd have to
39 submit a special action to open it for a limited hunt.
40 So this is cleaning up the regulations. Submit it, get
41 it in the books to say it's open. It's a limited quota
42 hunt. And it's already through registration.

43
44 And, yes, we do support making it only
45 a State registration hunt, because as of now, that's
46 how it's been going, and it's been working pretty well
47 for us. So we do support that aspect of that, too.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
50 Rearden.

1 Are there tribal, village, AVCP.
2
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No. No comments.
7
8 We are down to InterAgency Staff
9 Committee comments.
10
11
12 (No comments)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: InterAgency Staff
15 Committee.
16
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: They're not present.
21
22 Advisory group comments, neighboring
23 Regional Advisory Councils. Mr. Nick, was there any
24 comments.
25
26
27 (No comments)
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments from the
30 neighboring Regional Councils.
31
32 Are there any comments from the local
33 Fish and Game Advisory Committee. Mr. Charles.
34
35 MR. CHARLES: Lower Kuskokwim AC
36 supported this proposal with a little amendment on that
37 September 1 to September 30, but they want to get rid
38 of September 30, but put until quota is met.
39
40 That's it.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Polty.
43
44 MR. POLTY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. I'd like
45 to recognize Pitka's Point advisory member here, what
46 his opinion is. John Riley, he's one of our advisory
47 board.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was there any comments
50 from your advisory council on Proposal WP14-27.

1 MR. RILEY: I think we were okay with
2 it.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You think?
5
6 MR. RILEY: Yeah. Or I'd say we were
7 -- it was okay with it. We were okay with it.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
10
11 MR. RILEY: Thank you.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: As a member of the
18 Central Kuskokwim Fish and Game Advisory Committee, we
19 have not seen this. And one point that is going to be
20 a conflict is the simple fact that Lower Kalskag and
21 Kalskag are in 19A and the State Board of -- I mean the
22 unit boundaries. Kalskag, Lower Kalskag are in 19 of
23 the -- what the hell am I trying to say.
24
25 MS. GREGORY: Boundary?
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. You know, there's
28 that stupid straight line from Paimiut to Lower
29 Kalskag, boundary lines, dividing 18, 21, and 19. And
30 Kalskag, Lower Kalskag are in 19 at the present time.
31 And yet on the Federal side Kalskag and Lower Kalskag
32 are in YK RAC. So you have to understand that we have
33 been fighting for years to get that stupid State line
34 changed to landmarks, just like we did for the Lowest
35 Yukon River. And we need to address that in January in
36 Kotzebue again.
37
38 So what's going to happen to Lower
39 Kalskag and Kalskag if this becomes in effect.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Somebody answer.
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where do we go? Do we
44 go with the Feds or do we go with the State or do we
45 combine the two and say, we can hunt anywhere we want
46 in that area. So that's the dilemma we're going to be
47 facing, because we've never seen this proposal before.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. McKee.
50

1 MR. McKEE: Well, obviously this
2 proposal only covers Federal public lands, so that
3 issue would have to be brought up before the Board of
4 Game.

5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: What was that?
7

8 MR. McKEE: For the State land --
9 pursuing the State land, Kalskag and Lower Kalskag are
10 in the -- you're talking about State boundaries, not
11 Federal boundaries if I'm hearing you correctly.

12
13 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
14

15 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's going to be
16 havoc up there in Kalskag/Lower Kalskag if this ever
17 becomes reality, because the way what's going on there,
18 September 1 to September 10 is the Lower Kuskokwim
19 boundary, and so we honor that. We honor it very
20 stringently. Now, if this becomes a regulation, then
21 we could go down there and hunt all the way down to the
22 Bering Sea from Kalskag and Lower Kalskag.

23
24 That's the way we look at it.
25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. McKee.
27

28 MR. McKEE: As was just recently
29 pointed out to me, the folks in Kalskag and Lower
30 Kalskag can still participate in this hunt, because
31 they have C&T in Unit 18 for this, so they could
32 participate if you look at the.....

33
34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Read the regulation.
35 Straight line from to.

36
37 MR. McKEE: The residents of Kalskag
38 and Upper Kalskag have C&T for moose in this area, so
39 they could still participate in this hunt.

40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Good luck.
42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the
44 proposal. What is the recommendation of the Council.
45

46 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. I move we
47 adopt WP14-27.
48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
50 adopt Proposal WP14-27.

1 Do I hear a second to the motion.
2
3 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
6 Gregory Roczicka.
7
8 And further discussion on Proposal
9 WP14-27.
10
11 Mr. Roczicka.
12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14
15 As described, and I would hope the
16 maker of the motion did mean the modified language that
17 clarifies that it's only one permit, not a joint
18 State/Federal permit. Otherwise this proposal is
19 essentially just a housekeeping matter. That
20 registration hunt has been in place already.
21
22 And as far as the customary and
23 traditional use determinations that Mr. McKee
24 mentioned, you don't have to live within a unit to have
25 that recognition. Just like Russian Mission has 21E,
26 but the rest of the Unit 18 villages do not.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. McKee, you've got
29 a smile on your face. Is there a comment you wanted to
30 make.
31
32 MR. McKEE: No, I'm just -- it's just
33 reminding me about how confusing some of these things
34 can be sometimes, that just because they're not
35 necessarily in the unit, that C&T can include,
36 sometimes does include folks that aren't within the
37 actual physical unit.
38
39 So I understand your confusion.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.
42
43 MR. NICK: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Members
44 of the Council. Maybe this will clarify the confusion.
45
46 I was one of the people who used to
47 issue a permit to villages like Kalskag, Tuluksak, and
48 Aniak. When there was a moose moratorium. Okay.
49
50 Well, my understanding is that instead

1 of deciding every year when to open and how long it's
2 going to be open, but what the Refuge want to do now is
3 to establish a season. Establish a season in the area
4 where it used to be called moose moratorium.

5
6 If I'm incorrect, Spencer can clarify
7 that.

8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's correct. Okay.
10 Thank you.

11
12 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ms. Gregory, yes.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: Mr. McKee, on the Page
19 114, the bull (In Yup'ik). I see license vendors in
20 the hunt area from August 1 to August 25. How does
21 that differ with September 1 through 30? Or is that
22 the old one.

23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was the question
25 there.

26
27 MR. McKEE: I'm sorry, I'm not
28 understanding the question. Maybe I'm not reading it
29 right.

30
31 MS. GREGORY: Page 114.

32
33 MR. McKEE: Page 114. Right. Right.
34 Those are the dates in which the actual registration
35 permits are handed out; it's not the season as stated
36 in the bold.

37
38 Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. If you
43 remember correctly, the moratorium for the Kuskokwim
44 River started below Lower Kalskag.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other discussion
47 on the proposal.

48
49 Mr. Rearden.

50

1 MR. REARDEN: Just to point out one
2 more thing through the Chair. This originally was
3 proposed -- the original proposal from Fish and
4 Wildlife Service, the Yukon Delta Refuge, was to say
5 that we would close it by special action. That's a
6 hassle. We don't like doing that, having to go through
7 that process. OSM's preliminary conclusion gets rid of
8 that, so we would the delegation of authority to simply
9 close it without having to go through the extra
10 paperwork when we meet our quota. So just that's a
11 little nuance I want to point out. In retrospect we
12 wish we would have made it simple and just got it right
13 from the beginning in our proposal.

14
15 But OSM's preliminary conclusion's what
16 we support right now.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

21
22 Any further discussion.

23
24
25 (No comments)

26
27 MS. GREGORY: Question on the motion.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's made on
30 the motion. Do I hear a second.

31
32 MR. CHARLES: Second.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
35 Charles.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: We don't second

38 questions.

39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Hey, wake up.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: When you ask for a
45 question, you're asking for a vote.

46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Sorry about that.

48
49 (Laughter)

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: See what happens when
2 you get mixed up as the chairman.
3
4 Well, okay, in that case, the vote,
5 Mr. Nick.
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
10
11 MR. NICK: The vote to adopt Proposal
12 WP14-27. Mr. William Brown.
13
14 MR. BROWN: Yes.
15
16 MR. NICK: James Charles.
17
18 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
19
20 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
21
22 MR. POLTY: Yes.
23
24 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
27
28 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
29
30 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
31
32 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
33
34 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
35
36 MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.
37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
39
40 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm going to have to
43 abstain because I have not talked with my people,
44 especially in the Kalskag, Lower Kalskag, and the AC.
45
46 Thank you.
47
48 MR. NICK: Okay. David Bill.
49
50 MR. BILL: Yes.

1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. We have eight
2 yes and one abstention.

3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Motion on
5 proposal passed.

6
7 Mr. Roczicka.

8
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 Reflecting on the discussion we had
12 earlier with Proposal 23, I would move we take no
13 action on Proposal 28 since the action was covered
14 under Proposal 23.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, I was going to go
17 ahead and declare that anyway. So we've already taken
18 action on WP14-28. We included that in the Proposal
19 WP14-23.

20
21 We are now, excuse me, down to
22 crossover proposals. We have a lot of work yet to do
23 this evening, and I think what we're going to do is
24 take these two proposals that are here, suspend the
25 rules to include reports from the Yukon Drainage
26 Fisheries Association prior to the dinner, and also --
27 who else was that other person that needed to catch a
28 flight.

29
30 Oh, Mr. Gene Peltola, what was that
31 request that you had.

32
33 MR. PELTOLA: So I could make a
34 presentation on the Federal Subsistence Board budget
35 situation, and also on personnel changes, and also with
36 regard to MOA with the State of Alaska. It should take
37 about three, four minutes total.

38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. And then I'd
40 like to take care of all of the monitoring plan all at
41 one time after dinner if possible. If we go through
42 dinner, if you feel like you want to go through dinner,
43 we will, if not, we'll continue working all the way
44 through until we finish.

45
46 At this time we are going to go into
47 Crossover Proposal WP14-22, caribou.

48
49 MR. McKEE: And just to clarify, I did
50 mention to you I believe that WP14-41, the muskox

1 proposal was put in the book by error, so we're not
2 going to be addressing that one.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 22?

5

6 MR. McKEE: 14-41, the muskox proposal.

7 It's.....

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I've already

10 marked that out.

11

12 MR. McKEE: Okay. I just wanted --

13 okay.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I've got that crossed
16 out. So we're down to WP14-22, caribou, require State
17 registration permit.

18

19 Mr. McKee.

20

21 MR. McKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Proposal WP14-22 begins on Page 134 of your booklet.

23 It was submitted by the Bristol Bay Regional Advisory

24 Council and requests changes to the Federal caribou

25 hunting regulations in Units 9A, 9B, 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C,

26 18, and 19A and 19B. So we're talking about the entire

27 range of the Mulchatna herd. The proposal requests the

28 establishment of permanent requirements for all the

29 units, and that the to be announced seasons in Units

30 17A remainder and 17C remainder be shortened from

31 August 1st to March 31st to August 1 to March 15th.

32

33 The proposed changes would align with

34 recent changes to State regulations which require State

35 registration permits to hunt caribou. It would also

36 align the potential dates of the to be announced

37 seasons in Unit 17A remainder and 17C remainder with

38 other seasons within the herd's range.

39

40 The Federal Board approved temporary

41 Special Action WSA13-02 in July of 2013, which

42 requested the same changes as this proposal. Thus

43 these requested changes are in place for the current

44 regulatory year.

45

46 The Board rejected a second temporary

47 special action, WSA13-03, which requested the closure

48 of Federal lands throughout the range of the Mulchatna

49 Caribou Herd to non-Federally-qualified users.

50

1 The regulatory history affecting the
2 Mulchatna herd includes State and Federal regulations
3 being liberalized as the population increased in the
4 1990s. As the population began to decline, the Alaska
5 Board of Game reduced harvest limits from five caribou
6 to two caribou in 2006, and further restricted the
7 caribou harvest in 2007 to no more than one bull, and
8 no more than one caribou to be taken from August 1st to
9 January 31st.

10
11 In 2007 the Federal Subsistence Board
12 also reduced harvest limits from five to three caribou
13 in much of the herd's range.

14
15 In 2009 the Alaska Board of Game
16 eliminated the non-resident harvest on the Mulchatna
17 Caribou Herd to ensure subsistence opportunity was
18 being provided for.

19
20 In 2010 the Federal Subsistence Board
21 took action on proposals to have a consistent harvest
22 limit of two caribou with no more than one bull and no
23 more than one caribou to be taken from August 1 to
24 January 31st. The Board also made consistent seasons
25 that ended on March 15th.

26
27 Last regulatory cycle, in 2012, the
28 Federal caribou season for the portion of Unit 18 south
29 of the Kuskokwim River was changed from dates August 1
30 to March 15th to a split season on August 1st to
31 September 30th, and December 20th to the last day of
32 February. We've already addressed that in WP14-26.

33
34 As mentioned earlier, the Mulchatna
35 herd declined from 1996 to 2008, and estimated bull/cow
36 ratios have been below the management objectives since
37 2001. However, some recent composition surveys have
38 shown some improvement in these ratios. The herd
39 peaked at approximately 200,000 in 1996, and the last
40 finalized photo census in 2008 provided a minimum count
41 of 30,000 caribou, which is at the low end of the
42 State's management objectives.

43
44 In addition, preliminary data shows
45 that the number of -- excuse me, I'm sorry. I
46 misplaced from where I was.

47
48 The proposed changes would allow for
49 more responsive in-season management for the Mulchatna
50 herd, which continues to be low. The State

1 registration permit has a requirement to report harvest
2 within five days of taking the caribou as I mentioned
3 earlier, whereas the general harvest tickets have a
4 requirement to report within 15 days of taking the
5 limit or close of the season.

6

7 Harvest reporting is an important
8 aspect, as I mentioned before, to management,
9 especially with the fluctuating populations of this
10 herd, and reporting would likely improve as reporting
11 rates are higher when we have registration permits.

12

13 Also, aligning Federal and State
14 regulations will help reduce regulatory complexity for
15 users and law enforcement.

16

17 The OSM preliminary conclusion is to
18 support Proposal 14-22 with modification to delete the
19 regulatory language found in portions of 17A and 17C,
20 and issue a delegation of authority letter to the
21 Togiak National Wildlife Refuge manager for specific
22 in-season management authorities. In Unit 17A within
23 all drainages west of Right Hand Point, delegate the
24 authority to open and close the season and set the
25 harvest limit. In 17A remainder and 17C remainder, it
26 would delegate the authority to open and close the
27 season, set the harvest limit and identify the hunt
28 area for the may be announced season.

29

30 Excuse me, I think I'm losing my
31 ability to talk a little bit here.

32

33 That's all I have for this one.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the
36 proposal.

37

38 Agency comments from the Department.
39 Is there any comments from the Alaska Department of
40 Fish and Game.

41

42 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes, Mr. Chair. This is
43 Drew Crawford, Alaska Department of Fish and Game in
44 Anchorage.

45

46 The Department supports Wildlife
47 Proposal 14-22. Adoption of this proposal will reduce
48 confusion for subsistence caribou hunters, and support
49 field enforcement efforts by realigning State and
50 Federal caribou hunting regulations in Units 9A, 9B,

1 9C, 17A, 17B, 17C, 18, 19A, and 19B.

2

3 Over.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
6 any comments from the Federal agencies.

7

8

9 (No comments)

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

12

13 Are there any comments from the tribal.

14 AVCP.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He is not present.

19

20 And are there any comments from the
21 InterAgency Staff Committee.

22

23 MR. KESSLER: There aren't.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

26

27 Advisory group comments. Are there any
28 comments from the neighboring Regional Councils, Mr.
29 Nick.

30

31 MR. NICK: None.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

34

35 Any local Fish and Game Advisory
36 Committee comments. Mr. Charles.

37

38 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 Lower Kuskokwim AC supported this proposal unanimously
40 and as amended. But I will have Patrick tell you the
41 amendment.

42

43 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For
44 the record, my name is Patrick Jones. I'm the
45 assistant area wildlife biologist for Fish and Game
46 here in Unit 18.

47

48 And I was at the Lower Kuskokwim
49 Advisory Committee the other day, and so they voted to
50 support with amendment. And their amendment was to --

1 for Unit 18 on here, to change the season dates to
2 align that with the State season. So they wanted an
3 August 1 to March 15th season.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

6

7 Does the Yukon Advisory Committee have
8 any comments.

9

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

14

15 Regional Advisory -- I'm sorry.

16 National Park Service Subsistence Resource Committee
17 comments.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, are
22 there any written comments, Mr. Nick.

23

24 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. There were no
25 written comments.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
28 -- pardon me. Are there any public testimony or
29 comments to this proposal.

30

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none,
35 Regional Council recommendation.

36

37 Mr. Roczicka.

38

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

40 I would move to support this proposal with the
41 amendment on Page 148 where the modified language is at
42 to incorporate the same changes that we adopted for
43 Proposal No. 26. That being for Unit 18 caribou that
44 portion east and south of Kuskokwim River two caribou
45 by State registration permit, and strike the language
46 of no more than one may be a bull, and no more than one
47 may be taken -- one caribou may be taken August 1 to
48 September 30, and adopt those dates of August 1 through
49 March 15th.

50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion. Do
2 I hear a second.
3
4 MS. GREGORY: Second.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Ms.
7 Gregory.
8
9 Any further discussion on Proposal
10 WP14-22, any further discussion.
11
12 Mr. Aloysius.
13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: I didn't understand what
15 he meant by WP14-26.
16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Or
18 through the Chair.
19
20 Bob, that was the proposal that we just
21 took up, WP 26 on the caribou as far as making it just
22 two caribou rather than saying you can -- only one can
23 be a bull, and splitting the season into two different
24 -- basically two seasons.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. Thanks.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
29 discussion.
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: And I'd just -- if I
32 may, Mr. Chair. I'd reference my comments regarding
33 that proposal are the same for this one.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any further
36 discussion on Proposal WP.....
37
38
39 (No comments)
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called
44 for. Mr. Nick, will you please take the roll.
45
46 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Vote on motion
47 to adopt WP 22, to include modification on Page 148.
48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: As amended.
50

1 MR. NICK: As amended. Mr. William
2 Brown.
3
4 MR. BROWN: Yes.
5
6 MR. NICK: James Charles.
7
8 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
9
10 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
11
12 MR. POLTY: Yes.
13
14 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
15
16 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
17
18 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.
19
20 MS. GREGORY: Yes.
21
22 MR. NICK: Was that a yes? Tina, was
23 that a yes.
24
25 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)
26
27 MR. NICK: Okay. Greg Roczicka.
28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
30
31 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
34
35 MR. NICK: David Bill.
36
37 MR. BILL: Yes.
38
39 MR. NICK: Did I miss somebody. I
40 think I missed someone.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Wilde.
43
44 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde. I'm
45 sorry.
46
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. And the proposal
48 passes.
49
50 MR. NICK: Nine for, zero against.

1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Ms. Gregory.
4
5 MS. GREGORY: May I be excused from the
6 meeting, because I have a prior commitment.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may be
9 excused.
10
11 MS. GREGORY: And I enjoyed being on
12 this meeting from long time. And look forward to
13 another one.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you for
16 attending as long as you an, Ms. Gregory.
17
18 And we're going to continue on with
19 WP14-32, moose.
20
21 Mr. McKee.
22
23 MR. McKEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
24
25 Proposal WP14-32 can be found on Page
26 155 of your meeting booklet. It was submitted by
27 Robert Walker, and requests a modification of the
28 Paradise Controlled Use Area boundary in Unit 21E under
29 Federal regulations by extending the eastern boundary
30 two miles along the east bank of the Innoko River and
31 along the east bank of Paimiut Slough.
32
33 The proponent states that transporters
34 and guides are accessing lakes within two miles of the
35 current boundary east of the Innoko River via aircraft
36 to circumvent the present Paradise Controlled Use Area
37 boundary to hunt moose. The proponent states that the
38 Paradise Controlled Use Area wa created to protect
39 resources for the villages of Holy Cross, Anvik,
40 Grayling, and Shageluk, and that the proposed boundary
41 changes would lessen the impact of those hunters on the
42 moose population.
43
44 The moose population in this portion of
45 Unit 21E has been stable and the limited composition
46 data shows bull/cow ratios have remained fairly high
47 under the current harvest pressure. Calf/cow ratios
48 have met the State management objectives in most years,
49 and twinning rates were estimated at 32 percent in
50 2013.

1 Reported harvest by Federally-qualified
2 subsistence users has remained relatively stable while
3 non-local harvest has declined.

4
5 The proposed modification of the
6 Paradise Controlled Use Area would not adequately
7 address the proponents concerns about non-Federally-
8 qualified users accessing lakes within two miles of the
9 current boundary. The Federal Subsistence Board does
10 not have jurisdiction to control access to Federal
11 public lands. That would be under the purview of the
12 individual Federal land management agencies.

13
14 For example, the Innoko National
15 Wildlife Refuge limits the number of guides that an
16 operate on the Refuge and guides and transporters must
17 acquire special use permits to operate on refuge-
18 managed lands. Currently Innoko Refuge has three guide
19 use areas of which each can only have one guide
20 operating in that specific area.

21
22 The Board can only restrict other users
23 via closure of Federal public lands. And since there's
24 currently no conservation concerns -- that there are
25 currently no conservation concerns that would justify a
26 Federal closure in the affected area under this
27 proposal.

28
29 While the Federal Subsistence Board can
30 technically create or modify controlled use areas under
31 Federal regulations, they cannot modify State
32 definitions. And to be effective in areas like this
33 with mixed land jurisdiction, both State and Federal
34 controlled use area provisions need to be in place.

35
36 OSM preliminary conclusion therefore is
37 to oppose Proposal WP14-32.

38
39 And that's all I have for this one.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. You heard
42 the proposal.

43
44 Agency comments. Alaska Department of
45 Fish and Game on Proposal.....

46
47 MR. CRAWFORD: Yes. Mr. Chair. Drew
48 Crawford, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

49
50 The Department also opposes Wildlife

1 Proposal 14-32, and we agree with OSM's analysis not to
2 support it.

3

4 Over.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Federal
7 agency comments. I think he just stepped out. Do you
8 have any comments.

9

10

11 (No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

14

15 We are down to the Native, village, and
16 AVCP is not here.

17

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: InterAgency Staff

22 Committee.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

27

28 Advisory Group. Mr. Nick, is there any
29 neighboring Regional Council comments.

30

31 MR. NICK: No.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

34

35 Local Fish and Game Advisory Committee
36 comments. Mr. Charles.

37

38 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. Lower
39 Kuskokwim AC opposed this proposal.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Was there
42 any comments from the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments.

47

48 Just excuse me. National Park Service
49 Subsistence Resource. Any comments.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Nobody from there.
4
5 Summary of written comments. Mr. Nick.
6
7
8 (No comments)
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No written comments.
11
12 Is there any public testimony to this
13 proposal.
14
15
16 (No comments)
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No public testimony.
19
20 Regional Council recommendations. Any
21 recommendations by the Regional Council on Proposal
22 WP14-28.
23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: 32.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I'm sorry. 32.
27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support
33 Proposal WP14-32.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motions been made to
36 support Proposal WP14-32 by Mr. Aloysius.
37
38 Do I hear a second to the motion.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: Second.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
43 Charles.
44
45 Any further discussion.
46
47 MR. BROWN: Question.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2
3 Given the circumstances surrounding
4 this and the reports we heard from the Staff included
5 in here, it seems like it would be pretty ineffective
6 to even attempt to pass this, so I will be voting in
7 opposition or voting no on this proposal.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Nick.
10 I mean, Mr. Roczicka.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments
15 from Council.
16
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council comments.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called
25 for. Mr. Nick, can you please call roll.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: And state what the vote
28 is first.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion is to
31 approve.....
32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: To support.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE:WP14-32, moose.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. My
38 recommendation to you for you to explain how we are
39 going to vote, because this is a motion most
40 everybody's going to oppose. So when we make a motion,
41 it's always in the positive. But if you want to defeat
42 that, then you have to vote in the negative.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. You heard the
45 explanation. Thank you, Mr. Aloysius.
46
47 Any further discussion.
48
49
50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was there a question.
2 Question's called for.
3
4 Mr. Nick, would you please call the
5 roll.
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Motion by Bob
8 Aloysius, seconded by Mr. Charles to support Proposal
9 WP14-32.
10
11 Mr. William Brown.
12
13 MR. BROWN: No.
14
15 MR. NICK: Mr. Charles.
16
17 MR. CHARLES: No.
18
19 MR. NICK: Mr. Polty.
20
21 MR. POLTY: Yes.
22
23 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No.
26
27 MR. NICK: Mr. Harry Wilde.
28
29 MR. H. WILDE: No.
30
31 MR. NICK: Ms. Mary Gregory -- oh,
32 she's excused.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: She's been excused.
35
36 MR. NICK: Mr. Roczicka.
37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: No.
39
40 MR. NICK: Mr. Aloysius.
41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
43
44 MR. NICK: Mr. Bill.
45
46 MR. BILL: No.
47
48 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. We have one yes
49 and seven no.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. The
2 proposal fails.
3
4 We are done with our proposals. Thank
5 you, Mr. McKee for your presentation.
6
7 And at this time we are going to be
8 suspending the rules for a couple reports. And then
9 after that we'll go to dinner, take a short dinner,
10 come back and spend the rest of our evening, or most of
11 it, on the fisheries monitoring plans for the Yukon,
12 the Kuskokwim and the partners.
13
14 At this time like to -- Yukon Drainage
15 Fisheries Association. Mr. Wayne Jennings [sic], you
16 have the floor. Wayne Jennings from YRDFA.
17
18 Would any of the Council members like
19 to pitch in for a working session dinner. We can have
20 dinner, order our sandwiches or whatever in here and
21 work right during dinner, because we've got quite a bit
22 of work that needs to be done yet. Otherwise we could
23 go out for an hour.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Go out for an hour.
26
27 MR. CHARLES: I think you'll need a
28 break. You're getting tired.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I know that, but
31 the work has got to be done, and it's got to be done
32 before nine. And if we don't get this done, the work
33 that is left over, then I think we'll have to get a
34 time when we can take the rest of this meeting via
35 teleconference.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Tomorrow morning is
38 still open.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tomorrow morning is
41 not available, we've been instructed the meeting will
42 conclude tonight at nine. So any other business is
43 going to be done by teleconference. And we also have
44 the rural determination show that needs to go on for
45 the information for that.
46
47 So do you want a working dinner, or do
48 you want to go outside.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Go outside.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Then that's the
2 way it will be.

3
4 Mr. Jennings, you have the floor.

5
6 MR. JENKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
7 Council. And thank you for moving me up in the agenda.
8

9 My name is Wayne Jenkins. I'm the new
10 deputy director with Yukon River Drainage Fisheries
11 Association, also known as YRDFA. Some of you are
12 long-standing YRDFA members and even board members, and
13 I would like to thank all of you for the work that you
14 do on behalf of our salmon resource.

15
16 You may be familiar with some of the
17 YRDFA programs that are funded by the Fisheries
18 Resource Monitoring Program. These include our in-
19 season salmon management teleconferences, and in-season
20 Chinook salmon harvest interviewer program.

21
22 I'd like to give you an update on this
23 program from the 2013 fishing season that is run by
24 Catherine Moncrieff, our anthropologist. Following
25 this, I would like to give an update on the salmon
26 bycatch in the Bering Sea pollack fishery that our
27 senior fisheries advisor, Becca Robbins-Gisclair runs
28 for YRDFA.

29
30 I've given you two handouts today. One
31 is a summary from the in-season salmon management
32 teleconferences and in-season Chinook harvest program.
33 And there is a salmon bycatch update that matches what
34 I'm about to speak to you on.

35
36 The in-season salmon management
37 teleconferences. This year YRDFA held 14 in-season
38 management teleconferences every Tuesday in June, July
39 and August. The calls followed an agenda each week,
40 opening with subsistence fishing reports; hearing from
41 State and Federal fisheries managers on their fishery
42 assessments and management strategies; hearing from the
43 Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Canada and Yukon
44 fishers in the Canadian headwaters. These
45 teleconferences are funded through the Fisheries
46 Resource Monitoring Program, and the Yukon River Panel.

47
48 The important issues addressed this
49 season during the teleconferences included the low
50 Yukon River Chinook salmon runs and the conservative

1 management strategies used in-season, salmon bycatch
2 and the Bering Sea pollack fishery, and also the
3 Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization.

4
5 In-river Chinook salmon fisheries were
6 managed most conservatively this year. And this was a
7 major discussion point every week, how the run was
8 coming in, when pulse closures would take place, what
9 gear restrictions were in place.

10
11 Fishers were concerned about the
12 restrictions to six-inch gear as many people did not
13 have it, did not have time or money to purchase it.
14 Fishers also wanted to harvest king salmon, because
15 it's so important to them and their families. And
16 there was a lot of discussion around this. People in
17 different districts requested additional fishing time
18 so they could get king salmon for food. And fishwheel
19 fishermen also asked about relief for dog food, because
20 they catch incidental fish for their dogs while the
21 wheels are running, and this year the wheels did not
22 turn much due to the closures.

23
24 Others were concerned about the
25 information, how to share it from the teleconferences,
26 and YRDLFA assured the public that the concerns raised
27 on the calls would be shared with the funding and
28 management agencies supporting the calls, and the Yukon
29 River Panel during the Communication Committee report.

30
31 Magnuson-Stevens Act. We also learned
32 about the Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization process.
33 This Act governs the North Pacific Fisheries Management
34 Council and the management of offshore fisheries.
35 Senator Begich holds an important committee seat with
36 responsibility for reauthorizing the act.

37
38 Priorities which the Alaska Native
39 committee are working on for this round of
40 reauthorization include increasing representation on
41 the Council, providing authority for bycatch fines, and
42 requiring bycatch reduction.

43
44 Salmon bycatch on the teleconferences.
45 The purpose of the in-season salmon management calls is
46 to talk about in-river fisheries management, but over
47 the years people have asked a lot of questions and made
48 a lot of comments on the issue of salmon bycatch in the
49 Bering Sea. In order to address the need to discuss
50 this important issue, we dedicated two calls. One at

1 the beginning, the first call; and one towards the end
2 of the season in August where we dedicated half of the
3 teleconference time to talking about salmon bycatch in
4 the Bering Sea pollack fishery.

5
6 We had two guest speakers, Diana Stram,
7 staff for the North Pacific Fisheries Management
8 Council; and Nicole Kimbell, staff in the Alaska
9 Department of Fish and Game's Commissioner's Office,
10 who swerves as the Commissioner's alternate on the
11 Council, and to discuss this important issue impacting
12 Western and Interior Alaska salmon stocks.

13
14 So now I would like to speak a little
15 bit on the salmon bycatch update.

16
17 Current salmon bycatch numbers for the
18 Bering Sea pollack fishery as of October 26th, Chinook
19 salmon bycatch was 12,938 king salmon. This is an
20 increase of 1,595 over 2012. Chum salmon bycatch as of
21 October 26th was 124,914. This is an increase of
22 102,637 in 2012. Pollack fishing generally finishes
23 by late October, early November.

24
25 We have new genetic information for
26 2010 and 2011 which is much more reliable, because the
27 entire fleet is now required to have at least 100
28 percent observer coverage, and there's a better
29 sampling plan in place. The results from 2010 and 2011
30 show that 73 percent of Chinook salmon caught as
31 bycatch were of Western Alaska origin. Bristol Bay,
32 Kuskokwim, the entire Yukon River and Norton Sound.
33 Chum salmon bycatch is a much lower proportion. Of the
34 Western Alaska stocks, 25 percent in 2011, 21 percent
35 in 2010.

36
37 The North Pacific Fisheries Management
38 Council met at the beginning of October and discussed
39 both Chinook and chum salmon bycatch. The pollack
40 industry was united in calling for the Council to take
41 no action at this time on Chinook salmon bycatch, while
42 Western Alaskans were asking for the Council to reduce
43 the by catch further.

44
45 The Commissioner of Alaska Department
46 of Fish and Game put forward an action which the
47 Council supported unanimously which ignores the request
48 of the pollack fishery and looks at ways to reduce
49 bycatch further. The Council is looking at methods to
50 reduce fishing during times of historically high

1 bycatch. October. It's looking at ways to reduce
2 bycatch of boats with consistently high bycatch. And
3 how to continue to drive bycatch lower even when the
4 fleet is well under the cap.

5
6 One of the options includes the timing
7 for accounting for bycatch by starting mid year instead
8 of January 1st. the effect of this would be to put the
9 high value roe fishery, which occurs at the beginning
10 of the calendar year at the end of the bycatch year,
11 creating very high incentives to keep bycatch low
12 throughout the season so as not to jeopardize the
13 highest value fishing season, thus effectively lowering
14 the cap.

15
16 The Council indicated they are looking
17 at regulatory changes to address these as well as
18 changes to industry incentive plans for some, which
19 indicates they are taking the need to reduce bycatch
20 very seriously.

21
22 The Council received a discussion paper
23 which looks at all these changes at the April 2012
24 Council meeting in Anchorage, and will move forward
25 from there.

26
27 Regulatory changes typically take at
28 least a year or two to move through the Council
29 process.

30
31 The Council is also in the process of
32 looking at chum salmon bycatch reduction measures. The
33 process of addressing chum salmon bycatch is taking
34 much longer than anticipated, because of the challenge
35 of addressing chum salmon bycatch without inadvertently
36 increasing Chinook salmon bycatch.

37
38 YRDFA continues to support bycatch
39 reduction measures which reduce both Chinook and chum
40 salmon bycatch. You can look at the separate handout
41 for more details about the Chinook and chum salmon
42 bycatch issue.

43
44 I am happy to take any questions or
45 comments from you on this issue and pass them along to
46 Becca Robbins-Gisclair who is our fisheries advisor if
47 you have any questions in that area.

48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions of Mr.
50 Jennings [sic].

1 Mr. Roczicka.

2

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

4

5 I don't have a question, just a
6 comment. It certainly did my heart good to hear the
7 Commissioner step out and make the move that she did.
8 That's unprecedented in the State's administrative
9 history as far as I'm aware of. And I would even
10 speculate there were a couple at a later meeting in a
11 couple weeks that she got in trouble when she went back
12 to Juneau, or got chewed out for doing that, but that
13 was real good to see, to putting that forward.

14

15 So it's progress.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments or
18 questions.

19

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 MR. JENKINS: Okay. Thank you very
24 much.

25

26 YRDFA, US Fish and Wildlife in-season
27 subsistence monitoring project. I'd like to say a few
28 words on that very quickly.

29

30 During the Chinook fishing season,
31 YRDFA hires a person in 10 villages along the Yukon
32 River to conduct interviews. The interviewers collect
33 information measuring the progress fishermen make
34 towards meeting their subsistence harvest goals for
35 Chinook salmon, learning about fishing conditions, and
36 also the quality of the catch. In 2013 126 households
37 were interviewed, and 372 interviews as the Chinook
38 salmon swam through the villages. There was one
39 community where we were not successful in finding a
40 local hire to get the data.

41

42 As we all know, this was a challenging
43 year for Chinook salmon fishers with low salmon numbers
44 and pulse closures up and down the river. Many
45 communities reported very low progress towards harvest
46 completion, zero to two percent. The communities that
47 reported the highest Chinook salmon harvest completion
48 were Alakanuk at nearly 34 percent, Fort Yukon at 38
49 percent, and Kaltag at 45 percent. So while there's a
50 range of some villages that harvested more fish than

1 others, all of the participating villages and fishermen
2 surveyed were less than half of their desired harvest
3 completion.

4
5 This year a new question on the harvest
6 survey asked fishers if they planned to reduce their
7 Chinook harvest, and if so, what species would they use
8 to replace Chinook harvest. Surveyors were able to
9 gather information about fishers' conservation efforts
10 and replacement species in half of these communities.
11 The survey shows that summer or fall chum salmon was
12 the species selected most often as replacement for
13 subsistence harvest in these communities.

14
15 And, lastly, customary trade of salmon
16 in the Upper Yukon. YRDFA has developed a new project
17 in partnership with the Alaska Department of Fish and
18 Game, Subsistence Division. We are happy to have
19 received -- to receive a fund recommendation on our
20 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program proposal,
21 customary trade of salmon in the Upper Yukon. This is
22 a project that will be conducted by Catherine
23 Moncrieff, YRDFA's anthropologist, in partnership with
24 Caroline Brown and David Koster of Alaska Department of
25 Fish and Game, Subsistence Division. This project will
26 be an interview and survey-based study to document
27 historic and contemporary practices of customary trade
28 in the Upper Yukon River communities, with particular
29 attention to understanding the nature and scope of
30 customary trade and its role in a large continuum of
31 exchange practices.

32
33 We appreciate your continued support of
34 our projects. We are hopeful that this project will be
35 supported by the RACs and the Federal Subsistence Board
36 as it comes before them for review and action.

37
38 And with that, I conclude my report,
39 and thank you, Council.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions of Mr.
42 Jennings.

43
44 Mr. Charles.

45
46 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
47 I appreciated the report from YRDFA because our CDQ
48 people doesn't do this every time, because we always
49 hear from YRDFA people. And that's good to let the
50 people know how the rivers are doing on fisheries. Or

1 the Yukon River mostly. But have you people invite our
2 CDQ people, too, on Kuskokwim side? Alex or you. I
3 thank him for his report. But it's good to know, good
4 to learn what YRDFA is doing or how they're doing out
5 there. And they are not shy to report to us and let us
6 see their problem out there.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 MR. JENKINS: Quyana.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

13 Jennings.

14

15 Next we have Mr. Peltola wanted to get
16 on prior to us breaking for dinner. If not, then
17 you've got the floor.

18

19 MR. LORRIGAN: I got delegated.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

22

23 MR. LORRIGAN: He had to head to the

24 airport.

25

26 Mr. Chairman. Council members. My
27 name is Jack Lorrigan. I'm the Native liaison for OSM.
28 I'll be giving the briefing on OSM updates.

29

30 So budget's on Page 276. Briefly,
31 we're experiencing a downward shift in money. We took
32 a \$500,000 last year, and we're expecting a \$600,000
33 cut this year, and probably more next year.

34

35 We have 11 positions in our office that
36 are unfilled. We're trying to get waivers for three of
37 them. I don't know exactly which ones those are, but
38 we're trying to maintain the same level of support for
39 the Councils as we can with those three positions
40 getting filled hopefully.

41

42 As far as Staff, Gene Peltola, Jr. is
43 now our assistant regional director. He's from here,
44 and you all know him, so I think he's a good addition
45 for our office. Having a subsistence user in that
46 position I think is pretty outstanding.

47

48 Jeff Brooks is a social scientist in
49 our Anthropology Division. He comes to us from another
50 shop. And he worked for the National Wildlife Refuge

1 System down the hall from us.

2

3 Derek Hildreth is our new permit
4 specialist, and he's replacing Michelle Chivers in a
5 position in our office in Anchorage.

6

7 Departures. Helen Armstrong was an
8 anthropologist with our shop, and she retired this
9 spring.

10

11 And Steven Fried has also retired. He
12 was the Fisheries Division chief, and he has moved on.
13 We're still hoping to fill these two positions.

14

15 Andre Medeiros was our outreach
16 specialist, or outreach coordinator and she took a job
17 upstairs for the larger part of Fish and Wildlife
18 Service. It was their gain and our loss. And we're
19 hoping to replace her, too.

20

21 So that moves me into tribal
22 consultation update on Page 277. And what that is, is
23 the tribal consultation policy has been accepted by the
24 Board. And we have been working on a tribal
25 consultation implementation guidelines which basically
26 puts into writing how consultation should occur between
27 the tribes and the Board. We are still working on
28 that, because we presented it to the Board in August
29 and discovered that we still had some more work to do
30 on what consultation should look like when the tribes
31 come before the Board or vice versa. We're not
32 comfortable with the way the consultation has been
33 going so we're trying to work it out so that it's
34 something that the tribes like and works for the Board.
35 So it's still under a draft.

36

37 After that's accepted by the Board,
38 hopefully in January, then we'll move into the ANCSA
39 consultation policy drafting and the implementation
40 guidelines for the ANCSA corporations, as we have to --
41 we have been directed to consult with them also.

42

43 Mr. Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did you have anything
46 on the MOU update.

47

48 MR. LORRIGAN: Briefly. There was a --
49 let's see if I can remember this correctly. There was
50 a work session in June to accept the MOU with the

1 State, and the State had presented it to several of
2 their advisory committees, and the advisory committees
3 came back with some amendments they want to see. And
4 so those have not been worked all the way through the
5 MOU yet. So it's a work in progress right now. So
6 it's still -- we're waiting for the State to have some
7 of their changes brought back to us so we can work on
8 them again. So it's not all the way done yet.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
11 any questions from Council.

12

13 Mr. Charles, go ahead.

14

15 MR. CHARLES: So with these budget
16 cuts, are you -- what's your plan? Are you going to
17 reduce the amount of people working or what are you
18 planning to do?

19

20 MR. LORRIGAN: That is above my pay
21 grade.

22

23 (Laughter)

24

25 MR. LORRIGAN: What I've seen them do
26 is move numbers around and try to hold on to the people
27 that they have. And we've had people detailed to us
28 from other shops to help us out. It's a challenge for
29 sure. And we're not the only ones going through it.
30 Other agencies and other departments in our building
31 are going through it.

32

33 It's going to be an adventure.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

36

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Something that
38 always bothers me, why are ANCSA corporations still, I
39 mean, considered tribal?

40

41 MR. LORRIGAN: I don't believe they're
42 considered tribal. There was an amendment to a public
43 law to direct Federal agencies to consult with them as
44 tribal governments. And so it got passed, and so as
45 Federal agencies, we're required to do that. That came
46 from Congress; it didn't come from the Secretary --
47 through Congress to the Secretaries to us is how it
48 comes down, and so that's what we're doing.

49

50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

(No comments)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: If not, thank you.

MR. LORRIGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: You know, we still have a couple things that we need to discuss, and I know there's time constraints for the other two. And since the Council wants to go out and break for dinner, let's take an hour and come back at 6:30 to continue. 6:30 sharp, right, to continue on with the rest of our agenda and hope that we give the people that need to go out there before nine ample time to be able to complete their report and be on their way.

(Off record)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Rural determination is the next subject with Mr. Kessler.

MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Council. Steve Kessler with US Forest Service, and a member of the InterAgency Staff Committee.

I've been asked to do the PowerPoint again that we looked at last night during the rural hearing. And so for that I suggest that everybody moves this way and I'll move that way so I can look at you.

Good evening again. My name is Steve Kessler. I'm an employee of the Forest Services, and I've worked in the Federal Subsistence Program for about 11 years. Yesterday I gave a little bit more of an introduction of myself, but I'll try and be a little briefer this evening.

The Federal Subsistence Program includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Land Management. Federal Subsistence Program is responsible for managing the subsistence priority on the Federal public lands.

I'm here to explain the review of the

1 rural determination process and how you can be part of
2 that process. The expectation from most of the
3 Councils is that this is an action item, and that the
4 Council has the opportunity to provide recommendations
5 to the Federal Subsistence Board on changes to propose
6 to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture.

7
8 In order to show you part of the
9 process, I'm going to give you the act that brought us
10 here. We're looking for ways to improve how the
11 determinations are made. Some background on the
12 process. How the current process works. And the
13 criteria that are used to determine an area's rural or
14 non-rural status. All of the information and steps are
15 available to you, and I'll let you know where you can
16 find the resources and how to provide your ideas to
17 improved the process.

18
19 And I would like to say that there are
20 a number of copies of items on the back table there.

21
22 Am I going too fast, or is everybody
23 okay?

24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, you're fine,
26 you're fine.

27
28 MR. KESSLER: Okay. I want to be clear
29 that what we are doing now is reviewing and suggesting
30 changes to the process or the methods of doing rural
31 determinations. Actually changing communities that are
32 rural or non-rural would be a whole additional step
33 following any changes that are made in the process. So
34 that's at least two years away until any changes in the
35 communities would be made.

36
37 In December 2010, the Secretaries of
38 the Interior and Agriculture to conduct a review of
39 this rural process that is used in making the
40 determinations for rural and non-rural to see if
41 methods being used are relevant and still current. The
42 Federal Subsistence Board is seeking recommendations by
43 Regional Advisory Councils, public input, and tribal
44 and ANCSA corporation consultations.

45
46 The Federal Subsistence Board may
47 develop recommendations for improving the process based
48 on these comments. These recommendations will go to
49 the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of
50 Agriculture.

1 Now for a little background. Title
2 VIII of ANILCA in an act of Congress which provides a
3 subsistence priority for rural Alaska residents to
4 harvest fish and wildlife on Federal public lands.
5 Only those residents of rural communities are eligible
6 for that priority.

7
8 You can see within the green areas on
9 this map in the lower right-hand corner the extent of
10 the Federal public lands. They're about 60 to 65
11 percent of Alaska.

12
13 Senate Report No. 96413 which comments
14 on Title VIII, that was back in the 1970s, provides
15 examples of cities excluded from rural status. So the
16 ones that are excluded in that Senate report were
17 Ketchikan, Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. And
18 examples of communities that are rural in that report
19 were Dillingham, Bethel, Nome, Kotzebue, Barrow, and
20 other Native and non-Native villages scattered
21 throughout the State.

22
23 Court decisions have limited how rural
24 is defined. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
25 determined that rural refers to sparsely populated area
26 and is not primarily, and is not primarily, about the
27 subsistence lifestyle or an areas use of fish and
28 wildlife resources. The court noted that Congress, and
29 this is a quote, did not limit the benefits of the
30 statute to residents of areas dominated by a
31 subsistence economy. Instead, it wrote broadly, giving
32 the statutory priority to all subsistence users
33 residing in rural areas.

34
35 So that's sort of the framework that
36 we're operating under right now that at this point
37 cannot be changed without legislation.

38
39 As you can see from this slide, most of
40 Alaska is considered rural. Only the black areas are
41 those that are non-rural.

42
43 This chart that's right here, there was
44 a little bit of discussion over it yesterday, so let me
45 just spend a moment on it. If you look at these
46 communities that are up top here in these bars, these
47 are ones that were determined and discussed in the
48 Senate report as being examples of non-rural
49 communities. The ones that are in sort of these gold
50 bars are communities that were discussed in that Senate

1 report as examples of communities that are rural. And
2 then we've got the blue communities, with a blue line,
3 and each of these were not discussed in either report
4 -- in either part of the report, but they are
5 considered rural also.

6
7 So, for instance, Kodiak at 12,905 and
8 Sitka at 8,835 are the largest communities that are
9 considered rural for the Federal Subsistence Program,
10 but weren't mentioned in that report.

11
12 Are there any questions about that
13 graph.

14
15 (No comments)

16
17 MR. KESSLER: Okay.

18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: When you say area, you
20 mean from the villages surrounding those locations?

21
22 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Aloysius, let me get
23 into that in a little bit, because we have the grouping
24 criteria.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: All right.

27
28 MR. KESSLER: And we're going to talk
29 about how communities are grouped. And it's those
30 grouped communities that are considered for rural or
31 non-rural status.

32
33 So I will now review the current
34 process for determining which communities are rural.
35 The next series of slides will address the items shown
36 on this one, including grouping, which we were just
37 talking about, population threshold, rural
38 characteristics, timelines, and information sources.

39
40 So along with a description of the
41 current process, I will present a question about that
42 item for you to consider in developing your Council's
43 recommendation to the Board.

44
45 I might have been on the wrong slide
46 earlier.

47
48 So the current process for grouping of
49 communities. The current regulation requires us to
50 group communities. The Board recognizes that

1 communities and areas of Alaska are connected in
2 diverse ways. Regulations require communities that are
3 economically, socially, and communally integrated or
4 grouped together for determining rural and non-rural
5 status.

6
7 The grouping criteria used by the
8 Board: Do 30 percent or more of the working people
9 commute from one community to another? Do they share a
10 common high school attendance area? And are the
11 communities in proximity and road accessible to one
12 another? So those are the current criteria that were
13 used for the last determination cycle.

14
15 So the questions to you.....

16
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.

18
19 MR. CHARLES: (Indiscernible - away
20 from microphones) what is that proximity?

21
22 MR. KESSLER: In proximity meaning
23 close to each other, and are they road accessible to
24 each other. So I wouldn't call Anchorage and Fairbanks
25 in proximity to each other even though they're road
26 accessible to each other. They're not close.

27
28 So the questions for the Council: Are
29 these grouping criteria useful for determining rural
30 and non-rural status? If not, please provide ideas on
31 how to better indicate how communities or should be
32 grouped for the purposes of determining rural and non-
33 rural status.

34
35 Population thresholds. Right now in
36 regulation the Federal Subsistence Board currently uses
37 several guidelines to determine whether a specific area
38 of Alaska is rural. One guideline sets population
39 thresholds. And I want to make sure you understand
40 that a guideline means that it's not precise, because,
41 remember there are communities that are outside of
42 these guidelines.

43
44 One guideline sets population
45 thresholds after communities are grouped together. A
46 community or area with a population below 2500 will be
47 presumed rural. A community or area with a population
48 between 2500 and 7,000, it's not presumed rural or non-
49 rural and other characteristics are used to determine
50 rural status. And communities with a population over

1 7,000 are presumed non-rural.

2

3 So the question for you, for the
4 Council, are these population threshold guidelines
5 useful for determining whether a specific area of
6 Alaska is rural. If not, please provide ideas and
7 population sizes, for instance, to distinguish between
8 rural and non-rural, and the reasons why you think
9 those sizes might more accurately reflect rural and
10 non-rural areas.

11

12 Again, the current process uses rural
13 characteristics. The Board recognizes that population
14 alone is not the only indicator of rural and non-rural.
15 Other characteristics the Board considers include, but
16 are not limited to, the following: Use of fish and
17 wildlife, economic diversity and development,
18 infrastructure, transportation and education
19 institutions.

20

21 So the question for you: are these
22 characteristics useful for determining whether a
23 specific area of Alaska is rural? If not, please
24 provide a list of other characteristics that might
25 better define rural and non-rural.

26

27 The current process has the Board
28 performing a review based on the 10-year census cycle.
29 Current regulations state that population data from the
30 most recent census conducted by the Census Bureau and
31 updated by Alaska Department of Labor shall be used in
32 that process.

33

34 There are also certain information
35 sources that are used. Most of these are generated
36 from the US Census Bureau, and it varies based on what
37 the Census Bureau is able to collect.

38

39 So the questions here for you: Do you
40 have -- should the Board review rural determinations on
41 a 10-year cycle? If so, why or why not.

42

43 And the information sources as stated
44 in the regulations will continue to be the foundation
45 of data used for rural determinations. If you have any
46 additional sources that you think would be beneficial,
47 we would be interested to know those.

48

49 And this, of course, is the catch-all.
50 This is the question. Do you have any additional

1 comments, any additional comments from the Council, on
2 how to make the rural determination process more
3 effective.

4

5 There are a number of resources
6 available to you that will help you, the Council, as
7 you develop any comments. There's a website up here.
8 I just tell people it's easier just to go to
9 www.doi.gov/subsistence, and then there's a little link
10 on there that says rural. Any questions can be emailed
11 to subsistence@fws.gov. Or there's the phone number.

12

13 There's testimony that can be provided
14 both here, last night, electronically, or any Federal
15 official can take your comments. Or you can mail them.

16

17 So I've tried to explain why we are
18 here, and why we're asking these questions, and to give
19 you some background on how the decisions are made.

20

21 Remember that the Federal Subsistence
22 Program has been in place since about 1990. These
23 rural determination process guidelines have never been
24 reviewed before. This is the first time. So this is
25 really the golden opportunity. This is the time to
26 help the Federal program make this better.

27

28 So now the comments are due by December
29 2nd, and, of course, for your Council, you need to make
30 your recommendations as a Council here.

31

32 So I'm going to leave these up on the
33 screen. I know that everybody will be at the front
34 table, and you won't see these, so these are the
35 questions, but I'll also give you a copy of these which
36 we can put on the table, and then everybody can see the
37 questions that we're asking for the Council's comments
38 on. And I hope that helps.

39

40 So I'm -- maybe everybody should come
41 back up to the table, and if you have questions for me,
42 I can respond to them.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I have one question
45 before we do that. Are we only concerned only with the
46 YK Delta right now? Us in this room?

47

48 MR. KESSLER: This is the whole rural
49 process. It applies to the whole State. So these are
50 the regulations that apply every where.

1 When we finally get to making the
2 actual community determinations, that would be probably
3 region specific.

4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
6 Kessler.

7
8 Any comments from the Council on our
9 rural determination.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.

12
13 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 After you become rural, can you get out of it at
15 certain point, or like the population, your population
16 is up 7,000. After you pass 7,000, can you get out of
17 rural?

18
19 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Charles, through the
20 Chair. I think the answer to that is, yes, because we
21 are supposed to, under the current regulation review
22 which communities are rural every 10 years. Some may
23 become -- be added to rural, some may be taken away
24 from rural. And so that's, you know, how the current
25 regulation is written.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments.

28
29 Mr. Roczicka.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. I was asked
32 to bring a resolution forward for this Council to
33 consider adopting. And I don't know if it got passed
34 out there. I gave them out right after addressed that
35 earlier.

36
37 Alex, do you still have those? Did you
38 never passed them out yet.

39
40 One thing before the thought escapes me
41 though, while Alex is passing those out, and then one
42 thing what's not included in here, but it kind of
43 occurred to me as you're going through your
44 presentation here, is that first bullet point you had
45 and from the Ninth Circuit Court decision saying that
46 it's sparsely populated area. And I'm thinking to,
47 well, like when the non-subsistence use area was
48 proposed for Bethel, and they had just the 36 square
49 miles or 47 square miles of the town boundary. And
50 actually for subsistence purposes -- yes, that's --

1 that I think would be more appropriate to use the
2 customary and traditional hunting areas. Hunting and
3 fishing areas that have been established for people's
4 subsistence use as far as that's sparsely populated.

5
6 MR. KESSLER: You know, obviously the
7 Council is encouraged to provide any comments that you
8 feel are appropriate. I needed to tell you what the
9 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals said, because that's the
10 case law we operate under right now. So they said that
11 sparsely populated is the primary indicator of rural.
12 That's No. 1. And then we can start looking at hunting
13 and fishing resources and other factors; those are
14 secondary. But the court said that sparsely populated
15 is where you have to start. How you define sparsely
16 populated, they didn't say.

17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: And that's why I
19 mentioned what I did, rather than just the township,
20 you know, or even if you're just talking Napakiak or
21 Napaskiak, if you just use their community boundary
22 versus the area where they actually hunt and fish to
23 provide for their subsistence needs, it's a much larger
24 area. And you start applying, you know, so many people
25 per square mile and that type of thing.

26
27 MR. KESSLER: I think that's right, you
28 know, across the State and we don't -- you know, there
29 are communities that are very far ranging in where they
30 hunt and fish and gather, you know, but where they're
31 specifically located, and the population of that area
32 is that primary indicator.

33
34 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Alex has passed
35 this out here. this is actually a modified draft of a
36 resolution that well talk with Council about, AVCP
37 convention where it passed unanimously, and also to AFN
38 convention where it passed unanimously. But as I
39 mentioned last night in my comments, those
40 organizations don't always get a response from
41 management agencies, whereas it's coming from the RAC,
42 it has that higher level of consideration, and the
43 deference that we're supposed to give. And that's been
44 in the past, and this one, of course, with this issue,
45 I think you could probably pay more attention it.

46
47 But if I can just read this into the
48 record, and.....

49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is this pertaining to

1 the rural process, the rural determination process.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes, it does. The rural
4 priority was what it was.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: In that case, go ahead
7 with that.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. So it was titled
10 protection of the Alaska Native subsistence priority in
11 Federal review of rural qualification criteria and
12 current failure of compliance with the Congressional
13 intent for Title VIII of ANILCA.

14

15 And whereas the Congressional intent
16 language for, and the primary purpose of Title VIII of
17 ANILCA specifically stated that it was to address
18 matters left unresolved in passage of the Alaska Native
19 Claims Settlement Act, specifically regarding the
20 promise of protecting the hunting and fishing rights of
21 Alaska's Native people, when the extinguishment of
22 those same aboriginal hunting and fishing rights was
23 included in that document without the foreknowledge or
24 informed consent of Alaska Natives; and

25

26 Whereas the implementation of Federal
27 subsistence management priority criteria that is based
28 on arbitrary population numbers based on standards
29 outside of Title VIII's primary purpose as stated in
30 that congressional intent, has denied the inclusion of
31 many Alaska Native populations from being considered
32 eligible for the Federal subsistence priority, and
33 threatens continued diminishment of more in the future
34 due to in-migration among other factor, by social
35 groups who do not have the direct cultural, spiritual,
36 economic, or physical relationships that are integral
37 to the recognized patterns of subsistence use and the
38 way of life of rural Alaska or its Native peoples; and

39

40 Whereas current management
41 implementation of the subsistence priority through an
42 arbitrary population number does not address problems
43 incurred by increasing pressures on subsistence
44 resources from exploitation by opportunistic,
45 recreational, or highly suspect aspects of commercial
46 use under e protective guise of subsistence use, rather
47 than the maintenance of any semblance for the direct
48 social, cultural, or customary and traditional
49 subsistence uses associated with the purpose of the
50 subsistence priority protections in rural Alaska; and

1 Whereas the rural subsistence use
2 priority in Alaska is, and should be properly defined,
3 as people's generational engagement in recognized
4 patterns of use in harvest activities and the directly
5 related subsistence uses of these resources, where they
6 can, and have, survived without the interventional
7 management assistance of having their food delivered to
8 them through exterior means common to both urban and
9 rural areas outside of ANILCA's parameters; and
10

11 Whereas it is a commonly understood
12 practice that definitions or implementation criteria
13 should reflect the intent and purpose of the enacting
14 legislation which the current criteria fail to do; and
15

16 Whereas application of the subsistence
17 priority with an arbitrary population number is in
18 direct contradiction to the expressed congressional
19 intent for Title VIII of ANILCA that results in the
20 phasing out of Alaska Natives' subsistence use
21 participation through a highly foreseeable and perhaps
22 predetermined assimilative process, so that when a
23 community or area reaches a certain population level,
24 the Native people of that community may no longer
25 qualify for retainment of Federal recognition for their
26 cultural, spiritual, or physical ties to the
27 subsistence use of those resources that comprises the
28 very core of their existence; and
29

30 Whereas it has been stated by
31 congressional members that they want to see an
32 administrative fix for this problem that to date the
33 Federal Subsistence Board has been unable, or otherwise
34 chosen not to productively address regarding these
35 concerns; and
36

37 Whereas aggregating communities in Bush
38 Alaska that establish higher base population number to
39 determine rural eligibility further threatens
40 diminishment and disenfranchisement of Native peoples'
41 priority access to subsistence resources which Title
42 VIII of ANILCA was created to protect; and
43

44 Whereas there are separate and standing
45 directives from both the Secretary of Interior Salazar
46 to address the broken system for subsistence management
47 in Alaska and further broad Presidential directive to
48 address substantive improvement in resolving issues of
49 concern for Native Americans in general; and
50

1 Whereas the customary and traditional
2 subsistence use standards referenced in Sections .803
3 and .804 of ANILCA are primarily based on the way of
4 life established by and for Alaska's Native peoples
5 long prior to recorded history; and
6

7 Whereas although Title VIII of ANILCA
8 repeatedly states the purpose of protecting subsistence
9 uses, to date the Federal Subsistence Management
10 Program has primarily been focused only on the harvest
11 aspect in implementation of the subsistence priority;
12 and
13

14 Whereas the Board should apply due
15 deference to the Council on this issue in that it is
16 fully supported by sound scientific management
17 principles, is supported by substantial information,
18 and failure to productively address the matter is
19 highly detrimental to achieving or maintaining current
20 or long-term integrity of providing for adequate or
21 sustainable subsistence uses in rural Alaska that is
22 further substantiated by the three criteria in Section
23 .804;
24

25 Therefore be it resolved that in any
26 implementation of the rural subsistence priority
27 criteria by the Federal Subsistence Board, that it
28 incorporate protections to first limit participation to
29 those who are actively engaged in recognized patterns
30 of subsistence use by allowing only the established
31 customary and traditional use activities, such as a
32 fish camp drying and smoking of salmon, to those who
33 actively practice them, and most especially on species
34 of concern -- I probably should have conservation and
35 concern in there -- such as the AYK king salmon,
36 through adoption of criteria on point; and preclude
37 opportunistic exploitation by sport, recreational,
38 commercial, or other personal use interests such as
39 unlimited access, harvest, and exportation, merely from
40 a sort-term residency that exists under current
41 regulatory processes which threaten the long-term
42 integrity of rural Alaska's subsistence use, based on
43 formulas created from standards that have no common
44 base of application to the subsistence way of life in
45 Alaska;
46

47 Be it further resolved that if the
48 Federal Subsistence Board chooses a no action approach
49 to address this problem administratively, that they at
50 least accomplish their duty of representing Alaska

1 Native/tribal concerns by informing both the
2 Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture of this non-
3 compliance with congressional intent in Title VIII of
4 ANILCA and advocate action to have it rectified.

5
6 And I recognize there's a few spots --
7 the Board has attempted to do that and addressed it to
8 some degree as far as that they do have the additional
9 consideration in there for when a community does get
10 over 7,000 that if it maintains those characteristics
11 of the economy -- or the character -- I forget what the
12 buzz word is for that, characteristics of the community
13 that still represent a subsistence way of life. So
14 it's not an automatic out.

15
16 And frankly speaking, as far as for
17 Bethel, which I'm most familiar with, it's probably
18 never going to happen in my lifetime, and maybe not for
19 another generation down the road, but it certainly
20 could. I don't foresee Bethel being found --
21 classified as a non-subsistence area anytime in the
22 near future.

23
24 There are, however, several Native
25 populations throughout the rest of the State that have
26 lost. Their communities being aggregated in on the
27 Kenai Peninsula specifically. I think of the Ahtna
28 region where Glennallen was up for the same
29 consideration here a while back, again at the State
30 Board level, for being classified as non-subsistence.
31 Missed it by one vote, and they managed to stay --
32 maintain their subsistence protections.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (Indiscernible)

35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: No, this is under the
37 State. But the argument could very well be made in the
38 future for Glennallen to be included into the Mat-Su
39 area, because of that road connection.

40
41 And again, the additional criteria that
42 they have to consider there is good and a very good
43 effort, and it has served well so far, but we're
44 thinking far into the future here.

45
46 And another frightening thing about the
47 -- or, I don't know if I want to say frightening, but
48 of a genuine concern -- yeah, it is frightening, that
49 administrations change, criterias change. If you get a
50 State administration with a sympathetic Presidential

1 administration, and we're able to exercise the leverage
2 or influence to have these changed, and I'm thinking
3 specifically there's a lawsuit in place right now to
4 challenge the Katie John decision. That's back in
5 court and we thought it was put to bed back in early
6 mid 90s. It's coming back to haunt now.

7
8 So that was the purpose for my council
9 wanting to go forward with this, and they requested
10 that I bring it to you for your consideration, support
11 and adoption.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is your intention
14 of this resolution.

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, by establishment
17 -- what we were trying to address was the concern, and
18 a very real one, that's been addressed at the working
19 group level for a component of Bethel's population that
20 doesn't really rely on salmon, but yet they're able to
21 go out and catch 20, 30 kings, and then they don't know
22 -- they've never learned how to take care of that many
23 fish at one point in time. And by requesting the Board
24 to adopt criteria to protect the subsistence uses, it
25 would still be open to all Native and non-Native
26 residents, but for only people who practice the use in
27 that way.

28
29 That is the intent, to give the Board
30 another tool.

31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

33
34 Mr. Aloysius, you've got the floor.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes. I've got three
37 questions here. One is, who is the author of this
38 resolution?

39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: I was requested to write
41 it. Me. At the direction of my tribal council.

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. The other
44 question is on the first paragraph it says, those same
45 aboriginal hunting and fishing rights were included in
46 that document. Which document are you talking about?

47
48 MR. ROCZICKA: The Alaska Native Claims
49 Settlement Act.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: And on the last page,
2 the second -- or the first therefore be it resolved, it
3 says -- oh, God, it's so long-winded sentences. It
4 says something about, such as fish camp drying and
5 smoking of salmon. Well, that's pretty narrow when we
6 talk about subsistence, because there's -- I didn't
7 hear anything or read anything on the other activities
8 that we do for subsistence way of life is hunting,
9 fishing, trapping and gathering, and especially
10 sharing. The only thing that hit my mind was the use
11 of fish camps, that your main concern is salmon.

12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: For the purposes of
14 giving the Board another tool to use in a Tier I rather
15 than a Tier II situation, to limit a use, and this gets
16 back to the proposal which you may remember that we put
17 in to try to limit the number -- when we wanted to have
18 the reduction, and the voluntary reductions, or any
19 others that we could get to reduce the harvest on kings
20 in the river. And we have folks in Bethel that
21 basically just want to fill their freezers, and they
22 can achieve those needs through other species of fish.
23 Whereas people who are reliant on drying and smoking of
24 kings need to have it occur in that specific time of
25 the season.

26
27 So that was just there for an example.
28 It wasn't in anyway intended to give a full listing of
29 subsistence activities. It was there as an example for
30 when we have a conservation concern. This can be used
31 as a Tier I rather than go into -- right now I believe
32 that they only have the one step of going into a Tier
33 II process.

34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you done, Mr.
36 Aloysius.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm done.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Charles.

41
42 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

43
44 I don't understand a couple of these
45 words at the beginning of the last piece here. By
46 whereas, threatens diminishment and disenfranchisement
47 or whatever that big word is. What are those words?

48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. James.
50 Diminishment means that it gets less and less and less.

1 So it gives -- it's meant to say that the people
2 qualifying for rural eligibility as populations grow,
3 if they're using an arbitrary number, they become less
4 and less and less. And disenfranchisement meant --
5 means that the people are no longer able to participate
6 in what they were promised to have protected. I'm not
7 really good at English but as it is on here, but
8 that's.....

9

10 MR. CHARLES: I have one here.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Mr. Charles.

13

14 MR CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 Another thing here on Secretary of
17 Interior Salazar to address the broken system. What's
18 the broken system there? I know the broken something,
19 but system for what?

20

21 MR. ROCZICKA: That was in the
22 Secretary's statement to the Alaska Federation of
23 Natives I believe in 2011 or was it 2010?

24

25 MR. KESSLER: '10 I think.

26

27 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. And those were
28 the words he chose, because of the dissatisfaction that
29 he had gotten through Native representation of what
30 they felt was a failure of the subsistence management
31 program living up to its stated purpose.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other questions
34 concerning, or any other discussion concerning the
35 rural determination.

36

37 Mr. Polty.

38

39 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chairman. I have a
40 question. They were discussing about where they have
41 existing roads, they'll be combining those villages the
42 road as part of their population threshold-wise,
43 probably reaching, where, up to 7,000, beyond that. And
44 we have roads in Yukon that are connected into those
45 villages. And when they decided to do their 10-year
46 count, they probably will reach some of those areas
47 where the roads are connected, and they'll start
48 consider them as part of non-rural villages. And when
49 it comes to that, it's going to be kind of difficult
50 for us to be part of the point where we have to

1 struggle to go back to our way of life, and we don't
2 let them know our subsistence way of life. And then
3 commercial fishing and subsistence is our livelihood.

4
5 And then going beyond that, if they
6 decide to do another 10-year trend, 10-year count after
7 the 10-year census count, and it started reaching that,
8 it's going to be kind of difficult if we don't come
9 right out and put it in a paper where our way of life
10 and subsistence, it's our culture, our way of survival
11 in our area.

12
13 And this part of this where it says
14 grouping of the communities, they probably will find a
15 way to reach that threshold of 7 to 10,000 for us if
16 they will start building roads, that the people wanted
17 roads way back over 30-40 years now. So I think we
18 might be just better off without any road if they're
19 planning on using this population threshold for where
20 roads are adjacent, connect each other, for using for
21 their population, non-rural areas. So we need to
22 consider that.

23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Poly.

27
28 Another discussion on rural
29 determination.

30
31 Mr. Bill.

32
33 MR. BILL: Yeah. I don't really
34 understand what 10-year is. It seems to me when we
35 talk about 10 years, talk about subsistence also. Or
36 to my understanding 10-year even though they didn't
37 mention it, it seems like you're talking about our
38 lives, see if we live for 10 years, if we're still
39 alive. That's the main thing I understand. That part
40 I really don't -- I don't really go for it, or I don't
41 really like it, you know.

42
43 But whatever it means, if us Natives
44 would start talking to you how we feel about
45 subsistence, then we should start now. Start by
46 saying, leave subsistence alone. Leave subsistence
47 alone for the Alaskan people who live on land for 50
48 years. Leave it alone. Don't talk about it. Let us
49 live life like we used to.

50

1 We have our own scientists and
2 everything. Our elders are telling us how to take care
3 of the land, and they are effective. I think to my
4 understanding, when you give us numbers to talk about
5 the fish and so on if we stayed alive in 10 years, I
6 think we should do the same thing, talk back to you
7 about just leave subsistence alone for maybe for 50
8 years, 100 years, leave it alone. Don't talk about it.
9 Let us live the way we are. See how it is. We've
10 already got people that know how to take care of our
11 resources.

12
13 For instance, if I bring home any kind
14 or bird that I'm going to eat, I will have to take an
15 answer to the elders, have a proceeding before the
16 elders. They'd be giving me the how to they can ever
17 give me. Those are effective with our people.

18
19 I very much would like to say that if
20 you don't -- if you could leave us alone and let us do
21 what -- something that we should take care of a long
22 time ago.

23
24 For instance, when I was young, I told
25 you earlier about the places where I've been as I was
26 growing up: Chevak-slash-Hooper Bay, Hooper Bay-slash-
27 Tununak, Tununak-slash-Toksook, all that area I've been
28 there. In 1940s when I first came to remember the
29 world the way it is, when you to up the Hazen Bay
30 River, there are all kinds of birds throughout,
31 swimming in the river from one end to the other, from
32 one side to the other side of the river. Great big
33 island of birds with their young ones. We leave them
34 along. And when we go past them, you know, you just
35 see all the white spots going, it's like rain, white
36 rain, white water. Now you don't -- nowadays you don't
37 see it any more. I go up Hazen Bay every year, if I
38 don't go to Hooper Bay or Chevak, I go to Kashunuk for
39 moose hunting. And nowadays you can only see one, two,
40 three, or four, that's all you see. Maybe if we leave
41 them alone, like somebody said this afternoon, they'll
42 grow back again. Leave it alone. Don't don't bother
43 the eggs, don't bother the birds when they're nesting.
44 As our elders used to tell us, if you're not going to
45 eat the eggs, don't even touch it; the bird will know
46 you've been touching it. So we don't do that.

47
48 I think maybe I should stop now,
49 because I'm going to keep on going back to the leave it
50 alone business on our subsistence way of life.

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Kessler, you might
4 want to explain that timeline, 10-year review cycle a
5 little bit more so it's better understood.

6

7 MR. KESSLER: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
8 Chairman. Thank you for those comments.

9

10 The 10-year cycle is currently in our
11 regulations, that with -- essentially the census comes
12 out once every 10 years, and so in the regulations it
13 says once every 10 years we will review which
14 communities are rural.

15

16 I would like to let you know that this
17 has been something that's been fairly controversial in
18 that we have heard quite a few recommendations about
19 that 10-year review cycle. You'll notice that's one,
20 two, three -- No. 4 on your list, that we're looking
21 for comments on. And some of the other Councils and
22 comments that we've heard have said, you know, why are
23 you doing this every 10 years? You know, right now the
24 requirement is to do it every 10 years or under special
25 circumstances. And there have been a number of other
26 Councils that have said, you know, why don't you just
27 do it like under special circumstances instead of every
28 10 years.

29

30 So those are the types of things that
31 we're here to ask you about and that you can address.
32 If the 10-year cycle is a problem, let us know. And
33 we'll receive that comment and we'll analyze it with
34 all the other comments that we receive.

35

36 So I think that's a very good comment
37 that you made.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments on
40 the rural determination process.

41

42 (No comments)

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there aren't any,
45 Mr. Kessler, I've heard -- we've heard testimony prior
46 to this about the grouping of communities, where the
47 people in this area don't feel that the grouping of
48 communities would be too practical in this area,
49 because of the population size of the village I want to
50 say of Bethel.

1 And the population threshold, as we can
2 see from your graph that there is room for the
3 population variance from the area to area. And I feel
4 that those population thresholds shouldn't even be
5 considered. If you're considered as a rural area with
6 the characteristics, and that the population shouldn't
7 even com into consideration. You know, it could be
8 used as a final portion of this determination.

9
10 And we also feel that the rural
11 characteristics use of fish and wildlife and economic
12 development, diversity, infrastructure, and
13 transportation, educational institutions, those are
14 good. But if you were looking at those within the City
15 of Bethel, you would find that there is probably not --
16 they are not visible in Bethel as they are in the
17 communities that are mentioned that are not in the
18 rural area preference, or in the determination.

19
20 And as far as the timeline of 10 years,
21 I think that cycle should be left under consideration
22 for under special circumstances when the review of the
23 cycle. The cycle time is placed under special
24 circumstances.

25
26 And the use of source US census could
27 be used, but as far as the rest of those, that's what I
28 felt I should mention, because I feel that, you know,
29 if you are a rural area and you have the
30 characteristics of being a rural area, and as long as a
31 percentage of the population is dependent on the
32 subsistence resources that are in the area, I think
33 some of the criteria should be the use of fish and
34 wildlife, and the percentage of use, and the percentage
35 of the population that is using those subsistence
36 resources.

37
38 That's all I have. Thank you.

39
40 Is there any other discussion on the
41 rural process determination. Mr. Aloysius.

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. One thing
44 that you said really struck me, that we do not limit
45 ourselves to a location for hunting, fishing, trapping
46 and gathering of our subsistence foods.

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's correct.
49 Right.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: If we don't have
2 anything here, we go outside of that area. That's like
3 James always says. I used to hunt up there in 21E, and
4 my dad and my uncle used to bring him over there. And
5 unbeknownst to me and to him, I was probably one of the
6 moose packers.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And what.....

9
10 MR. KESSLER: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
11 Chairman. You know, you made a very good statement,
12 but what we're trying to figure out, is that the
13 position of the Council.

14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, what is the
16 position.

17
18 MR. KESSLER: You know, because we're
19 looking for a recommendation from the Council. We've
20 heard, you know, a recommendation from you, but, you
21 know, we're looking for what does the Council as a
22 whole thing, and whether -- you know, we consider this
23 an action item. You can do it by everybody agreeing;
24 you can do it by vote; or however you want to do that,
25 but we are looking for a position of the Council.

26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the wish of
28 the Council members. Mr. Roczicka.

29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31
32 And I won't ask for this to be the
33 formal statement of the Council, I laid it out there,
34 and I don't sense that there's a great deal of comfort
35 with endorsing that one. It's going in through other
36 venues.

37
38 Anyway, but I guess I would move to
39 endorse the statement that you made, which was -- you
40 did a good job of summarizing and going through each
41 one of these criteria they're asking for. And endorse
42 that as a statement from this Council regarding it.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: How does the rest of
45 the Council feel.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?

48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: To endorse the statement
50 that Lester made when he went through these various

1 criteria here as a position for this Council.

2

3 Although I would want to add one thing
4 here that I have heard that really struck home in other
5 meetings that I've listened to. And it was a lady from
6 Barrow saying, we're one large development project away
7 from losing our eligibility or possibly hitting over
8 that 7,000 population level, and somehow losing if we
9 get an inundation of, you know, pipeline workers coming
10 in, or gas field development workers coming in, and
11 they get outnumbered and get equalized out of
12 existence, which is a concern my council has for our
13 tribal membership in Bethel.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

16

17 Any other comments. You look like you
18 want to say something, Mr. Aloysius, so I might as well
19 call on you.

20

21 (Laughter)

22

23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. This list
24 really scared the heck out of me, because, you know, we
25 talk about Crooked Creek. There's a handful of people
26 there, and yet there's plans, plans to open up the
27 mine. If the permits ever becomes a reality, then
28 there's workers who are transitioning in and out of
29 terminal to build the place and the road system, and the
30 terminal for bulk fuel. But then the greatest number
31 of people who are going to be there are mine workers
32 for at least 25 or maybe up to 50 years. And that's
33 going to really raise heck with the Village of Crooked
34 Creek in what way.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Population-wise.

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: The population is going
39 to explode. And they're going to be connected to the
40 road to the mine. And now would that jeopardize their
41 classification as rural.

42

43 MR. KESSLER: If that's a question to
44 me, I have no idea. You know, first of all, what is
45 the population going to be? Is it considered more of
46 an industrial location? So, for instance, Prudhoe Bay,
47 the Board the last time around made a decision, which
48 is now on hold, that Prudhoe Bay would not longer be
49 rural. Valdez is another sort of industrial place
50 that's non-rural. What would happen, I can't predict.

1 I have no idea how many people. You know.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. That's the
6 problem we have with very small populations, you know.
7 We're resource-rich, we're population-poor, and we have
8 no security over our own resources. And that's
9 something I think that when I get home, I'm going to
10 have to start getting Evelyn and her husband excited
11 about.

12

13 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Better you than
14 me.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments
17 concerning the rural determination.

18

19 MR. POLTY: Yeah, I have one more, Mr.
20 Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Polty.

23

24 MR. POLTY: I have a question for you.
25 When you do your 10-year cycle review, do you like, for
26 instance, along the Yukon, those people that are
27 homesteading away from the villages, do you do the
28 census on those or you just consider them they're
29 homesteading, they're people that are living off the
30 land and they're living on their own.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Kessler.

33

34 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Polty. Mr. Wilde.
35 I'm straining to remember exactly what we did during
36 the last 10-year review period. As I remember what,
37 the Board said to Staff, just look at these specific
38 areas. We're not going to look across the whole State.
39 We only will look at areas that seem to have had
40 changes or that people want us to look at. So we
41 looked at places like a few areas on the Kenai, sort of
42 the Anchorage/ Mat-Su area; we looked at a piece of
43 Fairbanks, and Delta Junction, and Ketchikan. We didn't
44 look across the entire State, because we knew that most
45 of these communities were very small, were very rural,
46 and it just didn't make sense.

47

48 Initially the Board was looking at
49 Sitka, but then decided not to look at Sitka after one
50 of the Board meetings. The Board did look at Kodiak.

1 I can't remember which other communities they looked
2 at, but the Board did not look across and did not do an
3 analysis of everywhere, because most of Alaska is
4 clearly rural.

5
6 MR. POLTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments on
9 the rural determination.

10
11
12 (No comments)

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And what exactly did
15 you want from us again? Could you repeat that so that
16 the rest of our Council can understand.

17
18 MR. KESSLER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I
19 think I heard a motion to accept your comments at
20 the.....

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Was that a motion? I
23 didn't realize it was a motion.

24
25 MR. KESSLER: Well, I think that's what
26 I heard from Mr. Roczicka. And he didn't call it a
27 motion, but it sounded like one.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. It wasn't a
32 motion. I guess it was more of just a general
33 statement of consensus I suppose to endorse your
34 statement as the position of the Council, because you
35 did cover pretty much everything that we brought up.

36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Greg, could you word it
40 for the record so we understand exactly what we're
41 dealing with right now? Because right now we want to
42 get -- like they like to put things in a box, so let's
43 put it in a box.

44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Madam
46 Secretary, would you please read that statement I made
47 if it's possible, yeah?

48
49 REPORTER: No, I don't have that word
50 for word.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You don't have that?
2
3 REPORTER: Well, I have it, yes.
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 REPORTER: I have it all recorded, yes,
8 but I don't have it word for word to repeat back to you
9 off the top of my head, no, I'm sorry.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Mr. Kessler.
12
13 MR. KESSLER: Well, Mr. Chairman, I
14 think it was very clear, what you said that's on the
15 record. And it's well recorded. So, you know, to
16 repeat, I think that's what -- to repeat what you said
17 would be a little difficult. But we have on the record
18 exactly what was said and what Mr. Roczicka was talking
19 about. So it's up to you if you want to -- how you
20 want to do this, but we do have your statement.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any other
23 discussion on the rural determination. And as Mr.
24 Kessler said, we would need to come up with a -- what
25 was that word again.
26
27 MR. KESSLER: A motion or a.....
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: For the process.
30 Endorsement.
31
32 MR. KESSLER: Endorsement.
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Endorsement. All
35 right. If anybody would like to endorse the statement
36 I made, don't ask me to.....
37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: I already did.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The statement I made
41 was -- a lot of thought was put into it, but if I had
42 to repeat it again, I probably wouldn't remember what I
43 said, so it would be better to be left alone and leave
44 it as the record states.
45
46 Go ahead, you want to make the.....
47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: He already initiated the
49 process of endorsing what you said, and.....
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll make it a formal
2 motion.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion has been made
5 to endorse the statement made by the Chairman for the
6 Council.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
11 Aloysius.
12
13 And, Mr. Nick, can we please have the
14 roll.
15
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: Wait for the question.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
19 discussion.
20
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. CHARLES: Question.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called
27 for. Please call the roll.
28
29 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I'm going to see
30 if I could restate the motion by Mr. Roczicka, right,
31 to endorse the statements made by the Chair.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. That was the
34 motion.
35
36 MR. NICK: And it was seconded by Mr.
37 Aloysius. Okay. William Brown.
38
39 MR. BROWN: I'll pass.
40
41 MR. NICK: Abstain?
42
43 MR. BROWN: Vote later.
44
45 MR. NICK: Okay. Let the record state
46 Mr. William Brown will vote later.
47
48 James Charles.
49
50 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

1 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.
2
3 MR. POLTY: Yes.
4
5 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
8
9 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.
10
11 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
12
13 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory's excused.
14 Greg Roczicka.
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
17
18 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
21
22 REPORTER: Is that yes?
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.
25
26 MR. NICK: David Bill.
27
28 MR. BILL: Abstain.
29
30 MR. NICK: One abstention.
31
32 Mr. William Brown.
33
34 MR. BROWN: Abstain.
35
36 MR. NICK: Okay. Mr. Chair. The
37 results of the motion is six yes, two abstain.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And could that go on
40 the record as the results of the vote. Into the record
41 for this determination.
42
43 Thank you.
44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: How many members do we
46 have?
47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have one.....
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, total.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Total of us?
2
3 MR. ROCZICKA: 11 I think. 11.
4
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: One, two, three, four,
6 five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10, 11.
7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: There's 11 of us. So
9 six is a majority.
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Don't we need seven or
12 more -- or is it just present?
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Just present.
15
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay.
17
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Kessler.
19
20 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. You
21 mentioned that at the same time that you were going to
22 take up the rural question, that you also were to take
23 up the question of the customary and traditional use,
24 and perhaps make a recommendation to the Federal
25 Subsistence Board. That was on Page 35 of your book.
26 And it's up to you to decide what happens next.
27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What was that again.
29
30 MR. KESSLER: Do you remember the
31 customary and traditional use determination where the
32 Southeast Council suggested a couple different ways to
33 look at doing or not doing customary and traditional
34 use determinations. Yeah, and you put it on the table,
35 and now the question is whether you want to put it back
36 off the table. You had stated that you wanted to bring
37 it off the table at the same time you talked about
38 rural. So it's up to you.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I think at this
41 time we will get back into the discussion on the.....
42
43 MR. LORRIGAN: Customary and
44 traditional use determinations.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes. Mr. Kessler.
47
48 MR. KESSLER: Yes. Mr. Chairman. I
49 would just like to point out, if you were to look on
50 Page 36 of your book.....

1 MR. BILL: Page what?

2

3 MR. KESSLER: 36. On the bottom of the
4 page, it says the Federal Subsistence Board and also
5 the Southeast Council would like your recommendations
6 on the current customary and traditional use
7 determination process.

8

9 Specifically the Southeast Council
10 would like you to consider whether (1) eliminate the
11 customary and traditional use determinations, and
12 instead use when necessary -- it says, when necessary,
13 the ANILCA .804 criteria, which are just right above
14 that statement; change the way such determinations are
15 made by making it areawide customary and traditional
16 use determination, not species by species or stock by
17 stock; perhaps some other change that you would
18 recommend; or just no change and go with the current
19 way of doing customary and traditional use
20 determinations.

21

22 So those were -- we talked about these
23 options I think it was this morning. It was a long
24 time ago by now. And then so this would be an action
25 item for the Council.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any discussion on the
28 suggestion by the Southeast Council on the rural
29 determination -- customary and traditional use. Mr.
30 Roczicka.

31

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

33

34 And I'd put it on the table, but I'm
35 not going to bring it back up under the other one.

36

37 But, actually I did think that their
38 option No. 2 there, and changing the way determinations
39 are made didn't make a lot of sense to me. And it
40 reflects kind of what Bob was and several others of us
41 have already mentioned there, that all species within
42 the area where we hunt and fish are used for
43 subsistence when it comes right down to it. So taking
44 it that way does make good sense.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Kessler.

47

48 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Chairman. One thing
49 I would like to mention is if there are any changes
50 that are proposed, we will have to publish a proposed

1 rule. You would still have an opportunity to make
2 further comments in the future.

3
4 But what we're looking for is, from the
5 Councils, and I think the Southeast Council, everybody
6 is looking for, do you want us to initiate a change or
7 just leave it the way it is? You will have
8 opportunities again to comment. This is not your last
9 time.

10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the -- Mr.
12 Aloysius.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: In a very short answer,
15 could you explain to me in less than a minute a Section
16 .804 criteria dealing with traditional and customary
17 use determinations.

18
19 MR. KESSLER: Mr. Wilde. Mr. Aloysius.
20 I didn't quite understand the question, and please ask
21 it one more time.

22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Basically how does
24 ANILCA Section .804 criteria address the customary and
25 traditional use determination question.

26
27 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
28
29 Section .804 isn't specifically about
30 customary and traditional use, but Section .804
31 addresses if there's not enough resource, if there are
32 not enough moose, if there's not enough fish to go to
33 all the rural people, who should get them? And it
34 gives three criteria to look at on who should get them.
35 Customary and direct dependence upon the populations as
36 the mainstay of livelihood, local residency, and the
37 availability of alternative resources. It doesn't say
38 anything specifically about customary and traditional
39 use. The definition of subsistence includes the words
40 customary and traditional.

41
42 But this is the way that in ANILCA, if
43 there isn't enough resource, that the available
44 resource would be distributed. And we do that -- I
45 think there are about 10 areas of the State, 8 or 10
46 areas of the State, maybe less, where a Section .804 is
47 in place. So, for instance, just as an example, we
48 have a new hunt in Eastern Alaska, the Chisana, and I
49 think, if I remember right, there's the maximum number
50 of animals that can be taken, there are like seven or

1 eight animals, and there's a lot of communities that
2 wish to take those. So a Section .804 analysis was
3 done to determine which of those communities should be
4 eligible to harvest those very few caribou.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

7

8 MR. ROCZICKA: I can give him an
9 example a lot closer to home here. The 19A Federal
10 hunt where the Federal permits are only available in
11 Tuluksak , Aniak, and Kalskags, and Chuathbaluk. It's a
12 Federal -- it's an .804 hunt using those criteria. And
13 that was because there is -- you know, that all the way
14 down to the Johnson River villages and up do have
15 customary and traditional use recognition for 19A when
16 it came to moose, but because of the limited number of
17 animals available there. And then under the State it's
18 a general Tier II that anybody that's State resident
19 can apply for. But the Federal permits are specific to
20 those villages.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I have one question.
23 If at the time that this elder person was retained by
24 the Feds for not having customary and traditional use
25 of the whitefish that was in his boat that he got -- if
26 the Council suggested, if the determination was
27 suggested by the Southeast Council was applied, and
28 they went into the .804 criteria, would they have had
29 any grounds for arresting the elder.

30

31 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 Of course, I don't have enough information to
33 specifically answer that question.

34

35 But let's go ahead and look at
36 Alternative No. 1. Okay. Alternative No. 1 would have
37 no customary and traditional use determinations, and if
38 there was enough fish to go around for everybody, all
39 rural residents would be eligible. So he probably
40 would not have had a problem, assuming that there are
41 enough fish, and he's rural resident. Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you very much.
44 And that is one thing that I wanted to make sure that
45 we all understood.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: He's not finished yet.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, I'm sorry.

50

1 MR. KESSLER: That's okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: But I made a
4 statement. But I just wanted you to say that so I can
5 -- but I'm sorry, I didn't realize that you weren't
6 done.

7

8 MR. KESSLER: Well, that's fine, Mr.
9 Chairman.

10

11 Now under Alternative No. 2, we would
12 say, is there a customary and traditional use
13 determination for that area where he was harvesting.
14 And for that community, you know. So he didn't have to
15 have customary and traditional use for that specific
16 fish stock or wildlife population, but it would be just
17 an area. So, for instance, and I'm just, because this
18 map is in front of me, there's Unit 18. Everybody who
19 is in Unit 18 might have a customary and traditional
20 use determination for Unit 18. If he was a resident
21 of Unit 18 and harvesting in Unit 18, then he would be
22 okay also. Assuming again that there's plenty of
23 resource to go around.

24

25 My answer to you is it depends, but it
26 certainly could be different than what happened under
27 the circumstance that you were talking about.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

30

31 Any other Council members.

32

33 MR. POLTY: Yeah. Mr. Chair. This
34 customary trade has been discussed for quite a while,
35 so to settle that I think we work on the limit on
36 customary trade on trading for our salmon. And if we
37 decide to go ahead and settle this tonight, with that
38 customary trade discussion will just freeze out for a
39 while and it will still be in the book then.

40

41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Point of
42 order. Customary trade is not on the table at this
43 time.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Go ahead.

46

47 MR. KESSLER: Customary trade is not on
48 the table. I fully agree with you. However, if I
49 remember correctly, there was a discussion in the last
50 cycle of fish about customary trade, and for those

1 people who have a customary and traditional use
2 determination. I can't even remember all the details
3 any more. We were talking about it for so long, but
4 there was a tie between customary and traditional use
5 determination and customary trade which I know Mr.
6 Roczicka remembers perfectly, because I can see.

7

8 (Laughter)

9

10 MR. KESSLER: Anyway, so we're not
11 talking about customary trade, but there may be a small
12 link.

13

14 Thank you.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: So what is the wish of
17 the Council concerning this -- well, let me read this
18 one question where it states that subsequently the
19 Southeast Council formed a working group to analyze the
20 customary and traditional use determination process.
21 And this working group suggested that when necessary
22 the Board restricts harvest by applying ANILCA Section
23 .804 instead of using the customary and traditional use
24 designation.

25

26 MR. KESSLER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
27 That's Alternative 1 I believe that you're speaking to.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

30

31 MR. KESSLER: We've got them numbered
32 there at the bottom of the page.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Does the Council feel
35 that we need to go further into this discussion, or do
36 you feel that we should leave it on until such time
37 that this comes up for discussion again. It's
38 completely up to you and you have one whole hour and 10
39 minutes to decide.

40

41 (Laughter)

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the wish of
44 the Council. We've got to get moving on this. I know
45 it's getting kind of late and we're all tired, but
46 there's a little bit of work that we need to get down,
47 and this is one of them.

48

49 Council members. Any comments.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: That would be mine.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Pardon. Mr. Roczicka.
4
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I didn't
6 know if I was ready to make a motion for it or not.
7 But Section .804 of ANILCA is not going anywhere. And
8 it's going to be there as a fall back all the time.
9 And I'd had to take out prior -- have the option of any
10 other tools that may be available under having these
11 additional determinations made. So just speaking for
12 myself, I like No. 2, but I'm not married to it or
13 anything. It's going to come back. I don't know if I
14 like it so much yet. I didn't really know enough about
15 how it might be applied, whether it would be good or
16 bad. But if I was wanting -- needing to pick one right
17 now, that would be my preference.
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could you define what
24 you mean by change the way such determinations are made
25 by making it areawide. Areawide. How big an area are
26 you talking about? I asking you, the maker of this
27 motion -- or -- yeah, I'm asking Greg what do you mean
28 by areawide. Is that local, regional or boundaries,
29 game unit, or whatever area are you talking about?
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, it would have to
32 be tied into some how with what we already have
33 established as our customary and traditional use areas,
34 so all the species that within that. And right now I
35 believe it is all of Unit 18 and Kalskags for 18.
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Kessler, go ahead.
38
39 MR. KESSLER: I think that all would
40 have to be determined in the future, but just on a
41 really big scale, people from Unit 18 probably would
42 not have as part of that area, Southeast Alaska or
43 Northeast Alaska, you know. And people in Southeast
44 Alaska wouldn't have the North Slope. You know, I
45 mean, obviously these are big areas, right. And then
46 you can start going into smaller areas. You know,
47 people of Unit 18 might have Unit 18.
48
49 That, you know, is just like all the
50 customary and traditional use determinations that we've

1 already made. They're made either on fishing districts
2 or wildlife management units. And there would be a lot
3 of discussions among you, the Council, to help figure
4 that out.

5
6 I think that there's -- by the way, Mr.
7 Chairman, it seems like we're having a little
8 difficulty actually coming up with a motion. I think
9 that we could probably also just determine that it's
10 the sense of the Council that maybe there is something
11 different that ought to be done. You don't necessarily
12 have to say this is the way that we want to do it, but
13 you could just say, you know, we think that maybe some
14 changes would be appropriate. I mean, I'd be more than
15 happy if you voted on a specific motion and said, this
16 is the way we want to do it, but if it's the sense of
17 the Council, that, yeah, there's something -- some
18 changes would be nice, we don't know what those changes
19 are; or some changes would be good for the subsistence
20 user. You could do that, too.

21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Based on all the
25 information I've been hearing, that paragraph that
26 says, Southeast Council, et cetera, et cetera, et
27 cetera, suggests that when necessary the Board restrict
28 harvest by applying ANILCA Section .804 criteria.
29 First, customary and direct dependence upon the
30 populations as the mainstay of livelihood. Second,
31 local residency. And, third, availability of
32 alternative resources.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And?

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: And I think that would
37 cover -- I'm sure that would cover every concern we
38 have for an area.

39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council members. Mr.
41 Roczicka.

42
43 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44
45 Well, I appreciate Mr. Kessler's
46 statement there. I think they're worthy of
47 exploration, but I'm not sure if any one of them is
48 going to be better for subsistence users or might end
49 up limiting our options in some way in the future, and
50 possibly better things to do. So I think the issue's

1 definitely worth exploring, but I don't know, a while
2 ago I -- that's why I never made a motion about let's
3 do this one or that one. And so I'd like to take a
4 look at it, but I'm not ready to support any one of
5 them.

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I myself feel that,
8 you know, anything that does not make criminals of our
9 people who are hungry to go out and be able to get the
10 subsistence resource. Anything that would not label
11 them to a certain district and certain area. And, you
12 know, the determination is made village by village,
13 which village, which town is eligible for, who has
14 customary and traditional use of a certain area. I
15 think that needs to come out. That's my own opinion,
16 and I don't know how the rest of the people feel, but I
17 feel that when it comes to feeding our people, and our
18 people are hungry and they need to go out and get
19 something to eat, I think they should be able to go out
20 in any area, any part of the area that they reside in
21 to be able to get the subsistence resource.

22

23 You know, I myself have done a bit of
24 caribou hunting. From Hooper Bay I've come out by snow
25 machine all the way to Three Step, and that's way out
26 of the area that I live in. I lived from Hooper Bay, I
27 also went all the way up to the Sisters up in St.
28 Michael to get my caribou.

29

30 So, you know, as long as our people are
31 able to do that, to be able to go out and get the
32 resource that they need, as long as they're protecting
33 from any kind of law that makes a suggestion that they
34 are breaking the law in order to feed themselves is
35 something that I would fully endorse.

36

37 And I don't know exactly without
38 sitting down and studying exactly what's going on to
39 make up my mind which of these that I prefer.

40

41 MR. BILL: Mr. Chairman.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Bill.

44

45 MR. BILL: I myself have been doing
46 long distance subsistence hunt from Nelson Island all
47 the way up to Holy Cross, from Nelson Island all the
48 way up to Holitna. I've been doing that just to put
49 food on my table for children and my grandchildren. If
50 I'm able to do that, I don't want to change my life, do

1 anything. Because right now Yukon-Kuskokwim-coastal
2 area is considered us living in a third world. 85
3 percent are unemployed in that area. They cannot
4 afford to lose subsistence. In fact, the only thing
5 they have from their ancestors. They live by it. You
6 know what a stickleback is? We call them needlefish,
7 we've eaten that for breakfast when we didn't have no
8 food, when we didn't have any breakfast. We've eaten
9 it along with our dog team. That's how it is down in
10 the Yukon-Kuskokwim-coastal area.

11
12 I don't want to change my life though
13 for anything else. I wouldn't trade it for anything
14 else. We're proud of the way we live. And we're
15 careful how we use the resources down in that area. I
16 think anywhere in the State of Alaska, us in Yup'ik and
17 the Athabaskan way of life, I think they all do that.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Any more
22 comments on this rural determination [sic]. Mr.
23 Aloysius.

24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't have a comment.
26 I do have a question. What would happen if No. 4 was
27 adopted, make no changes. What is make no changes? Is
28 it leave it status quo? And what is the status quo.

29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Kessler.

31
32 MR. KESSLER: Thank you. Mr. Wilde.
33 Mr. Aloysius. The status quo is that we would continue
34 the current process of making customary and traditional
35 use determinations based on the eight factors, a
36 holistic view of the eight factors, and they're in one
37 of these appendices. And we would keep bringing those
38 back to you, and that would be it.

39
40 It's just, you know, the review, the
41 Secretaries' review asked the Councils to look at how
42 this process was working. The Councils all said, well,
43 it seemed to be working okay, except for the Southeast
44 Council. They said they didn't like the way it was
45 working. And then they've materials together to ask
46 you, the other Councils, do you support maybe doing
47 something besides the current process.

48
49 But otherwise the current process we'd
50 just -- we'd continue making customary and traditional

1 use determinations.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: So in other words, if
4 it's not broke, don't fix it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, go ahead.

7

8 MR. LORRIGAN: If we remain status quo,
9 then the elder that you brought up in your testimony
10 would still be cited.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's correct.

13

14 MR. ALOYSIUS: What was that?

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I was stating
17 that there was one time when, and then it came out in
18 the newspaper, where one of our elders got arrested or
19 detained because he had whitefish in his boat that he's
20 gotten to bring home to eat, but he did not have
21 customary and traditional use for, or designated as
22 being one of the -- his village did not have customary
23 and traditional use for that certain species of fish.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where?

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Here on one the
28 Kuskokwim River.

29

30 MR. ALOYSIUS: And where was he from?

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: He was from down the
33 coast somewhere.

34

35 MR. ALOYSIUS: And that's the status
36 quo? If I went to -- if I lived in Kalskag and came
37 down here to fish for something that I couldn't get up
38 there, and I didn't customary and traditional use of
39 it, I'd be cited?

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you would be.

42

43 MR. ALOYSIUS: That's the status quo?
44 I don't think so.

45

46 MR. KESSLER: Unless the customary and
47 traditional use determination was changed so that you
48 had customary and traditional use for you community in
49 this area of Bethel, if that's where we're talking
50 about. If -- the customary and traditional use

1 determinations can be changed based on proposals just
2 like all of our different other regulations that you
3 address every year.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: But that one
6 particular story, and that particular time was the one
7 that really bothered me, because our elders shouldn't
8 be cited for getting something that they're used to
9 eating, just because they don't have customary and
10 traditional use determination for that species of fish.
11 But it's happened. It's happened before, and I'm sure
12 it's going to happen again if we go keep the status quo
13 as it is.

14

15 Yes, Mr. Peltola.

16

17 MR. PELTOLA: Yes, Mr. Wilde. If you
18 would like, I could run through a scenario with a
19 population that people might be familiar with to try to
20 clarify the four alternatives.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You know, we've tried
23 everything, and we'll try anything to get the
24 explanation, so you're welcome.

25

26 MR. PELTOLA: Okay. Let's look at 21E
27 moose hunt. We've heard Bob say that he's hunted over
28 there at Kalskag. We've heard James say that he's
29 hunted over there. I shot my first moose over then
30 when I was six. So right now with the Federal hunt,
31 there's a positive C&T for SHAG villages, Kalskag,
32 Aniak, Chuathbaluk. So right now they could participate
33 in that Federal hunt over there. So that would be like
34 No. 4. Make no changes. It would continue to be the
35 same.

36

37 Now, if we go back to No. 1, it says,
38 eliminate customary and traditional use determinations.
39 Instead, use .804 when necessary. What that would
40 mean, if you were looking at scenario No. 1, is that
41 you do away with the C&T, you don't use it any more.
42 That means you have to be a rural resident, so someone
43 from Tunt, someone from Kalskag, someone from Bethel,
44 someone from Chuathbaluk could go over and hunt in 21E,
45 unless it was a small enough population where you had
46 to restrict. That's when you go into the three
47 criteria under .804.

48

49 No. 2 would change the way use
50 determinations are made. And here it doesn't list any

1 particular way to change it. They're asking if you
2 want to change it, how would you change it.

3

4 Or, three, is there any other idea that
5 you or the RAC think of how to do things better. And
6 so that's a scenario with something. I think most of us
7 are familiar with the 21E moose. And we had David say
8 that he came from the coast and he used to go up to 21E.
9 I remember seeing herring boats with six drums of gas
10 from people from the coast going up there, getting
11 three or four moose per boat and going back down. So
12 there's a lot of people mid coast, lower coast, Bethel
13 who right now by utilizing the C&T determination are
14 not eligible to participate in that hunt.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other discussion.
17 Mr. Bill.

18

19 MR. BILL: Can I have one more comment.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, you may.

22

23 MR. BILL: My Uncle Paul John back when
24 Governor Sheffield was in the office, he went down to
25 Juneau and talked to him. Governor Sheffield said,
26 whenever you people don't fight for your rights as
27 subsistence users, others might think that you don't
28 care. You have to fight about it, talk about it in
29 order to make them hear it. And that way you will save
30 your area, your livelihood. Those are the words of
31 Governor Sheffield.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other discussion
36 on the C&T. Mr. Nick.

37

38 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
39 Council. I would like to make just a little
40 recommendation to resolve, or to have better
41 understanding of what C&T is. Like I think a lot of
42 the regulations, like Federal regulations like this one
43 is misunderstood by the villages.

44

45 For example, before that proposal came
46 about for Kalskag, Aniak, Chuathbaluk and the Paimiut
47 was dropped, you know, in Unit 21E Kalskag didn't have
48 C&T for 21E moose. But there was a proposal. And then
49 it was modified and it was finally passed by the Board.
50 Now Kalskag and those villages upriver has C&T for

1 moose in that -- only portion of 21E on the south side
2 of the Yukon River in Paimiut Slough, not outside of
3 that area. If you remember, reviewing the proposal, I
4 think it was about a year or two ago, a couple years
5 ago, you had a lot of discussion about that. At that
6 time only rural residents of Unit 21E and Russian
7 Mission had C&T for moose on Federal lands. So that
8 would mean if James went over, didn't know where the
9 Federal lands are, if he go moose hunting, he would be
10 giving citation in that area. But there's State lands,
11 like corporation lands, you know, where other people
12 have C&T.

13

14 My little recommendation is, you know,
15 if you have a copy of this, maybe it would be good in
16 the future to make a decision what kind of changes you
17 want to see with respect to C&T. We happen to have a
18 booklet in the office that was done in the early 1990s
19 when the RAC began to talk about C&T. We do have a
20 copy of that, the recommendations that were given with
21 respect to C&T. I think I have it in the office. So
22 if you need that copy sometime, I could make -- provide
23 that copy as a model, you know, or as an example to
24 make recommended changes on C&T.

25

26 Mr. Chair.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments on
29 C&T. A decision's got to be made so we can get on to
30 the next.

31

32 Mr. Aloysius.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: One last thing is based
35 on all the information I've been hearing, I think No. 1
36 would be the best alternative right not.

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A motion's been made
41 and seconded to adopt No. 1, to eliminate customary and
42 traditional use determination, and instead use when
43 necessary ANILCA Section .804 criteria. There's a
44 motion made and seconded by Mr. -- the motion was made
45 by Mr. Aloysius, seconded by Mr. Roczicka.

46

47 Any further discussion.

48

49

50 (No comments)

1 MR. CHARLES: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question called
4 for. All in favor signify by saying aye.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.
9
10 (No opposing votes)
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
13 Done.
14
15 Thank you, gentlemen.
16
17 And now at this time I'm sorry you
18 waited so long, but I think we'll get -- we have time
19 to get into our monitoring program. And I've asked the
20 gentleman over there to put those on the white board
21 behind us so we can.....
22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: You mean on the screen.
24
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The screen.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: What number are we on.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're on.....
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: 10.D.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 10.B.
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: D.
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: D? Not D. Okay.
38 Yeah. 10.D. So draft 2014 Fisheries Resource
39 Monitoring Plan is what we're working on now. And if
40 you can come out here (Indiscernible - away from
41 microphones) you will be able to see on the -- over
42 here you will notice that there are -- and is someone
43 here to make this presentation.
44
45 MS. HYER: Hello. Can you hear me?
46 This is Karen Hyer from the Office of Subsistence
47 Management.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I'm sorry you
50 had to wait so long, and I'm glad that you waited. So

1 go ahead with your presentation.

2

3 MS. HYER: Okay. Yeah. No worries on
4 the waiting.

5

6 Before I start, I switched phones. I
7 just want to make sure everybody can hear me okay.

8

9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Loud and clear.

10

11 REPORTER: Yes.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, everybody can
14 hear you. You're loud and clear.

15

16 MS. HYER: Okay. Then I have Pippa
17 Kenner here with me in the office, and I think Trent's
18 on the phone, too. I just want to make sure Trent's on
19 the phone?

20

21 MR. LIEBICH: Yes, I'm here. Can you
22 hear me all right.

23

24 MS. HYER: Yes, I can hear you. All
25 right. I think everybody's at home (ph) so I'll start.

26

27 Good evening, Mr. Chairman and members
28 of the Council. I'm Karen Hyer. I'm a fisheries
29 biologist with the Office of Subsistence Management.
30 We're going to start on Page 164 tonight, and I'm going
31 to take you through the draft 2014 Fisheries Resource
32 Monitoring Plan. So I'll give you a minute to turn to
33 that page. And, please, if you have any questions, or
34 if I'm going too fast, stop me. It is hard over the
35 speakerphone to make sure that you're with me, and we
36 have a lot to go over.

37

38 So starting on Page 164, the Office of
39 Subsistence Management through the Fisheries Resource
40 Monitoring Program funds fisheries projects. These
41 projects provide information needed to sustain
42 subsistence fisheries on Federal public lands. The
43 funded products -- excuse me, the funded projects as a
44 whole are grouped together and they're referred to as
45 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. So what we're
46 going over tonight is the proposed 2014 monitoring
47 plan.

48

49 And I'm going to take you through the
50 introduction material in the book, and then Trent is

1 going to take you through the Yukon River material, and
2 then I'll take you through the Kuskokwim River
3 material. And this is a action item, and since today
4 we have a quorum, the Council can provide a
5 recommendation. So they'll provide a recommendation to
6 us on the Yukon River and then they'll provide a
7 recommendation to us on the Kuskokwim River.

8
9 Now, during the fall of 2012 meeting
10 cycle, we met with you, the Council, to discuss
11 fisheries priorities you would like to see pursued in
12 your area. We used your input to create a draft
13 document called the priority information needs. The
14 purpose of that document was to guide investigators in
15 developing their investigation plans. The priority
16 information needs was then published with our funding
17 opportunity announcement November 12th. And that is
18 when we are now through seeking investigation plans for
19 possible fisheries projects.

20
21 And then the next step was to receive
22 the submitted investigation plans. And the
23 investigators submitted plans to us, and then they went
24 through an evaluation process. And the first step in
25 the evaluation process was a review by the Technical
26 Review Committee. And we heard several people
27 yesterday and this morning talk about that review.

28
29 So if you turn to Page 165 in your
30 book, you can see the criteria the Technical Review
31 Committee used to evaluate the proposals.

32
33 And the first one is strategic
34 priority. The project must address an information need
35 related to several subsistence management.

36
37 The second criteria they looked at was
38 technical and scientific merit. The project is
39 evaluated for scientific rigor and it's clarity of
40 purpose.

41
42 The third thing they looked at is
43 investigator ability and resources. The investigator
44 must have the ability to complete the proposed work.

45
46 And, finally, the last thing they
47 looked at in reviewing these proposals was partnership
48 and capacity building. The project must have
49 participation and support from the local organizations
50 in the area.

1 And the Technical Review Committee used
2 these criteria to form their recommendation, and their
3 recommendation is either to fund a project or not fund
4 a project.

5
6 And once they've completed that step,
7 we go on to the next step. And now we're at the next
8 step where we present to you, the RAC, the Technical
9 Review Committee recommendations, and then we ask you
10 for your input on the proposed projects.

11
12 And then, finally, after we get your
13 input and the Technical Review Committee input, we go
14 to the InterAgency Staff Committee, and they give us a
15 recommendation on the proposed fisheries projects.

16
17 And once we have the three
18 recommendations, we'll have a Federal Board meeting in
19 January, and the Board will decide on the final
20 fisheries monitoring plan. So they'll take everything
21 into consideration and then they make the final
22 decision.

23
24 Now, if you turn to the table on Page
25 167, it will show you the overall monitoring plan for
26 the whole State. And you can see there in the middle
27 of the page a total of 56 projects were submitted for
28 work throughout Alaska. Of those projects, 40 were
29 recommended for funding by the Technical Review
30 Committee. There's a total of \$3.7 million to fund new
31 research projects throughout Alaska with US Fish and
32 Wildlife funds.

33
34 The Forest Service also contributes
35 money to fund projects, but currently their level of
36 funding is unknown. And their funding has historically
37 been applied to projects in Southcentral and Southeast
38 Alaska where they have lands that they manage.

39
40 And so that is pretty much the overview
41 of the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. I'm going
42 to pause here and if you have any questions or
43 comments, please make them. And if you don't, then
44 Trent can head off into the Yukon River overview.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any
47 questions or comments on the information that was
48 presented to you, Council members.

49
50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There don't seem to be
4 any comments and/or questions. So continue.

5

6 MS. HYER: Okay. Well, then Trent will
7 go over the Yukon River for you.

8

9 MR. LIEBICH: Okay. Good evening, Mr.
10 Chair and Council. I'm Trent Liebich. I'm a fish
11 biologist in the Office of Subsistence Management. I
12 don't think I've ever met many of you in person, so let
13 me give you a little bit of background, but I'll keep
14 it quick. I know it's getting late.

15

16 I moved to Anchorage last winter to
17 work with the Office of Subsistence. I moved into
18 Anchorage from Cold Bay on the Alaska Peninsula where I
19 was working as an aquatic ecologist. I've been in and
20 out of Alaska for about 13 years, and I'm very proud of
21 my nine-month-old little girl that hopefully you guys
22 will get to meet some day in the future.

23

24 So I'm going to cover the Yukon, the
25 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, and give an
26 overview of just the Yukon region, as Karen mentioned,
27 and the proposals that were submitted for the 2014
28 notice of funding.

29

30 So for this year's funding cycle, there
31 were seven priority information needs that were
32 identified in the Yukon Region. These priorities are
33 on Page 169 in your book if you want to turn see what
34 the priorities listed are.

35

36 The priorities identify several Chinook
37 and chum salmon information needs, and they also
38 highlight some whitefish, sheefish and northern pike
39 issues in the Yukon region.

40

41 Since the monitoring program began in
42 2000, there's been 95 projects funded in the Yukon
43 region. In this coming year, in 2014, nine of these
44 projects will still be under way. Up to this most
45 recent funding opportunity, there were 12 investigation
46 plans submitted for research in the Yukon region. And
47 after review of these investigation plans by the
48 Technical Review Committee in June, this past summer,
49 nine of the proposed projects were recommended for
50 funding.

1 If you'll turn the page to 170 in your
2 meeting book, you can see a list of the nine projects
3 that were recommended for funding, and I'm going to
4 read through them. These projects are the Gisasa River
5 weir video integration; the East Fork Andreafsky River
6 Chinook and summer chum abundance; the Gisasa River
7 salmon weir Chinook and summer chum abundance; the
8 Yukon River coho salmon microsatellite baseline, that's
9 a genetic study; the Yukon River chum mixed stock
10 analysis; the Koyukuk River chum salmon video telemetry
11 study; The Henshaw Creek adult salmon abundance and run
12 timing; the Lower Yukon River whitefish harvest
13 monitoring; and a Upper Yukon area customary trade
14 proposal.

15
16 The funding guideline for the Yukon
17 region for this year, for the 2014 funding cycle was
18 \$1,073,000 and the total estimated cost for these nine
19 proposed projects is approximately \$934,000. That
20 \$934,000 is different than what you see in your book on
21 Page 170, and there's an \$18,000 increase from what's
22 listed in your meeting books, and this is the result of
23 adding an abundance estimate for the chum salmon radio
24 telemetry project on the Koyukuk River. And this
25 addition of the abundance estimate was recommended by
26 the TRC and the investigator followed up with a
27 modification to the plan and the cost estimate.

28
29 So overall the nine projects
30 recommended for funding by the Technical Review
31 Committee addressed strategically important information
32 needs. They're based on sound science, and they'll
33 promote cooperative partnerships.

34
35 Mr. Chair, this is my conclusion of the
36 summary of the monitoring plans proposed for the Yukon
37 region under the 2014 funding cycle. And I'll leave it
38 at that.

39
40 Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. Are there
43 any questions on the Yukon recommended for funding.

44
45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There don't seem to be
49 any questions. Continue.

50

1 MR. LIEBICH: Okay. Thank you.
2
3 MS. HYER: Hi. Mr. Chairman and
4 Council members. We actually need a motion for the
5 Yukon monitoring plan. We have a separate motion for
6 the Yukon and then a second one for the Kuskokwim. So
7 if there's anything you would like to see differently
8 than what the TRC has recommended, now would be the
9 time to discuss that. Or you're welcome to agree with
10 what the TRC said also. But now is the time that we
11 would like your input, and then we'll need a motion.
12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And what was the last
14 statement again? I didn't quite get that.
15
16 MS. HYER: We need a motion to reflect
17 what your desires are for the research projects in your
18 area.
19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is the Council in
21 agreement with the suggested funding for the nine
22 projects on the Yukon. Council members. What do you
23 think. We've got exactly a half hour before our
24 meeting is to be closed. So let's come up with -- see
25 if we can come up with -- I know it's getting late and
26 we're all tired, but we've got this one bit to do.
27
28 Mr. Roczicka. Could you please come
29 forward and speak into the mic, please.
30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. To
32 get a motion on the floor, not hearing any kind of a
33 critique, I'd move to support the Yukon proposals as
34 presented or recommended by the TRC.
35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You heard the motion.
37 Is there any further discussion on the.....
38
39 Could the rest of you Council members
40 please get up on the table so you can get by the mics
41 while we're working on this. Go up there so you can
42 get recorded on the mics -- we need some more chairs
43 around that table so that you can all sit around there
44 and those two mics.
45
46 Okay. That will be fine then.
47
48 REPORTER: But we need a second.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We need a second to

1 the motion. The motion was to adopt and approve the
2 suggested monitoring program for the Yukon.

3

4 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion's made by
7 Roczicka, seconded by Mr. Charles.

8

9 Any further discussion.

10

11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, was the
12 motion.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Aloysius. Can you
15 please come up to mic. Please come up to the mic.

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Was the motion to adopt
18 \$1,073,000 for the Yukon projects.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: To clarify the motion.
21 The motion was to accept or support the proposed
22 funding as presented by the TRC for the Yukon.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Understand. And could
25 you give us that amount again for the Yukon projects,
26 please. Teleconference. Telephone.

27

28 MS. HYER: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. The
29 proposed projects were at 9,015.....

30

31 MS. KENNER: 915.

32

33 MS. HYER: Yeah, excuse me. 915 K.
34 This is very close to what's allocated to the region.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. I thought I
37 heard a different number. I thought I heard something
38 like 935.

39

40 MR. LIEBICH: Yes.

41

42 MS. HYER: It could be. One project
43 was I think reduced in cost, and I don't see -- I have
44 an old copy. Trent actually has the most recent copy.

45

46 MR. LIEBICH: Yes. The new total would
47 approximately 934,000.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Did you get that, Mr.
50 Aloysius, the total amount is 934,000.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other discussion.
4 Any other discussion on the proposal, proposed
5 recommended for funding for the Yukon.
6
7 MR. NICK: Who seconded it? I don't
8 think we have a second.
9
10 REPORTER: Yes, Mr. Charles did, Alex.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Nick, it was
13 seconded by Mr. James Charles.
14
15 Mr. Roczicka.
16
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 And I guess I'd just like some clarification here under
19 the discussion, but as I'm looking at it, you had
20 \$1,073,000 allocated for funding, and I'm looking at
21 the total on the end there of \$3,976,000. Where's that
22 extra money coming from. Or is that a misprint. Or is
23 that 937 or whatever you mentioned only for the first
24 year.
25
26 MS. HYER: Well, there are two things.
27 The 900 is for the first year, but the 3.7 for
28 statewide projects. So we take that amount that we had
29 allocated for statewide and we divide it up between
30 regions.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you. That
33 clarifies it.
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, we have Page 179,
36 Table 5, up on the screen.
37
38 MS. HYER: Okay. Page 179, I've got it
39 here, too. So the total that was submitted is the 1.1
40 K, it's that first line, for year one. The funding
41 guideline for the Yukon region is 1 million. And the
42 TRC recommended 9.15. And so the TRC recommendation is
43 a bit under the funding guideline for that region.
44 That is common, and you're a little bit over in a
45 region or a little bit under in a region. We often --
46 those are just guidelines. They're not absolute rules,
47 so there is some sliding that goes on between regions.
48
49 MR. ROCZICKA: That's enough for me.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, are there any
2 more comments, any other further comments by Council
3 for the proposed recommendation for the funding for the
4 Yukon.

5
6 Any further discussion.

7
8
9 (No comments)

10
11 MR. CHARLES: Question.

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question's called for.
14 All in favor -- Mr. Nick, could you please come and
15 call the roll since it's dealing with a bunch of dollar
16 bills.

17
18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Motion to
19 support Yukon -- I mean, rather TRC's recommendation to
20 fund Yukon projects.

21
22 Mr. William Brown.

23
24 MR. BROWN: Yes.

25
26 MR. NICK: Excuse me. James Charles.

27
28 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

29
30 MR. NICK: Evan Polty.

31
32 MR. POLTY: Yes.

33
34 MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes.

37
38 MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.

39
40 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.

41
42 MR. NICK: Mary Gregory.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: She's excused.

45
46 MR. NICK: She's excused.

47
48 Greg Roczicka.

49
50 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

1 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
2
3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah.
4
5 MR. NICK: David Bill.
6
7 MR. BILL: Yes.
8
9 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. We have eight
10 yes and zero no.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The Council is in
13 agreement for the projects on the -- the expenditures
14 on the funding for the Yukon projects.
15
16 The next item, please.
17
18 MS. HYER: Okay. This is -- Mr.
19 Chairman and Council members. I'm going to refer you
20 to a folder that I think was brought out to you by
21 Steve Kessler. Do you have that folder?
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, we do.
24
25 MS. HYER: If you'd open that up, and
26 I'll tell you a little bit about what's in there, and
27 I'm going to try to make this brief so you have time to
28 discuss. But there's a letter in there that was sent
29 to the Office of Subsistence Management, there's a
30 letter in your book, it's the wrong letter, and there's
31 a page missing from it. This letter in your folder is
32 the one that should have been in the book. The
33 other.....
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you please.....
36
37 MS. HYER:package of letters are
38 letters of support for a different project, and so
39 those are there for you to review, too. And then
40 there's actually a table that's titled, Technical
41 Review Committee prioritization of proposed projects.
42 Does everybody have that table.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Does everybody have
45 the -- they're just being passed out now.
46
47 MS. HYER: Okay.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay, you can
50 continue.

1 MS. HYER: Okay. I have a question to
2 you and the Council. There's a list of projects here.
3 I'm not sure how familiar you are with those projects,
4 and I'd be happy to give you a one-minute (ph)
5 explanation if you need them. If not, I would just go
6 ahead and start talking about the funding.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Continue with your
9 funding.

10
11 MS. HYER: Okay. So if you look at
12 this table, you can see where you see the TRC
13 recommendation is funded in black and do not fund is in
14 red. And then you can see the amount for the fiscal
15 year. And the guidelines for the Kuskokwim is \$1
16 million. And if you look up at the table, and you look
17 at where it says running totals, you can see that the
18 TRC has recommended funding more projects than the
19 allocated money for the region. So the TRC then
20 proposed this order for funding, because if there are
21 fewer projects funded in other regions and there's
22 excess money like in the Yukon, that money would be
23 applied then to a region like the Kuskokwim. But at
24 this point we're not completely sure of our budget, and
25 that's why we put these in order of importance to the
26 TRC. So this is their recommendation.

27
28 So I'd ask the Council for two things
29 if possible. One is if they agree with this funding/do
30 not fund, and there's been a lot of discussion about
31 that. So that's important for us to know, and that
32 should be part of your recommendation. And then if you
33 give us some idea of what's more important to you.
34 That would give us a lot of information to work on.

35
36 I think that I'm going to stop there
37 and I'm going to take questions.

38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any questions for
40 Karen by Council members.

41
42 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. James, could you
45 come on up here to the mic.

46
47 MR. CHARLES: So those -- thank you,
48 Mr. Chairman. So those three items, I mean, three
49 places like Kuskokwim Bay Takotna and Tuluksak, they
50 are -- they have DNF, so that's do not fund; is that

1 right?

2

3 MS. HYER: That is correct. So
4 there's two things to take away from this table. One
5 is what the TRC said fund and what they said do not
6 fun, and the other is the order they put the projects
7 in, because that was their recommendation for stop at
8 the top and work your way down with funding.

9

10 MR. CHARLES: Is it after 2014 or is it
11 for 2014? Do not fund for 2014 or after? Because I
12 see more money for those places at the end or in the
13 middle and at the end.

14

15 MS. HYER: Mr. James, Council members.
16 I'm not sure if that was a question or not. That faded
17 away, and I didn't get it.

18

19 MR. CHARLES: I'm sorry. For 2014,
20 they still have money allocated for those places and
21 total at the end. Why even they say do not fund.
22 Would it cost that much to operate them?

23

24 MS. HYER: Yes, it would cost \$2
25 million to operate all the proposed projects on the
26 Kuskokwim River, and there's only a million dollars
27 allocated for the Kuskokwim River.

28

29 MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any other
32 questions.

33

34 Mr. Roczicka.

35

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

37

38 I guess I need some more clarification
39 here again. The draft that we got with the
40 prioritization of the projects only includes 2014. Are
41 you looking for a recommendation just for 2014, because
42 again in the book itself, these projects are -- have
43 the four-year funding period that was put in when the
44 projects were submitted. It's on Page 235 of our book.
45 So what exactly are you asking us to vote on here? Is
46 it just for the funding for the entire.....

47

48 MS. HYER: We're asking you to vote on
49 2014, because we only have -- we're only allocated one
50 year of funding at a time. That's how our funding

1 cycle works.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are you done. Turn on
4 your mic. Continue, Mr. Roczicka.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.

7

8 As I stated earlier in the meeting, I
9 have to declare a conflict regarding the Kuskokwim
10 proposals. My employer is the recipient for one of
11 these projects, so it wouldn't be appropriate for me to
12 vote or to be making motions regarding them. However,
13 I would like to make a statement and offer a
14 recommendation. Then I'll go back and sit down and you
15 guys can do it from there.

16

17 But given the extensive comments we had
18 from both management and members of the public that's
19 been brought forward, I would strongly recommend that
20 we do reprioritize these fundings and remove the
21 proposed funding -- or the approved funding of the
22 Kanaktok and Goodnews River weirs, and replace them
23 with the Takotna River and Tuluksak River weirs, given
24 that, as was stated extensively on the record, those
25 two weirs there, on the Kanaktok and Goodnews,
26 primarily support commercial activities. These are
27 subsistence funds. Both of those other projects for
28 Takotna and Tuluksak have a long track record and I
29 believe fully satisfy all the criteria that are there.
30 There are other possible funding sources that could be
31 sought after that are more viable for the Kanaktok and
32 Goodnews as well.

33

34 And although if you look at those two,
35 and I didn't have -- I wasn't looking at this when I
36 had my numbers cranked up on the other, and had them as
37 the total for the full four years of the projects as
38 they were submitted, but removing Kanaktok and Goodnews
39 down into the do not fund area would still leave you
40 roughly \$100,000 short to fund those two. They don't
41 replace each other directly across. So the other place
42 that I looked at is perhaps the Upper Kuskokwim
43 sheefish enumeration might be one place to look there
44 to recommend for defunding.

45

46 Or the other one that was brought up,
47 and this is referring to ONC's project on the in-season
48 survey, and pushing that, perhaps could be reduced by,
49 you know, 30 to 40 percent. But I know that it's a
50 very appreciated project, and has been mentioned as

1 such by the working group and other members. They
2 would like to keep that, and the funding for that is a
3 much smaller amount and wouldn't make up the difference
4 either. But rather than as a six-week project -- or is
5 it two-month? Six weeks or two months that it runs,
6 you know, we could reduce that down if it would help to
7 make up some of that shortfall there.

8

9 That would be my recommendation, but
10 like I say, I can't make any motions, and I won't be
11 voting on this.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any other comments by
14 Council members on the Kuskokwim proposed projects.
15 Council members.

16

17 Any other comments.

18

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
23 discussion.

24

25 Mr. Aloysius.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I find it
28 very, very hard to analyze this graph, because there
29 isn't a body here that I can see to defend it. In the
30 past we always had somebody here that we could talk to,
31 and not just look at a wall of numbers. So I'm having
32 a really hard time.

33

34 And the other thing is that I don't see
35 why Takotna and Tuluksak River weirs are not
36 recommended for funding, because those are the rivers
37 that are going tell us and continue on what the king
38 salmon are doing on these two rivers. Are they getting
39 up to the headwaters like we hope they will. And if
40 that funding stops right now, that means we're going to
41 cut our left foot off again and say, well, we've got
42 this far; now we don't know what the heck is going to
43 happen next. It doesn't make sense to me, and a lot of
44 people upriver, that we have a project, two projects
45 that are very beneficial to the Kuskokwim River Salmon
46 Management Working Group in making determinations on
47 the future of the king salmon. And if those funds are
48 cut off right now, we're going to lose potential data
49 that's going to be generated by these two weirs.

50

1 Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

4 Aloysius.

5

6 Any other comments on the Kuskokwim
7 funding, proposed funding projects. Projects funding.
8 Any other comments.

9

10 Mr. Roczicka.

11

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

13

14 And it was just pointed out to me as
15 well that -- oh, I should clarify, too, that on the in-
16 season survey, I'm speaking only for ONC. There is a
17 portion of that that is Fish and Game funding. I can't
18 speak to how they might be able to absorb that.

19

20 But the main thing that was pointed out
21 was that on several of these other weirs projects in
22 the Tatlawiksuk and the George I believe and I didn't
23 scribble down a full list, but those have actually been
24 increased by 20 to 25,000 over prior costs of running
25 them, which maybe was putting in as a cost of living
26 increase, but that might be something that could be
27 addressed in the reprioritization or at the Office of
28 Subsistence Management making the final funding
29 determinations and giving partial funding or the
30 previous year's level of funding.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you.

33

34 Any other comments by Council.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I have one comment
39 concerning the funding. And as Mr. Roczicka stated in
40 the prior presentation that he made, was the value of
41 the Takotna and the Tuluksak River salmon weir. These
42 two weirs from the information that we've gathered from
43 the people, the proponents that are asking to review
44 these projects is that these two river weirs are very,
45 important to the subsistence resources of the area, not
46 just the Chinook, but also the amount of other salmon
47 that are coming in, namely the coho and the other
48 salmon that are residing within the Takotna and
49 Tuluksak Rivers. And from all the information that
50 we've gathered, all the testimony was in support of

1 those two weirs, the Takotna -- and the continuation of
2 the funding of those two weirs, the Takotna and the
3 Tuluksak weirs. So I would feel that if there was or
4 is or if the suggestions by the Council area as
5 important as we feel, or as some people feel, that it
6 is important that the proposed funding projects are
7 brought before the Council, that feel that they're
8 important enough that we feel that these two rivers
9 should be funded also during this cycle.

10

11 Any other comments. Mr. James Charles.

12

13

14 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15 I agree with you and Greg on these rivers, because I'm
16 Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group member, too.
17 And in-season we look at how the run is on these
18 rivers, Takotna and Tuluksak. I would like to see these
19 rivers funded, but I'm not agreeing for non-salmon
20 research like the sheefish and the whitefish, and other
21 rivers that are non-salmon research money.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
27 Charles.

28

29 Any other comments.

30

31

32 (No comments)

33

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council members. What
36 is the feeling of the Council members.

37

38 Suggestions.

39

40 Go ahead, Mr. Roczicka.

41

42

43 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
44 If I was able to make a motion, or
45 didn't have the conflict that I did, I would have made
46 something in the range of moving the Kanektok and
47 Goodnews River salmon weirs down to No. 14; moving the
48 Takotna and Tuluksak River weirs up in the 4 to 6
49 ranges; and that we put the whitefish enumeration then
50 down in the 12, 13, and 14 for not being funded, would
be the north Kuskokwim Bay, the Upper Kuskokwim River
sheefish, and the Kanektok and Goodnews weir in the no
funding.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's a suggestion.
2
3 Mr. Aloysius.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a hard time
6 hearing; that's what I'm trying to say. And, you know,
7 I didn't exactly understand what he wanted to do. He
8 wanted to move Nos. 13 and 14 up to between 3 and 6; is
9 that what you think? And lower the Kanektok and
10 Goodnews Bay salmon river weir down along with the
11 sheefish -- what number is that sheefish one? No. 11.
12 Do you have a pointer?
13
14 MR. ROCZICKA: What I was suggesting
15 was if we move -- if you make a motion to move Takotna
16 River and Tuluksak River weirs up in -- maybe put them
17 in between 5 and 6. That knocks everything down two
18 slots. Take No. 6 and put it to the end, because it's
19 -- actually at the bottom, because of the commercial
20 aspects being the primary purpose of that fishery down
21 there that those weirs support. And these are
22 subsistence projects, these are subsistence funds.
23
24 Did you hear me?
25
26 (Laughter)
27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Based on
29 what I heard, the clarification from Mr. Roczicka, I
30 move that we move Nos. 13 and 14 up to 6 and 7 on this
31 priority. And then that motion is made basically
32 because we need the information that we gather from
33 Takotna and the Tuluksak River.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And, Mr. Aloysius,
36 before you go, I've got one question for you. You
37 would also mean that you would like to have the Takotna
38 weir and the Tuluksak weir funded for this season,
39 because whether you move them or not, we've got to be
40 able to let the people that are funding this to know
41 which project we would like funded, and I think for the
42 two weirs that we would like to see funded are the
43 Takotna weir and the Tuluksak River salmon weir, and
44 not fund the Kanektok and Goodnews River salmon weir.
45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: That's a very, very long
47 motion. And we never even had a second for discussion.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, I was just
50 suggesting, you know, that just moving them doesn't say

1 that they're being funded, but we want to make sure
2 that the TRC knows that our motion is to fund the
3 Takotna and Tuluksak weirs. Not just move them, we
4 also want them funded.

5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Oh, yeah. Thank you for
7 the clarification on my motion. So the being the case,
8 I move that we prioritize the Takotna and the Tuluksak
9 River to be upgraded to positions 6 and 7 and be funded
10 for the coming year.

11
12 Thank you.

13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
15 Aloysius.

16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second?

18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry. You
20 heard the motion. Motion was made to fund the Takotna
21 and Tuluksak River and not fund the Kanektok/Goodnews
22 salmon weirs. So Kanektok and Goodnews weir would be
23 no, and Tuluksak and Takotna would be yes.

24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: After the second.
26 Didn't hear the second. Mr. Chairman. There has been
27 no second to the motion.

28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. There's a
30 motion made. Is there a second to the motion.

31
32 MR. BROWN: I want to ask a question.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr. Brown
35 or do you have something to say? Come on up here to
36 the -- there's a motion on the floor.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: And there needs to be a
39 second before there's any discussion.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It needs a second.
42 Did you second the motion that was made by Mr.
43 Aloysius.

44
45 MR. BROWN: I want to ask a
46 question.....

47
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Well, we have a motion
49 on the floor that needs to be seconded.

50

1 MR. CHARLES: I'll second it for
2 discussion.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
5 Charles.
6
7 Okay. Now any further discussion. You
8 can come up and make your discussion. Turn on your
9 mic.
10
11 MR. CHARLES: Yeah, I'm William Brown
12 from working group.
13
14 And back home I will keep.....
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Could you speak a
17 little bit louder. Robert's having a hard time hearing
18 today.
19
20 MR. BROWN: I would keep Kanektok and
21 Goodnews weir, because it's really important for the
22 local fishermen down there. That's my objection.
23
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any further
25 discussion. Any further discussion on the motion.
26
27 MR. NICK: Excuse me, I need
28 clarification on the motion. Which of the projects are
29 recommended not to be funded.
30
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. motion maker.
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I would like
34 someone to make a friendly amendment to my motion
35 simply stating that the Kanektok and Goodnews River
36 salmon weir and the -- what was that other one? The
37 sheefish, that not be funded?
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Not be funded.
40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Was that the sheefish
42 one?
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The Kanektok and
45 Goodnews weirs and the.....
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I can't see.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The Kuskokwim Chinook
50 salmon natural indicators.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: What? Oh, it's the
2 sheefish.
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: So I need somebody to
7 make a friendly amendment to my motion.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: To include?
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Not funding the Kanektok
12 and Goodnews River salmon weir project and the Upper
13 Kuskokwim River sheefish enumeration project.
14
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there an amendment
16 to Mr. Aloysius' motion to include his last statement.
17
18 MR. ALOYSIUS: Or I can modify my
19 motion.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That would probably be
22 simpler, Mr. Aloysius. Why don't you.
23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there a Robert's Rule
25 of Order person here.
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: You can do that.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You can do that.
30
31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. All right. I
32 amend the first motion to include that the -- I wish I
33 had my glasses. Oh, God. Jumping around. Okay. To
34 amend the motion to not fund the Kanektok and Goodnews
35 River salmon weir and the Upper Kuskokwim sheefish
36 enumeration projects.
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And the Kuskokwim.....
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: And I ask the person who
41 made the second to follow my modification of my
42 original.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is that in agreement
45 with the motion maker.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm the motion maker. I
48 need the approval of the second.
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The approval of the

1 second.
2
3 MR. CHARLES: Yeah, I go along with
4 Bob.
5
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
11 on the motion.
12
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
17 on the motion.
18
19
20 (No comments)
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there are no
23 further discussion, all in favor of the motion signify
24 by saying aye.
25
26 IN UNISON: Aye.
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Abstain.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.
31
32 (No opposing votes)
33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
35
36 Is there anything else you need, any
37 other presentation for the TRC.
38
39 MS. HYER: Mr. Chairman. Council
40 members. That ends my presentation on the draft
41 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Plan. Thank you very
42 much for your input.
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you very much.
45
46 At this time we continue on with our
47 agenda, which is getting to be real short.
48
49 (Laughter)
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's just finish it
2 off. Can I ask the rest of the Council to come on up
3 here so we can finish up the rest of our business.
4 Thank you.

5
6 MR. CHARLES: Now last piece.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We are down to Item
9 No. 12, future meeting dates. Mr. Nick.

10 MR. NICK: Alex Nick for the record.

11
12
13 Future meeting date is Item 12 on Page
14 3 of your agenda.

15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Page 3.

17
18 MR. NICK: Page 3 of your agenda.

19
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 3 in your agenda.

21
22 MR. NICK: In your agenda. And you
23 need to confirm date and location of winter meeting on
24 March 5 and 6, 2014 in Bethel.

25
26 Mr. Chair.

27
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: What is the feeling of
29 the Council on the dates for the winter meeting on
30 March 5th and 6th, 2014. Council members. Mr.
31 Charles.

32
33 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. It looks
34 good enough for me.

35
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Any other
37 comment. Mr. Roczicka.

38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I don't
40 have them in front of me right now, but I do believe
41 the State Board of Game is meeting right around that
42 time as well on the Interior Region or perhaps
43 statewide proposals. Or it may be later in the season,
44 I don't recall right off the top of my head.

45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.

47
48 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I don't have the
49 State Board meeting schedule in front of me, but on
50 Page 288 of your book is the winter 2014 Regional

1 Advisory Council meeting calendar. And it shows the
2 dates other RACs are meeting.
3
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And it shows the YK
5 Delta meeting on March 5th and 6th.
6
7 MR. NICK: Yes. And there should be no
8 more than two meetings each week.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There shouldn't be any
11 conflicts.
12
13 MR. NICK: There should not be no more
14 than two meetings. I meant to say that.
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'd need a motion
17 from the Council to confirm the dates of March 5th and
18 6th for the winter meeting in Bethel. Mr. Charles.
19
20 MR. CHARLES: I move that we select
21 March 5th and 6th for winter meeting. Thank you.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made.
24 Do I hear a second to the motion.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
27
28 MR. BROWN: Second.
29
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further discussion
31 on the motion.
32
33 MR. BILL: Mr. Chairman.
34
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.
36
37 MR. BILL: I'm not 100 percent what the
38 motion was.
39
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion was to have
41 our winter meeting on March 5th and 6th, 2014 in
42 Bethel.
43
44 MR. BILL: Okay. Thank you.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any further
47 discussion. Any further discussion on the meeting
48 dates.
49
50 (No comments)

1 MR. POLTY: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's call
4 for. All in favor say aye.
5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.
7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed same sign.
9
10 (No opposing votes)
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
13
14 We're going to select the next date and
15 location of the fall 2014 meeting. Mr. Nick.
16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
18 Council. Fall 2014 meeting schedule, or calendar, is
19 on 289. On August 19-20, North Slope will meet. The
20 week of August 25 and September 1 is open. On
21 September 9/10 Kodiak/Aleutians. September 16 to 18,
22 Southeast meeting. And September 22 through 26 is
23 open. But I was advised that there should be no
24 meeting scheduled the week of September 29th through
25 October 3rd. And the week of October 6 through 10th,
26 there's one meeting, it's Northwest Arctic. And
27 October 13 through October 17 is open. Mr. Chair.
28
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council members. Any
30 suggestions.
31
32 Mr. Charles.
33
34 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair, what's NWA that's
35 TBD?
36
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Northwest Arctic.
38
39 Mr. Charles.
40
41 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. How does
42 October 2 and 3 be, try again as we tried to do this
43 year.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: October 2nd and 3rd.
46
47 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.
48
49 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
50

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick.
2
3 MR. NICK: I mentioned to you that
4 between September 29 and October 3 there should not be
5 any meeting scheduled.
6
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And why was that?
8
9 MR. NICK: Because it's the end of the
10 fiscal year.
11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh, okay.
13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: What?
15
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The end of the fiscal
17 year.
18
19 MR. NICK: End of fiscal year 2014.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Peltola.
22
23 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah. Mr. Chair. The
24 reason why we try to avoid a meeting the end of
25 September, beginning of October is because it is the
26 end of the fiscal year. And also with the financial,
27 budget management system that the fiscal managers has
28 in place, we go into what's a blackout period where we
29 can't pay for any expenses for the first about 10 days
30 to two weeks of October. That's why we ask to avoid
31 that period.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
34
35 Any further suggests by the Council.
36 Mr. Roczicka.
37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair Is there
39 something October 14-15.
40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: October 14 and 15 has
42 been suggested. What is your.....
43
44 MR. NICK: It's open.
45
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's open. 14th and
47 15th is open, on Tuesday and Wednesday.
48
49 MR. CHARLES: I'll second that motion.
50 Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion's been --
2 was there a motion? I don't believe there was a motion
3 made. That was a suggestion.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: It was a suggestion.
6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman.
8 I didn't frame it as a motion. I will call that a
9 motion.
10
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Motion's been
12 made then for October 14 and 15.
13
14 Any further discussion.
15
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Council members, any
20 further discussion.
21
22 (No comments)
23
24 MR. CHARLES: Question.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called
27 for. All in favor of having our winter meeting on
28 October 14th and 15th, signify saying aye.
29
30 IN UNISON: Aye.
31
32 MR. NICK: Fall meeting. Excuse me.
33 Fall meeting.
34
35 MR. CHARLES: Fall meeting.
36
37 MR. NICK: Fall meeting.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oh. Fall meeting.
40 All opposed same sign.
41
42 (No opposing votes)
43
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.
45 Thank you.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: What about place.
48
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Place. Oh, I'm sorry.
50 We also need to designate a place of where we're going

1 to meet. Any comments to that effect. Mr. Nick.
2
3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
4 Council. The only concern I have is the analysis that
5 needs to be done. Every time when we schedule a
6 meeting elsewhere it needs to be analyzed, and then it
7 would be either approved or not approved by our boss.
8
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Is there any
10 suggestion.....
11
12 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.
13
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Polty.
15
16 MR. POLTY: Since it's going to be a
17 problem analyzing where we're going to be, I recommend
18 that we have it here again in Bethel. Easier for the
19 Staff and they're analyzing what their outcome is.
20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Suggested place has
22 been Bethel. Is there a motion to that effect.
23
24 MR. BROWN: Yes, I move.
25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Brown has made a
27 motion to -- that the place for the October 14/15
28 meeting be held in Bethel. Do I hear a second.
29
30 MR. CHARLES: Second.
31
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
33 Charles.
34
35 Any further discussion. Mr. Aloysius.
36
37 MR. ALOYSIUS: We keep saying that we
38 want to rotate Kuskokwim/Yukon/Kuskokwim/Yukon, and yet
39 it's always Bethel/ Bethel/Bethel, which is always
40 Kuskokwim/Kuskokwim/Kuskokwim.
41
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We realize, but
43 according to our coordinator, it's funds, funds, funds.
44 We always never seem to be able to get to the Yukon
45 because of the restrictions.
46
47 Mr. Nick, you've got any more comments
48 onto that.
49
50 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Aloysius and

1 members of the Council. I realize your frustrations,
2 but when it is expensive, when the estimated expense is
3 over Bethel, then that would be a factor for having
4 meeting in Bethel.

5
6 And that was the case in St. Mary's,
7 you know. You remember Council voted to meet in St.
8 Mary's this winter -- or rather this fall, but the
9 analysis were done, and before the analysis were
10 totally completed, then, you know, it was shut.

11
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
13 Nick. Mr. Peltola, you have a comment.

14
15 MR. PELTOLA: Yeah. I came in a little
16 bit late in the discussion, because I was talking to
17 the building manager about how to lock up when we
18 leave.

19
20 But as we mentioned before during the
21 OSM budget briefing earlier, you know, we took a
22 \$500,000 hit last year. We're anticipating a 6 to
23 \$800,000 reduction in our budget this year. We have 11
24 positions, eight of them we're not filling to try to
25 provide services to the Regional Advisory Councils and
26 Federal Subsistence Board. Meetings in hubs for us are
27 a lot cheaper. We try to accommodate having them in a
28 more rural setting when we can, but sequestration is
29 hitting us very hard.

30
31 And as we have budget reductions, we
32 have what's called a travel cap. OSM can only spend a
33 certain amount of money on travel every year, and all
34 the travel for the Regional Advisory Council members
35 throughout the whole State comes out of that budget.
36 And as our budget decreases every year, that travel cap
37 is lowered.

38
39 And that's why we appreciate having
40 meetings in hubs, because it is a lot less expensive
41 for us.

42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
44 Peltola.

45
46 Any further discussion on the location.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 MR. POLTY: Question.

1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's called
2 for. All in favor of having our fall meeting on
3 October the 14th and 15th in Bethel signify by saying
4 aye.

5
6 IN UNISON: Aye.

7
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All opposed by the
9 same sign.

10
11 (No opposing votes)

12
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's carried.

14
15 We are down to closing comments. We
16 will start from Mr. Wilde. Do you have any closing
17 comments.

18
19 MR. H. WILDE: I don't have any.

20
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No comments. Mr.
22 Charles, do you have any closing comments.

23
24 MR. CHARLES: No comments.

25
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mr. Nick -- Mr. Polty,
27 do you have any closing comments.

28
29 MR. POLTY: Yeah. I'd like to thank
30 the people of Bethel, their good hospitality, and our
31 accommodation that make it easier for us to be coming
32 and be having our meeting here. Thank you very much.

33
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Polty.

35
36 Mr. Aloysius, do you have any closing
37 comments.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a couple.

40
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Proceed.

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: One is it is very
44 bothersome year after year after year is that we are
45 here as a Council to meet and conduct Council business.
46 And it is very distracting for Council members to be
47 walking in and out of this meeting any time they want,
48 and it's very distracting. So as a Chairman, I would
49 recommend that you pull the reins on these guys and
50 stop them from wandering around during business.

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Your comment is
4 appropriate.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: And the other thing is
7 this is the first time it ever took me four days to
8 come to Bethel.
9
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And you points are
11 well taken, Mr. Aloysius.
12
13 Mr. Roczicka, do you have any closing
14 comments.
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: No, other than it's a
17 long run -- oh, actually I did. I wanted to thank
18 Harry. I didn't speak up earlier when he got his
19 award, but he taught me what (In Yup'ik) really means.
20 So I appreciate that.
21
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
23 Roczicka.
24
25 Mr. Bill, do you have any closing
26 comments. Turn on your mic, please.
27
28 MR. BILL: I keep forgetting it. I'd
29 like to ask the Council if you could one day come to my
30 island and have your meeting down there at Toksook.
31 There's a lot of places where you can stay and there
32 are a lot of places where you can take (In Yup'ik) and
33 that stuff down there. You'd be welcome down there.
34 We'd like to see your people down in that area to talk
35 about what you've been talking about here.
36
37 Thank you.
38
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bill.
40 There was one time that we did go down to Toksook Bay,
41 and that was some years back.
42
43 MR. BILL: I know it's a long time ago.
44
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that was a long
46 time ago.
47
48 Mr. Brown, do you have any closing
49 comments.
50

1 MR. BROWN: I have no comment.
2
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I would like to thank
4 the Council. I know we had a hard time getting in
5 here, and I know we worked really hard to try and get
6 everything done on our agenda. And I'd like to commend
7 you guys for the work and the persistence that you guys
8 had to help us get this meeting to this point of
9 adjournment.
10
11 And I would like to thank the Staff
12 also for all the work that they've done in compiling
13 the information that we've got, and it makes our work a
14 lot easier. And thank you all very much for the work
15 that you've done. And at this time I just want to say
16 thank you very much for the Staff for the help that
17 you've given us.
18
19 We are down to Item 14.
20
21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
22
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adjourn.
26
27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion's been made to
28 adjourn. Do I hear a second.
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Second. Request
31 unanimous consent.
32
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Unanimous consent has
34 been requested. Is there any objections.
35
36 (No objections)
37
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any
39 objections.
40
41 (No objections)
42
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Are there any
44 objections.
45
46 (No objections)
47
48 (Laughter)
49
50 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There being none, so

1 ordered.

2

3

The meeting's adjourned at 9:25.

4

5

Thank you.

6

7

(Off record)

8

9

(END OF PROCEEDINGS)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter for Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 121 through 377 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the YUKON KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME II taken electronically on the 14th day of November 2013, at Bethel, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 28th day of November 2013.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/14