

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

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6
7 VOLUME I

8
9 Yupiit Piciryarait Cultural Center
10 Bethel, Alaska
11 October 14, 2014
12 9:00 a.m.

13
14
15 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

16
17 Lester Wilde, Chairman
18 Robert Aloysius
19 John Andrew
20 David Bill
21 William Brown
22 James Charles
23 Raymond Oney
24 Michael Peters
25 Greg Roczicka
26 Anthony Ulak
27 Harry Wilde, Sr.
28
29
30 Acting Regional Council Coordinator, Melinda Burke
31
32 Interpreters: Pat Sampson
33 Charlie Charlie

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43 Recorded and transcribed by:
44
45 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
46 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
47 Anchorage, AK 99501
48 907-243-0668/sahile@gci.net

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Bethel, Alaska - 10/14/2014)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We'll call the meeting to order. The time is now 9:00 o'clock according to the clock on the wall. Before we get started we'd like to make sure that public comments are welcome for each agenda item and for regional concerns not included on the agenda. The Council appreciates hearing your concerns and knowledge. Please fill out a comment form to be recognized by the Council Chair and time limits may be set to provide opportunity to all to testify and keep the meeting on schedule.

There's blue cards in the back on the table if you want to make any comments. Can we have a roll call, please.

MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
William Brown.

MR. BROWN: Here.

MR. ONEY: James Charles.

MR. CHARLES: Here.

MR. ONEY: John Andrew.

MR. J. ANDREW: Here.

MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.

MR. PETERS: Here.

MR. ONEY: Lester Wilde.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Here.

MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik. My understanding he's not present, excused or unexcused.
Anthony Ulak.

MR. ULAK: Here.

MR. ONEY: Harry Wilde, Sr.

1 MR. H. WILDE: Here.
2
3 MR. ONEY: Mary Gregory.
4
5 (No answer)
6
7 MR. ONEY: Raymond Oney, here.
8
9 MR. ONEY: Greg Roczicka.
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Here.
12
13 MR. ONEY: Robert Aloysius.
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Here.
16
17 MR. ONEY: David Bill.
18
19 MR. BILL: Here.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Quorum?
22
23 MR. ONEY: We do have a quorum.
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Before
26 we get started, Mr. Greg Roczicka will be leaving
27 shortly, in about 10, 15 minutes because he's got a
28 trip to go to Juneau for some.....
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Something.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Something. At this
33 time we'd like to have introductions starting from the
34 table way over there and working to the right.
35
36 MR. NICOLAI: Martin Nicolai for
37 Kwethluk, Incorporated.
38
39 MR. ALEXIE: Nicholai Alexie, Kwethluk,
40 Incorporated.
41
42 MR. SHEPPARD: Stan Sheppard,
43 Stanislaus Sheppard, Mountain Village Working Group.
44 Also Lower Yukon Advisory Committee.
45
46 MS. COOPER: Deb Cooper, Park Service,
47 Federal Subsistence Board.
48
49 MR. LEKANDER: Robert Lekander,
50 subsistence and commercial fisherman.

1 MR. TIKIUN: Henry Tikiun, subsistence.
2
3 MR. RIVARD: Don Rivard, fish biologist
4 with the Office of Subsistence Management.
5
6 MR. BUE: Fred Bue, U.S. Fish and
7 Wildlife Service, Yukon River Manager.
8
9 MS. GABORIAULT: Holly Gaboriault, U.S.
10 Fish and Wildlife Service, Refuge Program.
11
12 MR. LALONDE: Neil LaLonde, U.S. Fish
13 and Wildlife Service, Refuge Manager of Yukon Delta.
14
15 MS. LEGLEU: Christina Legleu, U.S.
16 Fish and Wildlife Service. I'm a Wildlife Refuge
17 Specialist.
18
19 MR. SAMPSON: Pat Sampson,
20 Yup'ik/English translator. Right now I'm the mime
21 translator.
22
23 (Laughter)
24
25 MS. BURKE: Good morning, everyone. My
26 name is Melinda Burke. I work for the Office of
27 Subsistence Management. I'll be filling in as the
28 Council Coordinator for the next couple of days.
29 Ordinarily I work with Western Interior and Northwest
30 Arctic. Let me know if you need anything, everybody.
31 Thank you.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Tina, we forgot
34 you.
35
36 REPORTER: My name is Tina and I'm the
37 court reporter for this Council.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mike.
40
41 MR. PETERS: Mike Peters, Marshall.
42
43 MR. BILL: David Bill, Sr., Nelson
44 Island/Toksook Bay.
45
46 MR. CHARLES: James Charles from
47 Tuntutuliak.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Lester Wilde from
50 Hooper Bay.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka, Bethel.
2
3 MR. ULAK: Anthony Ulak, Scammon Bay.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Bob Aloysius.
6
7 MR. J. ANDREW: John W. Andrew,
8 Kwethluk.
9
10 MR. BROWN: William F. "Charlie" Brown.
11
12 MR. ONEY: Ray Oney, Alakanuk.
13
14 MR. H. WILDE: Harry Wilde, Sr. from
15 Mountain Village.
16
17 MR. KRON: Tom Kron, OSM.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And the gentleman
20 that just came in.
21
22 MR. CHARLIE: I'm Charlie Charlie from
23 Tuntutuliak and I'm a translator for now.
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We'd
26 like to all welcome you to our meeting. The working
27 agenda we have is as follows:
28
29 Review and approve the previous
30 minutes.
31
32 The reports will be after that with
33 Council member reports, 805(c) reports, Chair's report,
34 public/tribal comments on non-agenda items will be
35 available each morning or at any time when anybody
36 feels that they need to say something concerning the
37 subject at hand.
38
39 Old business.
40
41 Customary and traditional use
42 determination. There will be an update from Pippa
43 Kenner.
44
45 A signed Federal Subsistence Board
46 letter to Secretaries on rural review process. The
47 rural determination process review update.
48
49 Under new business we'll have Priority
50 Information Needs for FRMP, presented by Karen Hyer and

1 Trent Liebich.

2

3 Fisheries regulatory proposals will be
4 statewide FP15-01 (defining fishing hook as with or
5 without barb).

6

7 The next item is regional proposals
8 FP15-02 (providing two 48-hour fishing periods in Yukon
9 River Subdistrict 5C).

10

11 FP15-03 (eliminating drift gillnet for
12 chinook salmon in Yukon River Districts 1-4), FP15-03
13 Appendix A.

14

15 FP15-04 (allowing Federal subsistence
16 users to use set-gillnets to harvest salmon in the
17 Yukon River drainage when drift-gillnet salmon
18 fisheries are closed).

19

20 FP15-05 (allow continuous fishing
21 subdistrict 1B during June).

22

23 FP15-06 and 07 (authorize dipnets in
24 Federal fishery).

25

26 Next item is Partners for Fisheries
27 Monitoring Program Strategic Plan.

28

29 Next item is identify issues for FY2014
30 Annual Report.

31

32 Next item is recommended changes to
33 nominations/appointment process.

34

35 The next item after that is all-Council
36 meeting in Winter 2016.

37

38 Next item on that agenda is all-Chairs
39 meeting before January 2015 Board meeting (Council
40 Coordinator).

41

42 The agency reports. It says time limit
43 of 15 minutes unless approved in advance. We have
44 never set any time limits as long as we've had this
45 process, so we'll see how we are towards the end of the
46 agenda.

47

48 Under Special Actions is OSM report,
49 then after OSM will be the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
50 Service report.

1 After that will be the NPS report.
2
3 After National Park Service will BLM.
4
5 After BLM will be ADF&G.
6
7 After ADF&G will Yukon River Drainage
8 Fisheries Association.
9
10 After them will be tribal governments
11 and Native organizations.
12
13 Future meeting dates. Confirm date and
14 location of winter 2015 meeting, select date and
15 location of fall 2015 meeting.
16
17 Closing comments and adjourn.
18
19 Are there any additions or deletions
20 from the agenda as read?
21
22 Yes, Melinda.
23
24 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. We have a
25 couple of details to add in here. We will have several
26 presenters over the phone that are going to be calling
27 in regarding the various updates. Geoff Brooks will be
28 giving the Partners update via telephone. Under U.S.
29 Fish and Wildlife Service if you could add Mr. Fred
30 Bue. Fred is here. I also was emailed a handout from
31 the Togiak Refuge. Then under the State, ADF&G, David
32 Runfolo will be giving an update on research in the
33 region. Then I've also been made aware that Phillip
34 Perry will be discussing Unit 18 moose.
35
36 That's all I have, Mr. Chair.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, thank you.
39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.
43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: I was wondering who made
45 the agenda.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I wouldn't know.
48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: One of the most
50 important items in there is the invocation we always

1 have before the meeting even starts.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Go
4 ahead, Melinda.

5

6 MS. BURKE: One more, Mr. Chair. We
7 also need to add in -- there's some length of service
8 awards for two of the Council members here. Would you
9 like to take care of that this morning? One of the
10 folks is not here quite yet or maybe we could do that
11 right after lunch.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, we could do
14 that after lunch.

15

16 MS. BURKE: Two length of service
17 awards.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I didn't get to
20 write all that information down. You got it? Okay.
21 Yes.

22

23 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don
24 Rivard. Melinda has already mentioned that Fred Bue is
25 here to give us a presentation, a report. I would
26 suggest that that be done just before the fisheries
27 regulatory proposals are taken up. He's going to be
28 doing the Yukon River 2014 report. So it kind of puts
29 some of the fisheries proposals in perspective, so I
30 would recommend that. That would be like at the top of
31 Page 2 is where that would go.

32

33 Thank you.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
36 corrections, additions or deletions on the agenda.

37

38 (No comments)

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none, I
41 would like to ask -- I'm sorry I didn't get a hold of
42 you sooner, but would you please say the invocation for
43 us, Mr. Charles.

44

45 (Invocation)

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do we have anybody
48 out there on teleconference? Can we get some
49 introductions of whoever might be.....

50

1 (Indiscernible)
2
3 MS. KENNER: This is Pippa Kenner,
4 Office of Subsistence Management.
5
6 MS. BURKE: Thank you, Pippa. Who
7 spoke right before Pippa?
8
9 (No comments)
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I heard Pippa on
12 there, but was there somebody else besides Pippa?
13
14 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Chair. This is
15 Carl Johnson of the Office of Subsistence Management in
16 Anchorage.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Anyone
19 else?
20
21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Tuntutuliak.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anyone else?
24
25 MS. YUHAS: Good morning. This is
26 Jennifer Yuhas with the Alaska Department of Fish and
27 Game in Fairbanks.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.
30 Anyone else?
31
32 MR. JENKINS: Mr. Chairman. This is
33 Wayne Jenkins with YRDFA. I'm on the line.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Good
36 morning. Anyone else?
37
38 MS. GARCIA: Good morning. This is
39 Sabrina Garcia with the Alaska Department of Fish and
40 Game in Anchorage.
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning. Is
43 there anyone else.
44
45 MR. ESTENSEN: This is Jeff Estensen
46 with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Yukon Area
47 Management, calling from Fairbanks.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.
50

1 MARTIN: This is Martin
2 (indiscernible), Department of Fish and Game in
3 Anchorage.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.
6
7 MR. SHARP: This is Dan Sharp with
8 Bureau of Land Management in Anchorage.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Anyone else.
11
12 MR. LIEBICH: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
13 This is Trent Liebich, a fish biologist with the Office
14 of Subsistence in Anchorage.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning. Is
17 there anyone else?
18
19 MR. BROOKS: Yes, good morning, Mr.
20 Chair. My name is Jeff Brooks. I'm a social scientist
21 in the Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.
24 Anyone else?
25
26 MR. POTTER: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
27 Aaron Potter with Kuskokwim area fisheries management,
28 the Anchorage office.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.
31 Anyone else?
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, I guess
36 that concludes the people. Welcome all on the
37 teleconference this morning. Mr. Roczicka.
38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 I'm going to ask to be excused to travel down to Juneau
41 for a Board of Fish meeting. There is an agenda change
42 request that has been put in front of them to establish
43 a Tier II fishery on the Kuskokwim, so it's a pretty
44 major issue for our region. I stopped by and wanted to
45 make a couple comments for the record regarding some of
46 your agenda items before I go. That's specifically
47 proposals number 5 and 6.
48
49 One is requesting an unrestricted
50 fishery in Area 1B of the Kuskokwim and whether or not

1 it can register as my vote on it, I would like to just
2 state for the record I would be opposed to that
3 proposal.

4
5 The other was concerning authorizing
6 dipnets under the Federal fishery, which was put in as
7 an emergency action last summer. Although it was used
8 with varying success, some people said it was a total
9 waste of time. Others who put some effort into it and
10 thought out how to use it were quite successful and has
11 been used successfully on the Yukon from all reports
12 I've heard, so I would be in support of that proposal.

13
14 The other agenda item before you that I
15 would like to register is the request from the National
16 Park Service and comments regarding the National Parks
17 and Preserves of their lands that avoid taking
18 accountability and responsibility to subsistence in
19 managing their resources, not just monitoring their
20 resources. I realize on the Park Service lands that
21 it's a pretty straightforward mandate; however, on the
22 Preserve it is not.

23
24 To provide for subsistence needs and to
25 state that some practices have been illegal should not
26 be allowed is ignoring some of the customary and
27 traditional practices that people have utilized,
28 recognized such as denning, and reducing the number of
29 competition in the predators and that making such
30 broad-sweeping changes to apply to the lands on
31 Preserves should not be enacted and I would be opposed
32 to that action as a result. I haven't read the issue
33 in depth, so I can't respond in detail, but on the face
34 of it, as I look at it, I believe it is not in the
35 interest of subsistence.

36
37 I also have another concern. Once the
38 Park Service does this it goes over into the Fish and
39 Wildlife and we see that it's already being avoided on
40 the Refuge lands and that is not a matter of law, it is
41 a matter of choice, it is an interpretation of policy
42 and it does not serve the best interest of subsistence
43 users in the long term.

44
45 With that, I'd ask for your excusal.
46 I've got to go catch a plane.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
49 Mr. Roczicka before he leaves.

50

1 (No comments)
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
4 you are excused for the rest of the meeting.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I need an approval
9 to adopt the agenda as corrected. Mr. Oney.
10
11 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. I move to
12 adopt the agenda with additions.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You heard the
15 motion. Do I hear a second.
16
17 MR. BROWN: Second.
18
19 MR. J. ANDREW: Second.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
22 Brown. Any further discussion.
23
24 (No comments)
25
26 MR. CHARLES: Question.
27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
29 called for. All in favor say aye.
30
31 IN UNISON: Aye.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
34 sign.
35
36 (No opposing votes)
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion is carried.
39 Can I request the next time that this agenda is written
40 that we have each agenda item numerically numbered as
41 1, 2, 3, 4 5, 6. It would make it a lot easier for us
42 to reference some of the information that's on here.
43 Thank you.
44
45 We're down to review and approval of
46 the previous meeting minutes. Mr. Oney.
47
48 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. The only
49 correction that I seen on the meeting minutes was on
50 Page 6 under Yukon River CFC nominations. The name

1 needs to be changed to Ray rather than Greg. Thank
2 you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
5 Oney. Any further corrections.

6

7 MR. J. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. On Page
8 7, all the way down to where it says John Nickelas of
9 Kwethluk, I believe that's John Nicholas, Kasigluk.
10 And on the next paragraph it should be Schouviller, an
11 R and not an N.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You got those?

14

15 MS. BURKE: What was the second one,
16 John?

17

18 MR. J. ANDREW: On Page 7, go down
19 halfway right by where it says John Nickelas. It's
20 supposed to be Nicholas, O-L, out of Kasigluk, not
21 Kwethluk. And then on the next paragraph where it says
22 Schouvillen, it should Schouviller with an R, no N.

23

24 MS. BURKE: Got it.

25

26 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
29 Andrew. Any other corrections to the minutes.

30

31 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bill.

34

35 MR. BILL: I might be wrong, but I'd
36 like to advise the Fish and Game or Fish and Wildlife
37 any time that they're going to fiddle with Nelson
38 Island muskox, they should come to our island and have
39 a meeting with the tribal council or the village first
40 before they bring it to the Fish Board -- or the Game
41 Board. Thank you.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
44 corrections on the minutes.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments.

49

50 (No comments)

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We'll need a motion
2 to approve the minutes as corrected.
3
4 MR. BROWN: So move.
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Brown made a
6 motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Do I hear
7 a second.
8
9 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles
12 seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion
13 signify by saying aye.
14
15 IN UNISON: Aye.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
18 sign.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion carried. We
23 are down to our reports. Are there any Council member
24 reports. Mr. Charles.
25
26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 My name is James Charles from Tuntutuliak. The people
28 I talk to back home have no comments and are satisfied
29 with what OSM did last summer for this area. We were
30 subsistence fishing under OSM and the people I talked
31 to liked that and they want to continue that instead of
32 State operating the subsistence fishing.
33
34 Thank you.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
37 Charles. Any other reports, Council members. Mr.
38 Brown.
39
40 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)
41
42 TRANSLATOR: I am not going to be
43 speaking in English today, but.....
44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you just wait
46 just a minute. All the translators, he's going to pass
47 them out and then you could go ahead. Everybody that
48 don't speak Yup'ik and needs to understand what's being
49 said, the translators are available. We'll give you a
50 minute to get them on your ears and then we'll ask Mr.

1 Brown to continue.

2

3 Go ahead, Mr. Brown, you have the
4 floor.

5

6 TRANSLATOR: I want to thank you first.

7 Last year during our meeting when we were discussing
8 the subsistence fishing on the Kuskokwim I thank you
9 for discussing the Office of Subsistence Fishery last
10 year, specifically the chinook salmon, and we all did a
11 very good job on addressing the issues of the king
12 salmon. While I was thinking about the upcoming
13 fishing season and if we would like to do any
14 regulation regarding the king salmon fishing, I would
15 like it to be continued as we did through this past
16 summer. I thought that was a good way it was handled.

17

18 Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

21 Brown. Mr. Aloysius.

22

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

24 My name is John W. Andrew of Kwethluk. Someone asked
25 me to speak in English only a while ago. I reluctantly
26 will try. Our experience from last year of using those
27 dipnets was a complete failure. I even had friends
28 over here in Bethel area and below, they said they
29 tried fishing all day long, couldn't get anything with
30 them. I've watched three boats up by the Y where I
31 live fish for half a day or more. Two boats skunked
32 out completely and one young man said he's only had one
33 salmon in his dipnet. When he got back to the fish
34 camp, he threw his dipnet away.

35

36 I bought two of them. It was a waste
37 of money. I ordered both of them by cargo. One cost
38 over 400, the other one a little over three, and never
39 even get the chance to use it. I was trying to sell it
40 and nobody wanted to buy it because they said they were
41 watching the people dipnetting and couldn't get
42 anything with them.

43

44 On my personal salmon harvest, I did
45 only seven chinook with whitefish nets. Only one was
46 over 30 pounds. All the rest were under five and a
47 little over 10. If I catch anything over 15, 20
48 pounds, I'd cut it up and give it to my relatives. It
49 was pretty hard. Some people I had to say no to them.
50 I was fishing for at least four households. To make it

1 up I fished for silvers in August. I think I got a
2 little over 100. The same story. I gave most of them
3 away to my relatives and I kept a few for ours.

4
5 It was pretty hard too this summer
6 because it was hard to say no to our relatives who
7 wanted fish because they had no means of going out with
8 their own boats. They have no boats or nets. We had
9 to share with them. It was very, very hard to do. But
10 we appreciate the fish managers with the Federal and
11 the State for making conservation effort. For the
12 upcoming fishery next summer they asked me to oppose
13 any dipnet fishery around our village and below. It
14 could work for some areas, it works for some areas, but
15 not for our area.

16
17 Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
20 Andrew. Mr. Aloysius.

21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Just a few
23 comments that I've been getting from the people at
24 home. One of the things that we have to realize is
25 that we are in a crisis with our king salmon and yet
26 nobody gives a damn about it, particularly people in
27 the Lower Kuskokwim. I'll say that loud and clear.

28
29 One of the things that is really
30 upsetting, the simple fact that targeting king salmon
31 is a learned process. There never was targeting for
32 king salmon when we were young. The old people
33 directed us to go after fish and most of those fish
34 were chums and reds that were coming up the Kuskokwim
35 River. James Charles knows that too. We were never
36 instructed to target king salmon.

37
38 Only after 1960 when commercial fishing
39 started on the Kuskokwim and the Yukon were king salmon
40 targeted because big fish bring big money. That was
41 the decline of the king salmon. You can disagree with
42 me, that s fine, but look at the facts. You harvest
43 all the breeders, the ones that are going way up the
44 headwaters early and they don't make it up there.
45 There's no more 90-pound king salmon, there's no more
46 eight-year-old king salmon on the Kuskokwim and the
47 Yukon. Look at the facts.

48
49 One of the things that's really
50 upsetting too, right after breakup there's unlimited

1 mesh size for going after salmon right after breakup or
2 when it's ice-free. Yet we cry about the lack of king
3 salmon making it to the headwaters. Think about it.
4 When you have unlimited gear, you catch the big fish.
5 Those are the ones going way up. The numbers are
6 declining and you know it.

7
8 The other thing is that this 4-inch
9 restriction, so called whitefish fishing, target king
10 salmon. There's no way in heck that the Fish and Game
11 and the Fish and Wildlife Service are going to enforce
12 no catching king salmon with 4-inch mesh. People sit
13 on the beach watching their net. As soon as it moves,
14 they go out there and they get their king. There's no
15 question about it. It's very disheartening for people
16 upriver that depend on the leftovers of the harvest.
17 Ninety-five percent of the king salmon that are going
18 up the Kuskokwim River are caught between Tuluksak and
19 the Bering Sea. Seventy-five percent of the 95 percent
20 is caught in Bethel. Not below or above, but in
21 Bethel. Those are facts. You can look them up.

22
23 Dipnets. Joke. Why spend 10, 15
24 drifts with one net and catch nothing. A waste of
25 time, waste of gas. If you make a half a drift with a
26 regular legal size chum net, you're going to get all
27 the fish you need for that day and it doesn't cost you
28 10 trips for gasoline.

29
30 A lot of the people are very
31 disheartened about Kalskag and Lower Kalskag being in
32 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta RAC. We have nothing in
33 common with the people down in the Lower Yukon, Lower
34 Kuskokwim and the coast. We are Interior people. So
35 one of the things I would like to add is that a process
36 be started to revert Kalskag and Lower Kalskag back to
37 Western Interior RAC. They were there before. It's
38 something that is very near and dear to us. Kalskag
39 and Lower Kalskag are not part of the Delta. They have
40 nothing in common. It's always upriver, downriver,
41 upriver, downriver. The majority of the people on the
42 Kuskokwim River are from Tuluksak down to the Bering
43 Sea. It's a simple fact. Look at the harvest records.
44 Look at the population. From Tuluksak to the
45 headwaters, we get 5 percent of the harvest of king
46 salmon. It's a drop in a bucket.

47
48 The other thing is that, you know, if
49 Fish and Game and Fish and Wildlife Service are sincere
50 about preserving or bringing back the numbers of king

1 salmon to this area, they're going to have to find some
2 way for the local people to enforce the law. Simple as
3 that. They don't have the personnel to do it. If
4 we're sincere about bringing back our king salmon or
5 holding it to what we have today, we have to do
6 something. We, the people, have to do something.

7
8 The other thing is that no matter how
9 much we hem and haw there's nothing going to be done to
10 the pollock fishery. The monitors are paid by the
11 industry. They're not paid by the government, so who
12 are they going to support. They're going to support
13 the people giving them a paycheck. As simple as that.
14 The numbers that are coming out of the monitoring of
15 the pollock fishery are fictitious in our eyes.
16 They're made up numbers to appease the Federal and the
17 State government. Yeah, we're doing this, we're doing
18 that. We're only catching so many. How do we know?
19 We don't know.

20
21 These are the frustrations that are
22 voiced to me day in and day out. Every time I visit
23 people in the Central Kuskokwim area. That might not
24 qualify as a report, but just some eye-openers for the
25 Council members. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
28 Aloysius. Any other reports from the Council members.

29
30 (No comments)

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
33 we're down to the 805(c) report.

34
35 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Bill.

38
39 MR. BILL: Would it be out of order if
40 I talk about the trawlers down in Kuskokwim Bay?

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, actually, we
43 don't have any
44 comment time for board members until the end, so I
45 think it would be a good thing for us to go ahead and
46 make our -- whatever we want to say prior to our
47 meeting to go ahead and start. So go ahead and state
48 what you've got to say.

49
50 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair. That's in our

1 mind. We've been trying to argue with the nine
2 companies down in Kuskokwim Bay trawling for bottom
3 fish and they're catching everything they can catch
4 from the ocean and they're telling us they're catching
5 no salmon, but I think they are wrong because we have
6 some people coming up from upriver, like from Akiachak,
7 last year. There are some salmon going through as
8 early as May and those guys, American Trawlers, are
9 down there in front of Kuskokwim Bay 20 miles south.
10 They started trawling about that time, maybe the month
11 of April or all the way to May. They're trawling for
12 yellow-fin sole.

13
14 There are nine different companies
15 there. I don't know how many boats they have down
16 there, but if they have some impact for Kuskokwim Bay
17 fish, I'm being trying to get some help from Kuskokwim
18 people to argue about what they're doing. I wish I
19 could get some help from you guys. This is a Bering
20 Sea elders group that I'm talking about. I'm the
21 chairman of that group. If we could work together, I
22 think we could do some impact for the American
23 Trawlers. I'll be meeting someone in about a week and
24 a half in Anchorage next week. So I just wanted to let
25 you know about it. Please help us out.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
30 Bill. Go ahead, Mr. Brown.

31
32 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

33
34 TRANSLATOR: I wanted to talk about the
35 fishnet, about the gillnet. I'm sorry about what I'm
36 going to bring up. They were discussing this very
37 issue up in my home town and when we go out to the
38 Bering Sea to go catch fish, it's a two-hour ride from
39 my village out on the coast. If we take away the
40 gillnet in this area and if we use the dipnetting
41 regulations, it's going to cost a lot of gas and money.
42 There isn't any concentration of fish over there and
43 the water is really murky and it's about this deep,
44 about a foot or so. When I check for the clarity of
45 the water on the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, there is
46 no way that you can see about several inches under the
47 water because of the soil in the ground.

48
49 When you go up to the headwaters of the
50 river, you can see very clearly the riverbed. On the

1 mouth of the Kuskokwim River, the water is not that
2 clear at all. So, because of that, I do not advocate
3 for the use of the dipnet fishery and that's what my
4 cohorts back home did not want us to advocate for the
5 dipnet. The current is pretty strong out in our area,
6 so if the proposed area that we have to do dipnet
7 fishery, it's not very good for us and we oppose the
8 dipnet fishery in our area.

9

10 Thank you.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
13 Brown. Any other board reports. Go ahead, Mr. Oney.

14

15 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
16 had the same concerns about the dipnets on the Yukon
17 despite the words of the success stories that you hear
18 about the dipnets on the Yukon. I, for me, as a
19 subsistence user, do not own a dipnet. The only time
20 that I can be able to fish is when they allow me to use
21 a gillnet. To me, I see the dipnet as a sport fishing
22 type of gear and it's not really advocating for
23 subsistence. It's not really providing for the needs
24 of the people.

25

26 Like I mentioned earlier, I have to
27 wait until they allow me to use a gillnet to harvest my
28 needs and for my family's needs for the winter. I'm
29 sure there's many subsistence users all up and down the
30 Yukon that are in the same situation as I am, that have
31 to wait until gillnet opening is allowed or given to us
32 for the real subsistence users to harvest their needs
33 for the winter.

34

35 I just wanted to mention that. Thank
36 you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
39 Oney. Any other Council members. Mr. Peters.

40

41 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chair. I would like
42 to make a comment. I'm from Marshall and on this
43 dipnet I'm the same situation like these subsistence
44 users. What was really hard for the people in
45 Marshall, they tried to set some regulation on this
46 dipnet coming from our upper area. Like what Mr. Oney
47 is indicating, that whatever goes on with this
48 regulation, I think they shouldn't have any regulation
49 on the dipnetting because a lot of times, you know,
50 people are having a hard time with the gas and the fuel

1 prices are really high and stuff like that in my area.
2 There was some elders that didn't even get no fish for
3 the winter. I think the only reason I would like to
4 see them go back to the setnet or where they could
5 catch fish.

6
7 That's all I have to say on the -- but
8 to let somebody know that the regulation on the dipnet
9 is not working in the upper area like where I come
10 from, from Marshall. I would like to let them know to
11 cut that off because it's affecting all of us
12 subsistence users, like from the mouth of the Yukon. I
13 just wanted to indicate to whoever is in charge to do
14 away with this regulation and go back to setnet.

15
16 Thank you.

17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
19 Peters. Any other Council member report.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
24 we'll continue on with our agenda, which is 805(c)
25 report. Was anybody going to -- go ahead, Melinda.

26
27 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. The 805(c)
28 report, which is the letter that the Board sends out to
29 the Councils post-Board meeting. Basically it's a
30 summary of all the decisions that were made. It should
31 have been printed in the book. There's an error. I
32 apologize it's not in the book. I'm going to give you
33 a summary and I'll print them out at lunch and hand
34 them out and we can follow up if there's any questions
35 that the Council has for Staff.

36
37 There was one statewide proposal WP14-
38 01, which had to do with trapping. The Board rejected
39 this proposal consistent with all of the Council's
40 recommendations. There was one Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
41 regional-specific proposal. That was WP14-27 regarding
42 Unit 18 moose, which the Board did adopt consistent
43 with the Council's recommendations. Like I said, I
44 will print this letter out during lunch and we can
45 review it. If there's any follow-up questions that the
46 Council has for Staff, we can take that up a bit later.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We are
49 down to the public and tribal comment on non-agenda
50 items. Is there any comments? Mr. Nick.

1 MR. NICK: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
2 Members of the Regional Advisory Council and Staff and
3 the guests of the meeting and those online. It's good
4 to see everyone and it's also good to be sitting here
5 as a public member.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MR. NICK: One thing that I wanted to
10 talk about or a couple of things that I wanted to talk
11 about that potentially is going to be affecting
12 subsistence hunters and fishermen. The first one is --
13 I'm not following what's happening with the State of
14 Alaska Unit 18 boundary change that was done last year.
15 It was proposed by Mr. Aloysius and.....

16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: That was proposed by the
18 Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee.

19
20 MR. NICK: Okay. There are two things
21 that I wanted to talk about a little bit. I'm going to
22 do this in summary, but if you want me to touch bases
23 on potential effects of subsistence activities in the
24 area, I will tell you maybe later in the meeting if you
25 call upon me or if you have personal questions, you may
26 come and approach me.

27
28 Here is what's going to happen. I
29 don't know -- like I said, I don't know when it's going
30 to become effective, but it will be in the regulations
31 in the future for sure and it might also be in the
32 Federal subsistence management regulations in the
33 future. Here is what's going to happen. One thing
34 that's going to happen is that since the Yukon-
35 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council
36 is representing Unit 18, in the future, potentially,
37 Upper and Lower Kalskag will probably lose their
38 membership on the Y-K RAC. They will be with the
39 Western Interior because they will be in Unit 19.

40
41 Another thing that's going to be
42 affecting subsistence activities in the area is about a
43 year ago a couple of us were working with Lower and
44 Upper Kalskag council staff on changing the drainage
45 name called Johnson River and Crooked Creek. For a
46 long, long time erroneously the Johnson River drainage
47 that went from Crooked Creek all the way up to the lake
48 was called Crooked Creek and the one that went toward
49 Yukon called Akulikutak, that was Crooked Creek in
50 Yup'ik knowledge, but on the maps it was identified as

1 Johnson River.

2

3 So when I was with Subsistence
4 Management Program, I worked with Refuge staff on that
5 and I understand that the people who work on the maps
6 have approved that, but I don't know when it's going to
7 be coming effective.

8

9 These two things I've let your acting
10 Council coordinator Melinda aware about a year or so
11 ago that these things are happening. Those are the two
12 things that I wanted to mention.

13

14 One thing that I also would like to
15 mention that's not on the agenda is land ownership.
16 There's some complaints about hunting and fishing in my
17 area, in my village area, and I personally experienced
18 noticing private aircrafts landing and taking off from
19 my village of Russian Mission when I went home for
20 moose hunting this fall. When I asked those people,
21 told local people that they are not hunting on private
22 lands or in Unit 18, they're hunting elsewhere. But
23 they're flying around all over Unit 18 and Unit 19
24 potentially looking for potential harvest of moose.

25

26 Local people are getting very concerned
27 about it. The only reason why I bring this up is
28 because one of the local members who works at the
29 school and also a tribal council member posted that on
30 Facebook. He said these words, and nobody understood
31 for sure, these people are getting too much. What he
32 did was he posted a couple of aircraft pictures parked
33 right there in the village runway or the runway apron.

34

35 We are not against people who are
36 hunting in our area, but private lands are affected and
37 the private landowners are not being made aware of
38 these things. I don't want to take too much of your
39 time. I do have some comments. Again, it's good to
40 see you. It's good to see a new member, Mr. Peters. I
41 know Mr. Peters is from Marshall, originally from Holy
42 Cross. I'm pretty sure you have one good addition to
43 your RAC membership.

44

45 Mr. Oney, I would like for you to have
46 a moment of silence tomorrow -- I would like to ask the
47 Council to have a moment of silence for Mr. Oney's
48 brother, who perished several years ago down in Lower
49 Yukon on this day, today. What I'm going to be doing
50 right now is I'm going to go to church. I was waiting

1 patiently because I'm now involved more with my church.
2 I'm not involved with anything else. I'm now a public
3 member. I'm originally from Russian Mission and I
4 will be a resident of Bethel until my wife retires from
5 work. I'm patiently waiting for that.

6

7 I wish you all good luck. I will be
8 back in the building sometime today, but I need to run
9 and get ready for the church service that we are going
10 to have at 10:00 today. If you do have questions about
11 my comments, I might be able to answer those before I
12 run. Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
15 questions for Mr. Nick.

16

17 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Bill.

20

21 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

22

23 TRANSLATOR: I'll do that in Yup'ik. I
24 didn't understand what was posted on Facebook.....

25

26 (Translator's microphone went out)

27

28 MR. NICK: (In Yup'ik)

29

30 These people are getting too much.

31

32 (In Yup'ik)

33

34 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair. (In Yup'ik)

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Bill.

37

38 MR. BILL: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any other
41 questions for Mr. Nick.

42

43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I apologize for my
48 outburst because the Central Kuskokwim Advisory
49 Committee for the State of Alaska has been working on
50 changing that boundary since 1998. It's not my

1 proposal. It's something I worked for for the Central
2 Committee. Then your proposal, you're the -- I said
3 wait a minute. I cannot take ownership for it because
4 it's the Central Kuskokwim people who wanted that
5 changed. They finally got it after 16 years. Thank
6 you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
9 Aloysius. Any other questions for Mr. Nick.

10

(No comments)

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
14 thank you, Mr. Nick.

15

16 MR. NICK: Thank you very much for your
17 time and I will be back in the building sometime today
18 and hopefully tomorrow, but I'm very busy with my
19 family and other things. Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you for
22 coming. Mr. Sheppard.

23

24 MR. SHEPPARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
25 board. My name is Stanislaus Sheppard. I'm from
26 Mountain Village, Lower Yukon. I represent Mountain
27 Village Working Group. It's consisted of the three
28 entities and we deal with subsistence issues that come
29 up in our area and in the Lower Yukon. We also do give
30 suggestions to the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee.

31

32 The Lower Yukon Advisory Committee as
33 of last year was split into two; Mountain Village on up
34 to Russian Mission and then from Kotlik over to Scammon
35 Bay or Hooper Bay, which gives us two voices when we
36 come up to give testimonies to the Federal RAC and the
37 State instead of only like 10 minutes or 15 minutes the
38 past years. Being so big, the village areas, combined
39 they were 12, 13 villages and one person testifying for
40 all those villages wasn't enough time to give out all
41 their concerns.

42

43 We had a working group meeting last
44 week and the concerns was that it's been a struggle
45 this year for subsistence users, especially with
46 dipnets and the prices of dipnets are sky high. For
47 people that don't have jobs or any ways of money coming
48 in other than their fixed income. Like you have Social
49 Security checks or the old age, you know.....

50

1 (In Yup'ik)
2
3 TRANSLATOR: And some of them were
4 having a hardship.
5
6 MR. SHEPPARD: What was brought up was
7 that subsistence users, not commercial fishermen (in
8 Yup'ik).
9
10 TRANSLATOR: The fishes that they --
11 the nets that they use.
12
13 MR. SHEPPARD: One voice? Oh, sorry.
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: One language.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Use either English
18 or Yup'ik because our translators.
19
20 MR. SHEPPARD: Oh, sorry. It's hard
21 for subsistence users especially when they don't have
22 anything, a fixed income. They use their money for
23 heating fuel, light bill, food and other necessities.
24 The majority of the subsistence fishermen with dipnets
25 weren't very successful and I've seen it in the summer.
26 I participated.
27
28 Where it used to be, as you all know,
29 fish racks all filled up, one shot. Maybe one or two
30 days. Everything bringing in the smokehouse all
31 together. Right now they're doing it by sections,
32 which is more intensive work. You might have a portion
33 of the fish spoiled, you know. It doesn't -- it
34 doesn't -- with the commercial fishermen, I've seen
35 them. They have no problem because they've got 12
36 hours and they're young, young men, you know. These
37 elderly people with fishing permits have younger men in
38 their boat helping them with their dipnetting. That's
39 what I was told to ask.
40
41 And also my personal comments if, Mr.
42 Chairman, I could.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: (Nods
45 affirmatively)
46
47 MR. SHEPPARD: I attended the North
48 Pacific meeting in Nome this past spring and if I may
49 ask, did the board here send anybody, any
50 representatives to attend those North Pacific meetings

1 they have?

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I don't know if the
4 Subsistence Board sent anybody, but the Council here
5 didn't send anybody over there.

6

7 MR. SHEPPARD: Okay. It would be
8 helpful because the information that I got from the
9 North Pacific -- one of the reports was in the pollock
10 fishery the most bycatch that was taken are the months
11 of September and October and it was brought up that A
12 and B season should be cut down in those months
13 drastically in order to cut down on the bycatch.

14

15 What we're thinking is, you know, the
16 majority of the people that I hear in the rivers in
17 state they're allowed so many months, maybe three, two
18 months most fishing time, but the pollock fishery
19 industry fish year round. There's got to be something
20 done in that.

21

22 What my other concern was that they
23 come out with these beach seine and I was lucky enough
24 to participate in the beach seine this summer and both
25 the State and Federal are so geared to saving the king
26 salmon, both the fries or the large fish swimming
27 upriver. We caught about -- a percentage was like
28 maybe eight to -- eight, was the little fry heading
29 out, back out to the ocean. We tried our best to save
30 them, but being them so small with the pressure of the
31 beach seine, some of them didn't make it.

32

33 There was also a concern for -- there's
34 a beach seining operation down there at Big Eddy or in
35 that area. There was one suggestion that maybe
36 Department of Fish and Game should have observers on
37 that beach seine up there because I know for a fact --
38 and I'm sorry I didn't take pictures at the time of
39 those little fry heading back out to the ocean. That's
40 kind of hurting too the chinook salmon that we're so
41 trying to protect.

42

43 If any of the board have any questions
44 toward me, I'll be glad to answer them. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do the Council
47 members have any questions for Mr. Sheppard? Mr.
48 Brown.

49

50 MR. BROWN: Yeah.

1 (In Yup'ik)

2

3 TRANSLATOR: When we observed the
4 caribous through the co-management Service -- well,
5 with that type of work I advised them that these
6 pictures, the cameras are very true and they catch a
7 lot of stuff. So if we -- our cell phones are complete
8 with pictures just in case you observe anything that's
9 out of character. That's the only way that you guys
10 can take a picture and that will be the proof.

11

12 Thank you.

13

14 MR. SHEPPARD: Quyana.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comment.

17 Mr. Oney.

18

19 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman. Stanislaus, you mentioned about a salmon
21 working group in your village. Do you include other
22 villages other than Mountain Village?

23

24 MR. SHEPPARD: Mr. Oney. Mountain
25 Village Working Group was comprised of the three
26 entities, plus four from the village at large. We deal
27 with the proposals, regulations that come up, look at
28 them, discuss them and then either come up with a
29 resolution or proposal that has some merit to the State
30 or Federal or to the Lower Yukon Advisory Committee for
31 them to discuss and see if they could give any helping
32 hand to our issues.

33

34 There was some talk about somebody
35 getting started a few years back, but I haven't heard.
36 Maybe the Lower Yukon being spread into two ACs that
37 might not come to reality.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
40 on Mr. Sheppard's comments. Mr. Peters.

41

42 MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
43 I got a comment. You mentioned -- in your area you
44 indicated that dipnetting was pretty good, but, you
45 know, one reason why, coming from my area in Marshall,
46 some of the elders didn't like that setting that
47 regulation, you know, disliking fishing, some areas are
48 pretty good and some people are lucky in fishing is
49 what I'm trying to say.

50

1 But you mention about the dipnetting
2 and your working group. My question is if there's any
3 proposals that's going to affect my area, could I get a
4 copy like for the Marshall people? Because you made a
5 comment your working group and I was kind of concerned
6 about my people in Marshall and the upper end of the
7 Yukon. I have nothing against your group or any other
8 group that's trying to work. The only reason why I
9 want to have a copy of your proposal is how it's going
10 to affect my area. It would be very courteous and
11 respectful if we do have a copy and how it's going to
12 affect us and that's something we need to know.

13

14 I know like along the Yukon and all the
15 way up the Yukon and all over I think when proposals
16 are going to affect us, I think we would like to see a
17 copy or if we could comment on it or how it could be
18 worked better for us and you. That's the only one I
19 would like to comment on.

20

21 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
24 for Mr. Sheppard. Mr. Aloysius.

25

26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Not only for him but for
27 everybody. Just because dipnetting is permitted does
28 not mean that everybody has to use a dipnet. It's
29 personal choice. Some places are very advantageous for
30 dipnetting, but most of the villages from the Delta
31 area are not going to benefit that much from
32 dipnetting. It's going to cost too much. People from
33 further upriver where they have narrow channels and
34 swift water, those are the people who are benefitting
35 from dipnetting. That's great for them. So just
36 remember that just because something is permitted in
37 regulation doesn't mean you have to use it.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. SHEPPARD: Yes, Mr. Chair. Thank
42 you, Mr. Aloysius. Going back to Mr. Peters' comment.
43 When we look at the upcoming proposals or we come up
44 with proposals or regulations for changes, we don't
45 just look at in our area. It was looking at more like
46 District 1, 2 and 3. That's all the way up to Holy
47 Cross. When we look at that, we try to come up with
48 proposals where the subsistence users will benefit, not
49 only in the area where -- we look at the area like in
50 Unit 18. Does that answer your question, sir?

1 MR. PETERS: You know, I would like to
2 comment. The only reason why I asked that question to
3 you is because in my area in Marshall it would -- like
4 if there's any changes and stuff like that on any
5 proposal, you know, we would like to have a draft copy
6 or something that the fishermen or the elders can
7 comment on of how it can affect our area up there in
8 Marshall.

9
10 I know for a fact -- you know, we don't
11 have anything against your working group, but if
12 there's anything that's going to affect us in a wide
13 margin, that's why I'm trying to say if we could have
14 like a working group of how could we make it better for
15 our area and stuff like that. That's the only reason
16 why I comment on that.

17
18 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any other
21 questions for Mr. Sheppard.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none.
26 Thank you, Mr. Sheppard for your comments.

27
28 MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other tribal or
31 public comments on non-agenda items. Mr. Andrew.

32
33 MR. T. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
34 Chairman. My name is Timothy Andrew. I'm the director
35 of Natural Resources for the Association of Village
36 Council Presidents. Thank you very much for this
37 opportunity to testify before you today.

38
39 We just concluded our convention last
40 week. A number of things came up. There's various
41 issues across the region, across our villages that
42 really need to be addressed by a broad spectrum of
43 agencies. The Y-K Delta RAC being one of them and also
44 the various Fish and Game Advisory Committees and also
45 people from the region.

46
47 We are currently in the development
48 stages of developing the Yukon River and the Kuskokwim
49 River Intertribal Fisheries Commission. The basic
50 foundation behind that is that we have chinook salmon

1 that are failing in both rivers and they're failing
2 extremely bad. The State has managed these resources
3 since Statehood and the Federal subsistence management
4 system, there's challenges in that. People in the
5 villages have a long-standing stake in the proper
6 management of these resources because we live here and
7 we're going to be buried here. We're also going to
8 have our future generations that are going to be
9 depending on these resources, so we have a lot to lose
10 if our fisheries go away.

11
12 The Intertribal Fisheries Commissions
13 are also based on the foundation that neither the State
14 of Alaska or the Federal subsistence management system
15 cannot manage any of the resources without the
16 cooperation of the villages. Each and every one of us
17 from various communities across the Yukon-Kuskokwim
18 Delta. We are the true power holders that have a stake
19 in these fisheries and other resources.

20
21 We are hoping to get a coordination
22 meeting together with the Tanana Chiefs Conference.
23 AVCP and Tanana Chiefs Conference have a total of 98
24 Federally-recognized tribes on both Yukon/Kuskokwim
25 Rivers. The AVCP region holds the majority on the
26 Kuskokwim and the TCC holds the majority on the Yukon
27 River, but we will make it work. We'll make it so that
28 we have a management system in place within the next
29 couple years.

30
31 These Intertribal Fisheries Commissions
32 are based on the best available science, both Western
33 science and also the utilization of traditional
34 knowledge. We've tried for a number of years to
35 incorporate traditional knowledge into the management
36 system, but the systems just don't listen. They've
37 taken our traditional knowledge, they've mildly
38 considered them and most of it just throw it in the
39 trash can and just leave it there.

40
41 They're making an effort to manage us,
42 but it's time for us to manage ourselves and bring back
43 these resources to where we need them at. We've had
44 successful knowledge in the past. We've built up the
45 Pacific White-fronted Geese from a low of 25,000 or
46 Cacklers were down to 25,000 and now they're over
47 250,000. The Pacific White-front Geese are 400,000 or
48 stronger at the moment. So we've had success and we
49 can do it.

50

1 The State and Federal management
2 systems, they do not want to touch the trawlers out in
3 the Bering Sea. We want to work with them, we want to
4 put them on the table and let them understand what's
5 going on in our systems. We hope to accomplish a lot.
6 I know it's going to be extremely challenging. We're
7 probably going to get challenged by the State
8 management system and also the Federal management
9 system. We're probably going to get challenged by
10 various agencies as well because this is something
11 that's extremely empowering for our villages.

12
13 We will try and work with other
14 agencies, including the Northwest Indian Fisheries
15 Commission, the Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries
16 Commission and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife
17 Commission. This endeavor may extend into other
18 resources, perhaps caribou, perhaps moose. But, you
19 know, this is our homeland and we have a huge stake in
20 it. All of our people that you represent have a huge
21 stake in it and we look forward to marching on.

22
23 That is basically it. I thought I'd
24 inform you about where we're at with the Intertribal
25 Fisheries Commissions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
28 Andrew. Do you have any questions for Mr. Andrew from
29 Council. Mr. Charles.

30
31 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
32 Tim, did AVCP talk about escapement goals changed too
33 for the State?

34
35 MR. T. ANDREW: We have not talked
36 about the escapement goals. In fact, during the
37 escapement goal discussion that had occurred here over
38 the weekend, I can't remember the exact date, but it
39 was right about the time when my moose had come in from
40 Marshall, so I had to excuse myself from that. But
41 what I've heard from the various other stakeholders
42 that we work with that went very well and a lot of
43 issues were brought forth.

44
45 It's a process that is going to take a
46 while to develop the escapement goals. You'll be
47 involved with your Kuskokwim River Salmon Management
48 Working Group and RAC member and also Fish and Game
49 Advisory Committee members as well.

50

1 The last go-around when the State had
2 recommended that we reduce the escapement goal or do a
3 river-wide escapement goal and then reducing the
4 escapement goal, we feel that's an extremely dangerous
5 practice because when you have an in-river or
6 river-wide escapement goal, some of the river systems
7 could possibly sacrifice the low-producing rivers.
8 Like, for example, the Tuluksak. You're not managing
9 especially for Tuluksak, you're managing for the entire
10 river. Takotna might do good and Tatlawiksuk or
11 Kogrukluk or Kwethluk, those may do fairly well, but
12 for the small streams that are producing a small number
13 of salmon, those can be overlooked and those can be
14 eradicated.

15
16 There's lots of dangers in how these
17 escapement goals are set. There's a lot to take into
18 consideration. I've talked to Mr. Aloysius before
19 about how the Aniak River used to produce. Where the
20 river would turn white from spawning salmon and the
21 smell. It used to be the same way up on the Yukon
22 River. Only two fishwheels would provide the salmon
23 needed for the community of Ohogamiut. I don't know
24 how many people used to live there, but can you imagine
25 the amount of fish that went up the Yukon River to be
26 able to feed the entire community with only two
27 fishwheels.

28
29 Right now, when we achieve our
30 escapement goals, the river is clear. Like Bob said,
31 the rivers are clear. There's no smell. So we've got
32 to be extremely careful in how we set our escapement
33 goals.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Charles,
36 go ahead.

37
38 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
39 How about the Tier II proposal that people have been
40 talking about? Did they talk about that at the AVCP
41 convention too?

42
43 MR. T. ANDREW: They did not talk about
44 that in the convention per se. There might have been a
45 few discussions or a few comments about it during the
46 convention, but it was not an agenda item. There was a
47 Tier II presentation that occurred on Tuesday night,
48 the first night of the convention. As I understand,
49 there was probably about 50 people that participated.
50 I was in the Resolutions Committee meeting, so I could

1 not attend that meeting.

2

3 MR. CHARLES: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
6 questions. Mr. Aloysius.

7

8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Tim, the
9 area of this Intertribal fish and game council or
10 whatever you guys call that, how do you -- or who are
11 the members selected?

12

13 MR. T. ANDREW: We're currently in the
14 infancy stages and we are hoping to get a steering
15 committee of five for both the Yukon and Kuskokwim
16 Rivers. The areas of the Intertribal Fisheries
17 Commission, they cover the entire Kuskokwim management
18 area and the entire Yukon River management area.
19 That's from the community of Newtok down to Platinum
20 and up as far as Nikolai on the Kuskokwim River.
21 That's how it looks at the time being. I mean villages
22 can bow out if they do not want to participate in the
23 Intertribal Fisheries Commission. For the Yukon River,
24 it goes from Newtok up to Kotlik on the north and all
25 the way up to Eagle at the Canadian border.

26

27 We have yet found ways to include the
28 Canadian First Nations, but that's going to be
29 something that's going to have to be worked on at some
30 point in the future to include those important members.

31

32 MR. ALOYSIUS: The thing that really
33 bothers me a lot of times is that organizations like
34 this in their infancy are controlled by what we
35 consider as young people who are mindless simply
36 because they don't have the experience of living in
37 this land. All they know is what they read and what
38 somebody shows them on video. It really scares me that
39 the real spirit of subsistence is not practiced.

40

41 I grew up hunting, fishing, trapping
42 and gathering. I always said the first 14 years of my
43 life was in the Yupiaq university and my camp was what
44 the unknowing people called wilderness. From where I
45 was born to Kalskag up to Whitefish Lake, all the way
46 east to all the drainages of the Aniak River down to
47 Napaimiut. That was my campus. So I know what
48 hardship people went through to hunt, fish, trap and
49 gather for their sustenance.

50

1 Yet people like me are not even asked
2 or invited to something like this because we don't have
3 the paper education. Paper means nothing. It's what's
4 in your spirit, your mind and your heart and it's real.
5 That's something you guys have to think about. Harry
6 Wilde and I are two examples. Him on the Yukon, me on
7 the Kuskokwim. That's just in the Delta area that I --
8 it just bothers me that we're neglected simply because
9 many times we're outspoken and we rub people the wrong
10 way who are there to make the decisions. Based on
11 what? Based on somebody else's information, not our
12 own. It's very frustrating. In less than a year I'll
13 be 80 years old and every bit of it has been in this
14 land.

15
16 The first thing I ask a lot of times --
17 I mean I was told when I was growing up, what is your
18 role. Live, love, learn, understand, appreciate,
19 practice, celebrate, observe, absorb, retain everything
20 about nature, especially your relations. Not only your
21 human relations, but most of all your relations, your
22 sisters and brothers, the water that flows in the
23 river, the land that we walk on. Our sisters and
24 brothers that fly, roost, climb, walk, hop, jump, skip,
25 slither, burrow, swim and grow on Mother Earth.
26 Because without them we are nothing. That's something
27 that has been drilled into us ever since I could
28 remember.

29
30 Nature provides for you and you, in
31 turn, have to respect nature. That's something that's
32 being lost because money is taking over our world, our
33 existence. I'll say it again, king salmon, the
34 harvesting of king salmon is a learned process. We
35 never targeted king salmon. It was chums and reds on
36 the Kuskokwim River. In the summertime when water is
37 low, when the salmon hit, the water upriver comes up
38 anywhere from three to four feet because of the number
39 of salmon coming up.

40
41 Like you said, Aniak River was just one
42 example of what spawning does up there. These are not
43 written. These are things that we know, we live them,
44 and that is something that the intertribal entities
45 should consider is having people before we're gone with
46 the spirit and the mind and the heart of the land to be
47 included in that group.

48
49 Thank you.
50

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

3
4 MR. T. ANDREW: If I may respond.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

7
8 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Aloysius was
9 completely correct. I totally support the utilization
10 of elders in the Intertribal Fisheries Commission
11 because they are a connection to the past. They are
12 our connection to the resource. They are our
13 connection to our values.

14
15 Like I said, these two Intertribal
16 Fisheries Commissions are extremely in their infancy
17 stages and they have not fully developed at the moment.
18 We're trying to develop the steering committees within
19 the next few months to at least provide a guide of how
20 these commissions are to operate.

21
22 We look forward to the input of
23 everybody that we can possibly get input out of.
24 Perhaps the RAC, perhaps the Fish and Game Advisory
25 Committees, elders, tribal councils. Everybody
26 possible so that we can develop the best management
27 model, best management system for the resources that we
28 so love and depend upon.

29
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That you, Mr.
33 Andrew. Any other questions. Mr. Brown.

34
35 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

36
37 TRANSLATOR: Down at the ocean, down at
38 the mouth of the Kuskokwim River, I am the traditional
39 cultural bearer of my forefathers and that's where our
40 dinner table was at, the mouth of the Kuskokwim River,
41 and all those sandbars on the mouth of the Delta or
42 else on the islands on the Bering Sea, they all have
43 names.

44
45 When they used to go fishing by kayak,
46 are you also including all the names of all these
47 little sandbars that seem like they don't have any
48 names to the Western civilization, but these are very
49 important to our areas. This is where exactly we used
50 to catch our salmon and our mammals and our fish and

1 birds. Are we also going to include all those names
2 that are forgotten in all of the contemporary
3 literature?

4

5 MR. T. ANDREW: I hope I fully
6 understood your question, but traditional place names
7 are extremely important because they're developed by
8 people that lived in those areas. There are many
9 traditional place names and there's channels and the
10 river system, the ocean, the sandbars and whatnot. I
11 think, if I understood Mr. Brown's question, if we can
12 possibly take those back.

13

14 I think it might have been the Calista
15 Elders Council many years ago that did a traditional
16 place name project. I remember seeing those in various
17 places across the river deltas and also the various
18 places along the coastal areas.

19

20 You know, everything is possible and I
21 believe the tribes have not realized their true power
22 and authority. They haven't utilized it to the max.
23 If you want to take these places back with the
24 traditional names in management, that's totally
25 possible.

26

27 (In Yup'ik)

28

29 TRANSLATOR: Did that answer your
30 question?

31

32 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

33

34 TRANSLATOR: In addition, the areas of
35 where we traditionally gathered and there are also a
36 lot of place names where there are hunting and
37 gathering sites and if we can change all those site
38 names. Every aspect of our land had place names to
39 them. Through Western civilization the literature just
40 butchers all the names of them and they just do general
41 place names to them. If we could identify exactly what
42 those names are, that would be good.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
45 for Mr. Andrew.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
50 thank you, Mr. Andrew. At this time we're going to

1 take a 15-minute break. Thank you.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Before we get back
8 to old business, we have one more comment from the
9 AVCP, Mr. Andrew.

10

11 MR. T. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
12 I had intended to mention this, but as with getting a
13 bit older you tend to lose things too mentally.

14

15 (Laughter)

16

17 MR. T. ANDREW: I'd like to take this
18 opportunity to introduce Kevin Bartley. He is our
19 person that's going to be working on the Intertribal
20 Fisheries Commission and he also has another
21 responsibility, which is serving as a go-between
22 between the Alaska Seafood Cooperative, which are
23 bottom trawlers operating right outside of our river
24 system here, and with the Bering Sea Elders group. So
25 he's got quite a responsibility. If you have any
26 questions, comments or concerns about the Intertribal
27 Fisheries Commission, you can contact him at AVCP.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
32 Andrew.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Who was that?

35

36 MR. T. ANDREW: Kevin Bartley.

37 MR. ALOYSIUS: Oh, that young fellow.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Kevin also passed
40 out a booklet. Is there anything you might want to
41 say, anything about this, Kevin?

42

43 MR. BARTLEY: Mr. Chair. Kevin
44 Bartley. I'm with the AVCP formally now. I came back
45 here today to deliver on a promise that I made you guys
46 coming up on, I think, about two years ago now. I know
47 some of you guys might have been wondering what
48 happened to that guy. Well, I was working my butt off
49 and that right there in front of you is one of the
50 deliverables from our work together.

1 We're also in the process of publishing
2 a book. I think I've got a couple more weeks and I'll
3 be able to order copies of it. It's about 10 times
4 bigger than that one in front of you. It is chock full
5 of the words of the elders. The back of that report
6 there has some of the transcripts in it so you can read
7 the comments that were made.

8
9 I didn't really prepare anything today.
10 Honestly, I've been here for about two months now. I
11 just wanted to say that I'm always -- this is kind of
12 going to what Bob had said earlier. You know, guys
13 come here from the region. They don't really know a
14 lot. Man, I'm one of them. I've been out here working
15 with the people, but constantly being reminded of how
16 much I don't know.

17
18 My girlfriend is from Kwethluk. Our
19 relationship teaches me about all of the things that I
20 still don't understand, you know, when it comes to
21 communicating. It's the simple things. What I'm
22 learning is a lot of these things have to do with major
23 cultural differences. It's trying to understand those.

24
25
26 When I first got here -- it hit me the
27 other day, you know, when you grow up in the Euro-
28 American world -- I remember my father telling me this
29 when we were young. He'd say -- when he'd get mad at
30 us, he'd point right at us in the face and he'd say,
31 boy, look at me when I'm talking to you, look at me,
32 and we'd snap to, me and my brothers. As you get
33 older, you learn, even when you're in a meeting, you
34 have to stand there and you have to look at somebody
35 right in the face. If you don't do that, you're not
36 being respectful, you know.

37
38 Well, that's not the way it is in the
39 Yup'ik world. I have to consciously make an effort to
40 do something different and it's not easy, it's not
41 easy, and I want to admit that right now. None of
42 these things are easy. I think one of the things that
43 I learned that becomes a challenge is that we have --
44 these meetings have become so formal that the most
45 basic things of like talking and listening it's hard to
46 -- I want to read this passage real quick out of here.
47 This kind of struck me. I've got something I wanted to
48 read to you.

49
50 This pattern of not talking and not

1 listening is a symptom of being stuck. Whether or not
2 the actors are on speaking terms -- he's talking about
3 the people in the room that are talking about something
4 -- they are not on listening terms. They have made up
5 their minds before their opponents speak. Even if they
6 are silent and pretending to listen, they are really
7 only reloading, rehearsing their rebuttals, what
8 they're going to say. They are, in fact, only
9 listening to themselves, to the tapes they play over
10 and over in their heads, about why they are right and
11 others are wrong.

12

13 Otto Scharmer calls this kind of
14 listening -- or kind of talking that takes place in
15 these situations downloading because the speaker is
16 reproducing an old file without alteration. It's the
17 same argument, the same thing. These panel discussions.
18 In order to create new realities, we have to be able to
19 talk and listen, really talk and listen to one another.
20 I'm standing here before you today and I don't know
21 exactly what that looks like yet, but it's not this.
22 It's not this formal presentation discussion.

23

24 I had more progress -- I have to admit
25 this -- more progress in 25 minutes between these
26 representatives of the trawler companies yesterday,
27 which I was pretty baffled by, I wasn't expecting it,
28 and some Native American rights fund attorney when we
29 were having a meeting because we sat down and we talked
30 and listened to one another. We didn't have an agenda
31 and it was very productive. We're working on creating
32 new realities.

33

34 I'm not going to go on any longer right
35 now, but these are just some things that I'm noticing
36 and I hope that we can start to improve them. I'm
37 going to be working on trying to do that with the
38 Intertribal Fisheries Commission and I hope to be able
39 to be of service to you guys. That's why I'm out here.
40 That's why I came back. I have a great deal of respect
41 for the people in this room. I want you to know that
42 on the record.

43

44 Quyana.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
47 questions for Kevin?

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none --
2 Mr. Aloysius.

3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Not a question, but a
5 comment. Thank you. It's very humbling to hear a
6 young man admit that he doesn't know everything and
7 that his mind and heart and spirit are open to more
8 knowledge. One of the things that s very misleading in
9 the Western education is show and tell. We Yupiaq
10 people grow up with tell and show, tell and show, tell
11 and show and tell you the same thing over and over and
12 over until you stand up and you start looking around,
13 then you can see what they were telling you because
14 they're showing you.

15
16 So I'm glad this young man is beginning
17 the stage of his real education because he's going to
18 hear something over and over and over and then later on
19 he's going to see it because the people who are telling
20 him are showing him what they're talking about. Thank
21 you.

22
23 MR. BARTLEY: Quyana.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
26 questions, comments.

27
28 (No comments)

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you
31 very much for your presentation, Kevin. We have one
32 more before we go into our old business. We'd like to
33 hear from -- who was that?

34
35 MR. BILL: Standing back there.

36
37 MR. TIKIUN: (In Yup'ik)

38
39 TRANSLATOR: Thank you. Good to see
40 all of you guys while you guys are having a meeting
41 here. I'm 74 years old probably. I'm Henry Tikiun,
42 Sr. I was from here, from Bethel, when I was young,
43 but we relocated with my father at Atmautluak at the
44 head of the Johnson River. We went to locate my mom's
45 parents. I was thinking they were my parents and they
46 were my grandparents at the same time. I thought they
47 were my mom and dad, so I was kind of robbed. When
48 they passed I was an orphan, but my mom took me back
49 and I got married at that time.

50

1 At that time when we were living at
2 Atmautluak we lived a subsistence way of life and we
3 used it daily trying to feed our stomach without any
4 currency or money. Our caregivers were only trapping
5 for fur and that's how they have their income. They
6 used to have a store somewhere, but we lived a
7 subsistence way of life at that time. I had no problem
8 with that while we were living and I thought I was
9 going to come up to this day here in Bethel, around
10 Bethel.

11
12 But we are having a situation and a
13 problem with our subsistence way of life and our way of
14 life is being watched, regulated and it's tiresome. We
15 were living peacefully although we thought we were
16 having a hard time because we didn't have a lot of
17 stuff, so those were the items we didn't have, a good
18 coat like I'm wearing right now, but we had parkas,
19 mukluks. Everything that we wore was fur and that was
20 how I was brought up and raised.

21
22 First of all our subsistence way of
23 life at this time we're having a critical time at this
24 time. I really don't like the permitting process. The
25 permitting process in subsistence way of life, I'm not
26 for that. We already are seeing animals that are going
27 extinct. That goes with the fish and also the way we
28 gather. The small fish that we eat at wintertime I'm
29 trying to gather, but a lot of those fish are not where
30 they're supposed to be.

31
32 Our young people, whenever they come
33 from here, from this village, they don't have no
34 respect for that village. They have a girlfriend from
35 that village, they walk around. I see them and I think
36 they're probably stealing from the fish racks. I'm not
37 the only one that kind of lose fish. A lot of families
38 are losing fish on the rack. Although these young
39 people are being taught and also being told to respect
40 even at schools. Our kids' kids are the ones that are
41 belittling elders or anybody.

42
43 We are now trying to carry on with the
44 permit status for subsistence. We were given a permit
45 for commercial fishing. We used to use a license to
46 fish for chinook for commercial fishing and we used
47 that license to get income and just recently we were
48 provided these commercial fishing permits. At this
49 time fish are depleting. The State is taking over the
50 permits when a permit holder cannot pay for it.

1 Also my permit that was transferred to
2 my son, I ask my son all the time have you paid for
3 your permit when you want to use it. Make sure you
4 renew it. A lot of times permit holders lose their
5 permits. How are we going to subsist with a permit
6 then? I think that is a foreseen item if we use a
7 permit system. When they don't have no money to renew
8 that permit, they lose that permit. Once they lose it,
9 is our kids or our grandkids going to starve through
10 that? It's not very acceptable using a permit system.

11
12 Just recently we had our AVCP
13 convention meeting in the evening. That was also
14 mentioned. I also mentioned what I'm commenting about
15 the permit process. If that's going to be -- because
16 this is not going to be used by our grandkids as soon
17 as they run out of money, they're going to lose the
18 permit. Are they going into starvation? Are these
19 white people leading us to starvation?

20
21 Our kids, even though they're being
22 told the food stamps is kind of breaking their cycle.
23 These two couples that receive food stamps or any other
24 general assistance because they can't work. I was
25 given to have food stamps because my families were
26 looking at my people that I'm caring for, but my food
27 stamps didn't accept because these families earn their
28 much although they earn their income where they're
29 probably using it for Rippies, Bingos, going on travels
30 somewhere to party. Those are the type of ways that
31 our young people's kids are doing and there are a lot
32 of them like that and I hurt. The same situation that
33 are losing stuff in their village. I don't really want
34 that to happen and I don't want Fish and Game to carry
35 on.

36
37 Also the Fish and Game that's watching
38 us, I hurt at that time when Alaska was being bought.
39 They were told if they are being sold -- when they sold
40 Alaska, the first people of Alaska, the Eskimos, don't
41 let them -- don't take care of them in a starvation
42 way. The paper probably may be in Juneau as a paper
43 and I think those need to be looked at so that the
44 government is not taking care of us that are arriving
45 here to our area. We're being starved through our
46 grandkids and our great grandkids.

47
48 We're not living the way we used to
49 happily. We can't even share our -- even though we
50 care for them, we don't feel care. The elders never

1 eat what they want to eat nowadays. Back in the old
2 days when they were young they lived a life that they
3 wanted to have and they eat what they wanted to have
4 and nobody was regulating anything, but now, at this
5 time, everything is a hardship. It's like a lot of
6 people are having a hardship trying to get a
7 subsistence way of life.

8

9 Also when they share, people remember
10 who they shared with. So they remember what they used
11 to eat when they were young a long time ago. These
12 young generation are not eating like the old because
13 they're leading a life that they didn't live in the old
14 days. I'm not very accepting the permits for that
15 reason. I'm commenting for you guys because I'm from
16 Atmautluak.

17

18 Thank you very much.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Quyana. We are
21 down to our old business.

22

23 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. On the
28 reports there's one item that was not covered.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is that?

31

32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Chair's report.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I didn't have a
35 report. That's why I didn't cover it.

36

37 (Laughter)

38

39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Did you make that clear
40 on the record? You never said anything.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. I'm sorry.
43 I overlooked that. I didn't have a report, so that's
44 the reason why we just went over it. Okay. We are
45 down to our old business. First item under old
46 business is customary and traditional use determination
47 update from Pippa Kenner or David Jenkins.

48

49 MS. KENNER: Hello, Mr. Chair. This is
50 Pippa Kenner in Anchorage on the line.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, go ahead,
2 Pippa. You have the floor.

3
4 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair. And
5 hello to members of the Council. This is not an action
6 item. The presentation is to tell you where the
7 Federal Subsistence Management Program is in its review
8 of the customary and traditional use determination
9 process. First I'll give you a little bit of history.

10
11 In 2010, the Secretary of Interior
12 asked the Federal Subsistence Board to review with
13 Regional Council input the customary and traditional
14 use determination process and present recommendations
15 for regulatory changes. In 2011, all 10 of the
16 Regional Advisory Councils reviewed the process and
17 nine out of 10 Councils recommended no change. The
18 Southeast Council asked the other nine Councils to
19 review the process once again, which they did in 2013
20 and 2014.

21
22 The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Council, at
23 its fall 2013 meeting, that would be just this last
24 fall, recommended to eliminate customary and
25 traditional use determinations and instead using ANILCA
26 Section 804 when it becomes necessary to limit who can
27 harvest a resource.

28
29 At it's 2014 meeting, the Southeast
30 Council submitted a proposal to the Federal Subsistence
31 Board to make changes to the customary and traditional
32 use determination process and the letter begins on Page
33 13 of your Council book.

34
35 So in the future, in the winter of
36 2015, the Office of Subsistence Management Staff are
37 planning to present an analysis of th Southeast
38 Council's proposal to all 10 Councils for their review
39 and recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board.
40 The Federal Subsistence Board may decide to make a
41 recommendation to the Secretary of Interior and the
42 Secretary of Agriculture.

43
44 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That's the end
45 of my presentation. I'd be happy to answer questions.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.
48 Any questions for Ms. Kenner. Mr. Charles.

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

1 Pippa on Federal subsistence determination, what's the
2 population limit for each community?

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa.

5

6 MS. KENNER: Thank you for that
7 question, Mr. Charles. This is Pippa Kenner. There is
8 no population limit on these types of determinations.

9

10 MR. CHARLES: Thank you.

11

12 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bill.

15

16 MR. BILL: Thank you. Ma'am, I'd like
17 to ask you, what is customary and traditional use?

18

19 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Bill.
20 Through the Chair. Customary and traditional uses are
21 evaluated in different ways, but the Federal
22 Subsistence Board decides what resources that are used
23 customarily and traditionally.

24

25 MR. BILL: Okay. That is my question,
26 madam. I'm an Eskimo. I was born Eskimo 76 years ago
27 outside of Kashunuk with just me and my family. There
28 was no Hooper Bay, no Chevak, no Bethel, just me and my
29 family. The young man a little while ago who made his
30 testification before us mentioned what he did when he
31 was a little boy. I was like that.

32

33 Let me tell you a little story. Maybe
34 I shouldn't say this, but maybe I'll bring it up. I
35 brought it up for somebody else already. A long time
36 ago, I think when I was a little boy, a man came to the
37 village. He was different. He was white. His skin
38 was different. The man kept following him all day what
39 he was going to do because he didn't know if he was a
40 person or something. By evening, the man started
41 running away from the guy that was watching him. They
42 did not know that he was ready to take a crap, so he
43 watched him. When he was done and when he came out he
44 said (in Yup'ik).

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 TRANSLATOR: He just defecated an alien
49 from across the ocean.

50

1 MR. BILL: That was the way they viewed
2 the white Eskimos because they didn't know. They
3 thought they were the only people. That time when I
4 was growing up my father used to tell us and my
5 grandfather everything that you need out there in the
6 wilderness is there. A gentleman of the universe will
7 give it to you as long as you want that certain thing.
8 He will not take what he give you. Over and over every
9 year, every spring, I've heard that.

10
11 I used to go muskrat hunting a long
12 time ago when I was a boy. We got a lot of muskrat.
13 Me and my uncle caught even 500 muskox a night when we
14 hunt them. Back in 1979 we stopped hunting muskrat.
15 Ain't nobody hunt muskrat. There's no more muskrat
16 now. Back in 1959 -- '54, I started hunting muskrat
17 myself in Nelson Island. I stopped hunting in 1966.

18
19 1980s the mink started going away and
20 then I said to myself, my father used to tell me this
21 when I was a boy, when we don't need them, the old man
22 up there will take them away because we don't have any
23 use for it. So I believe it now and that's why I say
24 what is traditional use. I used it and I'm still using
25 it. Just this year -- I just told you I'm 76 years old
26 now. This year my sons and son-in-laws won't let me go
27 out, but I can go out if I want to.

28
29 I'll tell you I trained my kids how to
30 hunt and fish. I trained my grandchildren how to hunt
31 and fish. That's how to be a man. I showed my great
32 grandchildren how to fish. They know how to do it. If
33 I don't go home for a week and eat my own food, I
34 wouldn't eat any -- I could hardly eat any more because
35 I'm not used to it and you're the same way, the
36 Westerner. If you stay out there in my village and eat
37 my food for a week, you will hardly eat it anymore
38 because I know that I know and you know, you cannot eat
39 stink fish the way I eat it because I like it. And I
40 know that you know if you're cold, you will not eat old
41 seal oil to keep you warm. I do it for survival. But
42 for somehow they're saying customary and traditional
43 use, trying to take some of it out.

44
45 A long time ago when I used to work
46 here in Bethel I read somewhere in the paper that
47 somebody a long time ago they were fighting Indians
48 down in the Lower 48. Now they're going to do it to
49 the Last Frontier and Alaska about the paperwork,
50 saying that we will not fight too much over something

1 and it s coming to pass now.

2

3 I said a little while ago when we
4 started if you have to try to change anything about our
5 lifestyle, come to our village and meet with us first,
6 talk to us. Don't just put it in the paperwork before
7 you show it to us because I know you have been telling
8 us this for a long time. You wanted to see some
9 paperwork before we bring it out to the people. You
10 wanted to see it. It's over hunting and fishing. Now
11 we're telling you, if you're going to change our
12 lifestyle, come to our village first and talk with our
13 tribal council and the villagers. That way you and I
14 will work together. Without that we will not work
15 together. No matter how much you try to put it, if you
16 don't come and meet with us before you put anything, we
17 will never work together.

18

19 I guess that's all I have to say. I
20 never talked this long before, so I'm okay. Thank you.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
23 Bill. Are there any questions for Pippa on the
24 customary and traditional use determination.

25

26 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Make sure you just
29 keep it to that subject, please, in order for us to
30 stay on our schedule of our approved agenda.

31

32 MR. BROWN: Excuse me, Mr. Chair. I've
33 got a comment to make.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, could you
36 wait just a minute until I finish my comment.

37

38 MR. BROWN: All right.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: In order for us to
41 go ahead and try and get our meeting, because we've got
42 a lot of work to do, let's try to keep it with the
43 agenda and the discussion at hand. Go ahead, Mr.
44 Brown. I'll recognize you and then we'll get you
45 afterwards, Michael. Go ahead, Mr. Brown.

46

47 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

48

49 TRANSLATOR: Thank you. When I used to
50 work as a test fisherman, the culture -- and I'm going

1 to speak about this cultural and traditional use. I
2 had a visitor that used to come from Bethel to observe.
3 The observers were white people that came down to my
4 area and during the lunchtime I invited them to my
5 house to let them taste my traditional foods and they
6 came into my house and I really liked the half-dried
7 salmon. They were looking at me eating the half-dried
8 salmon and I would dip it into seal oil and just
9 saturated with seal oil. While I was eating I asked
10 them to go ahead and eat my half-dried salmon and one
11 of them grabbed the half-dried and dipped it into seal
12 oil and he tasted it and he said that the taste was
13 agreeable.

14
15 Those are the instances of the
16 traditional foods that we have, especially the foods
17 give strength to our elders and the elders live to be
18 80 to 90 years old because the food that they have been
19 eating do not have any preservatives or additives.
20 When they eat non-traditional foods, it's hard on their
21 digestive system and on their bodies and they prefer
22 eating the traditional foods and we shouldn't even be
23 messing with those at all.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
28 Brown. Mr. Peters, you have the floor.

29
30 MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair. On
31 this tribal customary and traditional use I would like
32 to make a comment like what Mr. Bill said. The elders
33 in the villages and coming from my area I think what
34 needs to be done on this draft, whatever draft you come
35 up with, I think if there are any changes, I think what
36 needs to be done before there's any changes, come out
37 to the village and meet with the elders and go over
38 this if there's any changes.

39
40 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
43 for Pippa on customary and traditional use
44 determination.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none.
49 We'll continue on down our agenda to the Federal
50 Subsistence Board letter to Secretaries on rural review

1 process. Who's got that?

2

3 MS. BURKE: I believe it's Pippa.
4 Pippa, are you covering that item as well, rural?

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa.

7

8 MS. KENNER: No. It would be your LT,
9 I believe. Your leadership team member. I think it's
10 Tom.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Tom Kron has
13 the floor.

14

15 MS. KENNER: If Tom -- if it's not Tom,
16 I am prepared.

17

18 MR. KRON: Mr. Chair, Pippa. The
19 letter from Secretary Jewell and Secretary Vilsack is
20 printed on Page 22 in your Council book. This is the
21 letter to the Secretaries from Tim Towarak, but the
22 information is presented there. I really don't have
23 anything to add. This was a long process and this is
24 what the Federal Board has submitted to the
25 Secretaries.

26

27 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.

30

31 MS. KENNER: Thank you very much, Tom.
32 I just want to point out there is a briefing for the
33 Council that begins on Page 20. It gives a little
34 background of why we do the rural review every 10 years
35 and it also talks about the Federal Subsistence Board's
36 recommendation for changes to the process and then it
37 outlines what the next steps will be in terms of the
38 Secretaries in bringing it up. Then the next page is
39 the beginning of the letter.

40

41 The changes that are suggested, there
42 are quite a few and they're detailed. So unless
43 someone has reviewed it and has questions specifically
44 about what's being recommended, I think that's the end
45 of our presentation. Thank you.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any there any
48 questions on the letter. Mr. Charles.

49

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

1 Why are these marked on Federal Subsistence Board
2 recommendations? Why are they crossed off on these
3 items on Page 25?

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa.

6

7 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 Through the Chair. These are the recommended changes
9 to the rural determination process. Basically the
10 Board is recommending to the Secretaries to remove all
11 these criteria for what is rural, how we determine what
12 is rural and instead replace it with the simple
13 regulation that the Board shall determine which area,
14 what communities in Alaska are nonrural with a list of
15 the current determinations.

16

17 That was basically the majority of
18 comments that we received around the state on the
19 process requested that revision. So the request says
20 there will no longer be a population criteria for being
21 rural.

22

23 MR. CHARLES: Is it because the
24 recommendations were denied or why are they crossed
25 off?

26

27 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Charles.
28 Through the Chair. They're crossed out because the
29 Federal Subsistence Board is recommending that we no
30 longer use them. Instead review communities for rural
31 or nonrural when there's been a noticeable change, like
32 a population change or other things that occur in a
33 community where we might want to re-evaluate it.

34

35 For instance, in Adak, when the
36 military base closed and most of the population left
37 and it was determined to be rural instead of nonrural.
38 So those kind of determinations would be made on a
39 case-by-case basis as needed as opposed to being a
40 review every 10 years and having population criteria
41 and other criteria that are evaluated every 10 years.

42

43 MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you.

44

45 MS. KENNER: The bulk of the comments
46 was the same as the Y-K Delta Council comments, that we
47 don't need the decennial review every 10 years, we
48 should evaluate communities on a case-by-case basis as
49 there's changes in their population or infrastructure.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.
2 Are there any questions for Pippa on the letter to the
3 Secretaries.

4
5 (No comments)

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none.
8 Thank you, Mr. Kron. We will continue on down to our
9 rural determination process review.

10
11 MS. BURKE: I believe Pippa covered
12 both the letter and the process update.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, okay.

15
16 MS. BURKE: And I believe it's going to
17 be Trent who is on the phone covering the priority
18 information needs from FRMP or maybe Mr. Rivard.

19
20 MR. RIVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair.

21
22 MR. LIEBICH: Yeah, I'm on the phone.

23
24 MR. RIVARD: No, I've got this, Trent.

25
26 MR. LIEBICH: Yeah, that's what I
27 thought.

28
29 MR. RIVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
30 My name is Don Rivard. Good morning, Council members.
31 We're going to start on Page 47 in your book. We're
32 going to talk a little bit about the Fisheries Resource
33 Monitoring Program and then there will be some possible
34 action items for your Council after we talk about the
35 priority information needs.

36
37 For those folks that are relatively new
38 or need to be refreshed on what the Fisheries Resource
39 Monitoring Program is all about, The Fisheries Resource
40 Monitoring Program is unique to Alaska. It was
41 established in 1999 under Title VIII of ANILCA and is
42 run by the Office of Subsistence Management. The
43 Monitoring Program is a competitive funding source for
44 studies on subsistence fisheries that are intended to
45 expand the understanding of subsistence harvest,
46 traditional knowledge of subsistence resources, and the
47 populations of subsistence fish resources. Gathering
48 this information improves the ability to manage
49 subsistence fisheries in a way that will ensure the
50 continued opportunity for sustainable subsistence use

1 by rural Alaskans on Federal public lands.

2

3 Funding for the Monitoring Program is
4 separated into six regions within the state and you can
5 see those in a box on the bottom of Page 47. For your
6 particular Council, you're under funding regions for
7 the Yukon and for the Kuskokwim.

8

9 If you go to Page 50 in your book,
10 we're going to talk about priority information needs.
11 We bring this to you every couple years. The Office of
12 Subsistence Management invites the submission of
13 proposals for fisheries investigation studies to be
14 initiated under the 2016 Fisheries Resource Monitoring
15 Program. It basically used to be called a call for
16 proposals. We'll be sending out that call for
17 proposals at the end of this year or early 2015.

18

19 Taking into account funding commitments
20 for ongoing projects and contingent upon Congressional
21 funding, the Office of Subsistence Management
22 anticipate approximately \$4.0 million that will be
23 available in 2016 to fund new monitoring and research
24 projects that provide information needed to manage
25 subsistence fisheries for rural Alaskans on Federal
26 public lands. This funding may be requested for up to
27 four years.

28

29 So, Mr. Chair, we're going to talk a
30 little bit about --
31 this is a draft of the priority information needs that
32 we've heard from your Council and others. You'll see
33 that in front of you it shows all six regions. We're
34 just going to focus in on the two that your Council
35 covers.

36

37 So the first region is the Yukon and
38 that starts on Page 53. Again, these are draft priority
39 information needs. We've heard this from your Council
40 and others, we've heard it from managers of the land
41 management agencies, such as Regional Advisory Councils
42 and also some of the National Wildlife Refuge managers.
43 So, if you like, I can go over the bullets that we have
44 here for the Yukon. Would you like that?

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, go ahead.

47

48 MR. RIVARD: So starting on Page 53,
49 the bottom of Page 53, for the Yukon Region, the 2016
50 Notice of Funding Availability is focused on the

1 following priority information needs. First one is
2 reliable estimates of salmon species escapements. For
3 example, projects using weir, sonar and mark-recapture
4 methods.

5
6 I'm now on Page 54. The second one is
7 geographic distribution of salmon and whitefish species
8 in the Nulato River,
9 Salmon Fork of the Black River, Porcupine River and
10 Chandalar River. The next bullet is an indexing method
11 for estimating species-specific whitefish harvests on
12 an annual basis for the Yukon drainage. Researchers
13 should explore and evaluate an
14 approach where subregional clusters of community
15 harvests can be evaluated for regular surveying, with
16 results being extrapolated to the rest of the cluster
17 and contributing to drainage-wide harvest estimates.

18
19 The next priority information need.
20 Methods for including quality of escapement measures
21 (for example, potential
22 egg deposition, sex and size composition of spawners,
23 spawning habitat utilization) in establishing chinook
24 salmon spawning goals and determining the reproductive
25 potential and genetic diversity of spawning
26 escapements.

27
28 The next priority information need is a
29 review of escapement data collection methods throughout
30 Yukon drainage to ensure that test fisheries are
31 accurately accounting for size distribution and
32 abundance of fish, such as are smaller chinook being
33 counted accurately.

34
35 The next priority information need is
36 harvest and spawning escapement level changes through
37 time in relation to changes in gillnet construction and
38 use (for example, set versus drift fishing, mesh size
39 changes) for chinook salmon subsistence harvest in the
40 mainstem Yukon River.

41
42 The next priority information need is
43 Bering cisco population assessment and monitoring. The
44 final one here is burbot population assessments in
45 lakes known to support subsistence fisheries.

46
47 Mr. Chair, before we move on to the
48 Kuskokwim, I wanted to see if there was any input that
49 your Council may have on comments on these or if you
50 have some other priority information needs that you

1 would like to see addressed in the upcoming call for
2 proposals.

3

4 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
7 Rivard. Any comments on the suggested proposals for
8 the monitoring program from the Yukon.

9

10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

13

14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Could you explain again
15 what you mean by burbot populations. Are they commonly
16 known as lush around here in the Yukon?

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: Somebody else will need to
21 answer that question. I'm not sure if it's equal, if
22 that's.....

23

24 MS. BURKE: I see heads nodding.

25

26 MR. KRON: This is Tom Kron. Yes, Mr.
27 Aloysius. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
30 Kron. Okay, Mr. Aloysius. Any other questions
31 concerning the Yukon. Mr. Brown.

32

33 MR. BROWN: On Page 51 (in Yup'ik).

34

35 TRANSLATOR: Currently the elections
36 regarding the governors, they are going to be changing
37 the governors. Is that going to affect the \$3.1
38 million grant? Is the changing of the administration
39 going to be affecting the \$3.1 million grant?

40

41 MR. RIVARD: I don't have my
42 translation equipment, so can somebody -- if it's a
43 question to me, would somebody please tell me what the
44 question was. Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
47 Aloysius.

48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I didn't even understand
50 his question. Something about the election district

1 being changed.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He was asking about
4 the money that was coming from the State. Is that what
5 you were asking because of the change of the governors
6 within the state, would that allocation be different
7 than what it has been? Is that what you asked, Mr.
8 Brown?

9

10 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmatively).

11

12 MR. RIVARD: The money that's available
13 for the Federal Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program
14 comes from U.S. Congress. It has nothing to do in
15 connection with the State.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you understand
18 that, Mr. Brown?

19

20 MR. RIVARD: So it's completely
21 independent of the State funding.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any other
24 questions on the Yukon monitoring programs. Mr. Oney.

25

26 MR. ONEY: Yes, thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman. On your bullet -- the third bullet to the
28 last about set versus drift fishing mesh size changes
29 for chinook salmon subsistence harvest in the mainstem
30 Yukon River. I've heard this by one of our members a
31 number of years ago that any size catch of chinook
32 salmon and I witnessed that this spring when I set out
33 a four-inch mesh net I caught a chinook salmon,
34 probably about a 25-pounder. Again, earlier this week
35 I set out a 3.5-inch mesh Bering cisco net and I caught
36 probably close to a 30-pound sheefish. I just wanted
37 to mention that for the record.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
42 on the Yukon. Mr. Wilde.

43

44 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
45 Yukon River, where the fishermen go fishing, Yukon
46 River channels are changing. Where I used to fish camp
47 I am unable to go in right now. When my brother was
48 fish collecting with the LCM, he go through to my camp,
49 followed that slough. Right now a regular boat
50 couldn't even go through. That's what is affecting

1 most of king salmon in that area. There were quite a
2 few king salmon before that. Hardly any fishermen.
3 They're fishing in other area. Fish Village, that's
4 where that -- no more Fish Village, hardly any. Only
5 that one person are staying right now across there. So
6 it is not only people alone, but also tidal water
7 hurting the fish.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Harry.
10 Any other comments on the monitoring program for the
11 Yukon. Mr. Peters.

12

13 MR. PETERS: I'd like to make a comment
14 on the Yukon. A comment from our area. I think it's
15 very important they have the data on how many numbers
16 go through the Eagle sonar or whatever. I think when
17 you look at the estimated numbers, like the
18 percentage-wise -- you know, they got these sonars or
19 whatever, but what they need to let the people know
20 about how much escapement went through there and to
21 have a draft copy for the people, was the kind of
22 concern.

23

24 Because if they meet the escapement
25 goal and stuff like that going into Canada, I think
26 it's very important for people in our area where I come
27 from because that -- you know, you could always correct
28 me if I'm wrong, but I think the people need to know
29 the percentage-wise of the escapement goals and to let
30 us know how much fish is passing through the Eagle
31 sonar.

32

33 You could always correct me if I'm
34 wrong, but that information to the public and to the
35 people, especially for the subsistence people and the
36 people in my area. It's very important that somewhere
37 along the line they need to give the people the
38 numbers. That's kind of the concern I had.

39

40 Thank you.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Peters, thank
43 you. You might explain to the new members what the
44 monitoring program is so that it's understood, Mr.
45 Rivard, please, if you would.

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
48 Chair. First of all, to address Mr. Peters' concern,
49 Fred Bue, the Yukon River Federal in-season manager,
50 will be speaking to you a little bit later. He will

1 give you those numbers as far as what escaped into
2 Canada, the estimates at least, for this year. That's
3 something that the in-season managers, both Federal and
4 State, are monitoring throughout the season.

5
6 That particular project, the Eagle
7 River sonar, that is funded by the State of Alaska, so
8 it's not under this program. These are more longer-
9 term monitoring projects. So that particular one that
10 you're talking about they do keep track of what's going
11 on in real time. Like I say, Mr. Bue will be here
12 shortly to talk to you about that.

13
14 MR. PETERS: Thank you very much for
15 the information and thank you, Mr. Chair, for bringing
16 up this indication to -- so that I understand about the
17 escapement goals. Thank you.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Is there
20 anymore questions on the monitoring program for the
21 Yukon.

22
23 (No comments)

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none.
26 Continue on with the Kuskokwim.

27
28 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 We're now on Page 55 in your book. I'll read the list
30 of so far identified priority information needs for the
31 Kuskokwim region. For the Kuskokwim Region, the 2016
32 Notice of Funding Availability is focused on the
33 following priority information needs.

34
35 As with the Yukon region, reliable
36 estimates of chinook, chum, sockeye, and coho salmon
37 escapement (for example, projects using weir, sonar,
38 mark-recapture methods). The second bullet is
39 methods for including quality of escapement measures
40 (for example, potential egg deposition, sex and size
41 composition of spawners, spawning habitat utilization)
42 in establishing chinook salmon spawning goals and
43 determining the reproductive potential and genetic
44 diversity of spawning escapements.

45
46 The third bullet is estimate the size
47 and growth of the sport fishery over the next 30 years.
48 The fourth bullet is an understanding of the meaning
49 and significance of sharing in the context of the
50 social, cultural, and economic life of people in the

1 lower Kuskokwim area.

2

3 The fifth bullet is impacts of sport
4 fishery on cultural values and social systems. The
5 sixth is local knowledge of whitefish species to
6 supplement information from previous
7 research in central Kuskokwim River drainage
8 communities. Groups of communities might include
9 Kalskag, Lower Kalskag, Aniak, and Chuathbaluk or Red
10 Devil, Sleetmute, and Stony River.

11

12 A similar bullet there is for the Lower
13 Kuskokwim drainages. Local knowledge of whitefish
14 species to supplement information from previous
15 research in Lower Kuskokwim River drainage communities.
16 Groups of communities might include Kwethluk, Akiachak,
17 and Tuluksak or Chefnak, Kipnuk, Kongiganak and Kwig.
18 I always go with the abbreviation on that.

19

20 The last priority information bullet in
21 your book is an indexing method for estimating
22 species-specific whitefish harvests on an annual basis
23 for the Kuskokwim drainage. Researchers should explore
24 and evaluate an approach where subregional clusters of
25 community harvests can be evaluated for regular
26 surveying with results being extrapolated to the rest
27 of the cluster, contributing to drainage-wide harvest
28 estimates.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
33 Rivard. Any questions on the monitoring programs for
34 the Kuskokwim. Mr. Charles.

35

36 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
37 Don, how about on the local knowledge of whitefish
38 species to supplement these villages down the coast,
39 like Chefnak, Kipnuk, Kongiganak and Kwigillingok,
40 that are mentioned in there? They don't have whitefish
41 over there in those areas, but they have ciscos. Like
42 Ray was saying a while ago, the cisco are whitefish
43 species, but they catch a lot more than us over there
44 and we catch whitefish on the river. So the research
45 is done by Federal in this area?

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Well, what.....

48

49 MS. KENNER: Don, this is Pippa.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.
2
3 MS. KENNER: Through the Chair. Thank
4 you, Mr. Charles. I just wanted to say I'm probably a
5 little bit more familiar with this type of research
6 than Don is. When we put out the call for proposals,
7 anybody can apply to do this research, but the research
8 will include the villages. One of the reasons why
9 we're doing the research or why it's a high priority
10 information need is that currently probably the people
11 in those communities are the only people who are fully
12 knowledgeable of what different species are in that
13 area and how those fish behave.
14
15 Thank you.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Pippa.
18 Any other questions.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius. Go
23 ahead, Mr. Aloysius and then we'll get you next.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: How are they going to do
26 estimating of a specific species whitefish harvest? I
27 don't know the Feds sending out harvest calendars and
28 all that. I've never seen one. The reason I'm asking
29 that is this fall, the first time in many, many years,
30 I have seen Kwethluk emptying out thousands and
31 thousands of whitefish in Whitefish Lake, and big ones,
32 big ones.
33
34 Nobody from Fish and Game or Fish and
35 Wildlife Service is up there surveying how many people
36 caught how many. These things are great, but how are
37 you going to count these things? Are you going to have
38 people reporting? It's kind of a thing that -- how are
39 you going to do this, you know?
40
41 MS. KENNER: Are you done? Okay, this
42 is Pippa Kenner again and I'm on the phone from
43 Anchorage. One of the things that we're asking
44 researchers to think about is how best to enumerate how
45 many whitefish are being harvested by different
46 communities on the Kuskokwim. The way this is done in
47 different parts of the state, as you know, we have
48 information collection projects for salmon in those
49 communities where there's a salmon run in the state,
50 but not for whitefish.

1 So the way we've enumerated the harvest
2 in the past are by asking communities to participate in
3 household surveys. Sometimes people are only asking
4 what they harvested in terms of the different types of
5 whitefish. Sometimes people in the community are asked
6 what they harvested of any species. But it's very
7 expensive to do those kinds of surveys and it's very
8 tiring for both the surveyors and the people who are
9 being asked the questions, but those type of surveys
10 generally aren't done every year.

11
12 On the Yukon, with a similar issue
13 about the harvest of whitefish, the Alaska Department
14 of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, has started
15 lessening by doing some surveys every year, but not in
16 every community, and then using that to estimate what
17 the overall harvest is.

18
19 I'm looking right now. They've chosen
20 communities in both the lower, middle and upper river
21 to survey probably for one or two years in a row and
22 then to develop some type of, probably, statistical
23 design that allows them to use the harvest of a handful
24 of communities every year to estimate the harvest of
25 everybody on the river or in a certain area.

26
27 So what we're asking is for somebody to
28 actually research which method would be best on the
29 Kuskokwim for estimating the harvest of the different
30 whitefish species.

31
32 Thank you.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
35 questions. Mr. Bill.

36
37 MR. BILL: Sir, I forgot your name.
38 Really, I didn't hear your name. What kind of
39 whitefish are you talking about? I'm from the coast
40 area.

41
42 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
43 Bill. My name is Don Rivard. It's all species. What
44 they're talking about here is looking at all the
45 species of whitefish that are being harvested for
46 subsistence purposes. So the coastal ones, obviously,
47 as Mr. Charles pointed out, a lot of it is cisco, but
48 it's looking at all of them.

49
50 Right now, a lot of times what happens

1 is anything to do with whitefish it's just lumped into
2 whitefish, but there are like six or seven species of
3 whitefish and that's part of what they want to do with
4 these proposed projects is to get a handle on each
5 species of whitefish of how much is being harvested.

6

7 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair. Down in the
8 coast area we have saltwater whitefish and I don't
9 think you can put a monitor on the ocean. Chefnak,
10 Kipnuk, they don't go -- they eat saltwater whitefish.
11 I don't think they've ever gone to the Kuskokwim to get
12 whitefish. I think they are just the names that people
13 put in there for help or something. I think it would
14 be better if you take out Kipnuk and Chefnak for
15 saltwater area fish.

16

17 Let's see, back in the 1940s some
18 people used to -- those who had boats used to come to
19 the Kuskokwim to get food for themselves on the salmon,
20 but nowadays, since then, way before 1950s they stopped
21 doing that. These two, including Nelson Island people
22 and the Newtok people, they have never come to the
23 Kuskokwim to get salmon.

24

25 MS. KENNER: Mr. Bill, this is Pippa
26 Kenner.

27

28 MR. BILL: So I think it would be
29 better if Chefnak and Kipnuk could be ruled out.

30

31 MS. KENNER: I just.....

32

33 MR. BILL: Not put them in. That's
34 just for looks, you know, whatever you call it. Thank
35 you.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Young lady on the
38 teleconference, you had a comment.

39

40 MS. KENNER: Yes. Thank you. I'm
41 sorry, I can hear everything, but not always clearly.
42 I just wanted to point out -- this is Pippa Kenner
43 calling from Anchorage. I just wanted to point out
44 that when we say the Kuskokwim region, it includes that
45 whole coastal area. So we're not only interested in
46 what those communities might be harvesting from the
47 Kuskokwim River, but we're also interested in what
48 types of whitefish are in their area.

49

50 So, Mr. Bill, do you have a comment

1 based on that clarification? Do you still think those
2 communities should be removed or do you have any
3 interest in what whitefish species exist in that area
4 and having that research done?

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bill.

7

8 MR. BILL: I couldn't catch some of
9 your conversation there. I'm a little hard of hearing
10 in one side here. I'm just telling you what I know and
11 what the people tell me. I'm not doing it by hearsay.
12 Before I became one of the people who are sitting on
13 the Subsistence Council area, there was Phillip Moses,
14 the elder. I'm in his seat now. I told you one time
15 that you should leave out that area for counting fish
16 because they have never tried to sell anything in that
17 area of their catch. They only use it for survival.

18

19 MS. KENNER: Thank you very much for
20 that piece of information.

21

22 MR. BILL: Nowadays, trying to go
23 Yukon, Kuskokwim in the summer time is hell. Gasoline
24 costs about \$7, in some places almost \$9, so it's very
25 hard to go to places like that. Me, myself, gasoline
26 is getting too high, I'm not going to Kashunuk anymore.
27 It's just too hard for me. I'm just trying to tell you
28 what the people have asked me to talk about at this
29 meeting.

30

31 Thank you.

32

33 MS. KENNER: Thank you, Mr. Bill. Mr.
34 Chair, can I ask Mr. Bill a follow-up question?

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Pippa.

37

38 MS. KENNER: Thank you. Mr. Bill,
39 through the Chair. I really appreciate your comments.
40 I find that to be very valuable. We have developed the
41 priority information needs in ways that do not involve
42 surveys or any type of harvest assessment. It's more
43 simply to go and talk to elders and others on what fish
44 are present and what their behaviors are. This would
45 be only if the community agreed to that type of
46 research.

47

48 Do you have any more information for me
49 with that clarification?

50

1 MR. BILL: I think if you go to my area
2 and meet with the people down there, the villagers, I
3 think you'll hear the same words that I'm talking
4 about. Thank you.

5
6 MS. KENNER: Thank you.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
9 further questions for the monitoring program for the
10 Kuskokwim. Mr. John Andrew.

11
12 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
13 My name is John Andrew out of Kwethluk. From my own
14 experience on whitefish, I've gone down to right by
15 Tunt and then by Eek Island for Bering cisco. One time
16 with the late run out of Eek, right by Eek Island, he
17 showed me where to set for Bering cisco, imarpinraq.
18 In half hour we fill filled our 400 pound sacks. Other
19 whitefish, like I've fished up there at Whitefish Lake
20 both for round whitefish and broad whitefish in a lake
21 out of Lower Kalskag. There's whitefish all along the
22 Kuskokwim and I've been given whitefish up there right
23 by Red Devil area, even in the Holitna River.

24
25 Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
28 for Pippa on the monitoring program.

29
30 MR. ULAK: Mr. Chairman.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Ulak.

33
34 MR. ULAK: I have a question or I'd
35 like to make a comment on the use of weirs and sonars
36 in our area, especially here in Kuskokwim. I'm
37 learning and one of the things I look at when I look at
38 weirs and sonars in some areas, I think -- I was told
39 that, you know, salmon escapement goals that we're
40 trying to do, like in the past from the stories I've
41 heard, for salmon to escape, if we want a good
42 abundance of salmon escapement, use of weirs versus the
43 sonars, to me, use of sonars would be more than use of
44 weirs, but, you know, I'm still learning.

45
46 For fish to escape, you know, you bump
47 into a weir, where do they go, they go back and then
48 you have an opening for salmon so wide that not all are
49 going to go upstream. That was one issue that I had in
50 mind. Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
2 on the monitoring program. Mr. Oney and then we'll get
3 Mr. Brown.

4
5 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
6 question is as a result of the earthquake that happened
7 in Japan, are we monitoring any salmon that may have
8 been affected by that nuclear plant that exploded
9 there? From looking at the news, I've seen a lot of
10 radiation that are pouring out into the ocean. I think
11 that should be a concern for users in river, to monitor
12 that for any radiation or any kind of effects that may
13 damage the salmon.

14
15 Thank you.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

18
19 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr.
20 Oney, that would fall under public health concern and
21 that's not something that would get funded through this
22 program. That's a legitimate concern, but it would be
23 something maybe the State of Alaska would do. I don't
24 know if any efforts have been done for that, but that's
25 not something that would be funded under this program.

26
27 Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Brown.

30
31 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

32
33 TRANSLATOR: I have a question
34 regarding the monitors, in reference to these monitors.
35 Are you guys going to be using the sonars at my
36 hometown close to the mouth of the river? The water
37 condition is not at it's level, it comes in and out. A
38 lot of times when it's high tide, it gets dark and a
39 lot of times when it's low tide, it's really low.

40
41 Like the time when I was doing some
42 test fisheries they tried to install the sonar on the
43 river through the State, but the condition of the tides
44 have affected the sonar status and that was the cause
45 why it couldn't be installed.

46
47 Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Quyana. Any other
50 comments or questions on the monitoring program for the

1 Kuskokwim.

2

3 (No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If there isn't
6 anymore questions on the monitoring program, next item
7 on the agenda will be the regulatory proposals, which
8 we'll take up after lunch. It is now 12:20. Let's get
9 at least an hour and a half for lunch because some of
10 those restaurants we go into you've got to wait forever
11 to get served. So an hour and a half from now would be
12 1:50, 2:00 o'clock. Let's reconvene at.....

13

14 MR. ALOYSIUS: Two o'clock.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE:2:00 o'clock.

17 Okay.

18

19 (Off record)

20

21 (On record)

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Before we get
24 started I'd like to request that you turn off your
25 phones so that we don't get disturbed while we're going
26 into our discussion on the proposals.

27

28 Prior to the proposals we're going to
29 be giving out some awards. The person giving out the
30 rewards is Mr. Rivard.

31

32 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
33 Good afternoon, everybody. Periodically the Federal
34 Subsistence Board and the Office of Subsistence
35 Management likes to acknowledge and thank people for
36 their service on the Councils. We have two of them
37 today. One is for Mary Gregory, who is not here. She
38 has a 15-year timeframe on your Council starting in
39 1999, I believe. So at some point we'll provide that
40 to her.

41

42 The other one, this is a Certificate of
43 Service Award to a Mr. William F. Brown, commonly known
44 as Charlie, I think. It says here in recognition of
45 his contribution to the Federal Subsistence Management
46 Program as a member of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
47 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council for the years
48 2004 to 2014. So thank you very much, Mr. William
49 Brown.

50

1 (Applause)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
4 Rivard. Next on our agenda is our friend, Mr. Fred
5 Bue.

6

7 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For
8 the record, my name is Fred Bue. I'm with U.S. Fish
9 and Wildlife Service. I'm the in-season fisheries
10 manager for the Yukon River. What I plan to do is give
11 just a brief summary of the Yukon River fishery this
12 past year and kind of bring it around towards the end
13 and put it into perspective on how the stocks have been
14 trending. We're doing this just prior to taking up
15 proposals so you have a little bit of reference
16 material for when you're deliberating on those.

17

18 With me -- I don't know if on the line
19 there was Sabrina Garcia with Alaska Department of Fish
20 and Game and Jeff Estensen with Alaska Department of
21 Fish and Game. Are you folks on the line?

22

23 MS. GARCIA: Hi, Fred. It's Sabrina
24 Garcia here and, yes, I'm on the line.

25

26 MR. BUE: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman. As you're pretty much familiar with
28 management on the Yukon, we do a lot of the work -- we
29 work together with State of Alaska. In this case, I'm
30 going to present pretty much an overview that's a
31 shared summary. If there's anything to add, then
32 we'll.....

33

34 (Phone feedback and echo)

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Can we get people
37 on the phone to mute their phone.

38

39 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 Just prior to the break I handed out three pieces of
41 material. There was one that looks like this. It's a
42 Federal season summary. It's fairly brief. These are
43 for your reference. You can take them home and read
44 them.

45

46 There was a larger document that Alaska
47 Department of Fish and Game put in. It's a season
48 summary. It's their normal preliminary report that
49 they write at the end of the season that's much more
50 detailed on all the specifics, day-to-day management

1 and how it turned out with some data.

2

3 Then there's a final packet or just
4 handouts that I prepared
5 just for this meeting. They're really rough pictures
6 of what we did this past season for the Yukon River,
7 but it's to give you some perspective on where the runs
8 are. Like Mr. Peters was looking for numbers earlier
9 and maybe some of this will help him out.

10

11 So with that I'll just summarize. The
12 Yukon is a pretty big, complex river. There's no way I
13 can go into all the detail that we did this last year.
14 There was like 150 news releases that all dealt with a
15 lot of different things, so I can't deal with that in
16 our amount of time here.

17

18 Just an overview, the 2014 chinook run
19 experienced our seventh consecutive season of below
20 average to poor run sizes. Conversely, both the summer
21 and fall chum runs performed as we expected, near
22 average runs. They were pretty good. The coho run was
23 well above average based on what we saw at the Pilot
24 Station Sonar Index. Incidentally, that was the highest
25 estimate at Pilot Station since the project began for
26 coho salmon.

27

28 Management of the 2014 summer season
29 was again challenged with the wide disparity in run
30 strength between the overlapping chinook and summer
31 chum runs of mixed stock fisheries. Efforts to
32 conserve chinook were initiated at the very beginning
33 of the season in the lower river and they were
34 implemented chronologically to upriver districts as the
35 run progressed upriver.

36

37 Essentially fishing for chinook was
38 closed throughout the entire summer season in most of
39 the districts and fishing gear restrictions were
40 applied to target harvest of other species to avoid
41 chinook and to target other species. Sport and
42 personal use salmon fishing was closed as well as a
43 large amount of commercial fishing opportunity for
44 summer chum was foregone. Consequently, the management
45 actions significantly limited subsistence access to
46 abundant summer chum and other fish species as we're
47 trying to protect these chinook.

48

49 Because chinook have performed below
50 expectations in recent years there's been a great deal

1 of public involvement this past winter with
2 stakeholders, including fishermen in Canada. A lot of
3 communication went through those meetings and key
4 conservation approaches that came out of those meetings
5 included were applied to the plan and the management
6 that we did during the season. We took that
7 information to heart that the people talked to us about
8 and we incorporated it into our management.

9
10 So in-season the run strength of the
11 chinook and summer chum was primarily based on the
12 lower river test fishery at Emmonak, the Yukon River
13 sonar near Pilot Station and subsistence fishermen
14 catch reports. Those are really important to us. It
15 gives us an idea what's being caught and it's firsthand
16 knowledge of what's going on out there.

17
18 Since chinook outlook was an extremely
19 poor run, potentially worst on record, managers worked
20 on the assumption that there would be little or no
21 chinook available for subsistence harvest. That's where
22 we started at the beginning of the season with that
23 frame of mind.

24
25 Restrictions to conserve chinook were
26 initiated early and stayed in effect through the entire
27 run. No commercial or subsistence fishing was allowed
28 to target chinook throughout the Yukon River.
29 Subsistence fishermen were allowed to target other fish
30 species during the early season, sheefish, some of the
31 whitefish that come in early, in most districts and we
32 restricted that to 6-inch nets or less before the
33 chinook arrived.

34
35 Once chinook arrived, subsistence
36 salmon fishing for the overlapping summer chum was
37 allowed where the chum were abundant. Not everywhere,
38 but when the chum were abundant. We used selective
39 gear such as dipnets, beach seines and fishwheels.
40 With these gear options there was a requirement to
41 release all chinook alive back into the river. In
42 addition, subsistence fishing for non-salmon species
43 was allowed in most districts with 4-inch nets or less
44 during closed salmon fishing periods.

45
46 At the end of the summer season when
47 managers assessed that the majority of the chinook had
48 passed through a district, subsistence fishing was
49 relaxed back to 6-inch or less mesh size gillnets to
50 target those chum.

1 Under new commercial fishing
2 regulations adopted by the Board of Fish in January
3 2013, ADF&G implemented the use of specially-equipped
4 fishwheels, dipnets and beach seines to target summer
5 chum while conserving chinook in the commercial
6 fishery. These commercial gear types were employed
7 during most of the summer season in Districts 1 and 2
8 when chinook could not have been avoided with
9 traditional gear.

10
11 Later in the season when most chinook
12 had moved out of the area, commercial fishing periods
13 were opened to 6-inch mesh or less nets to provide
14 harvest for the remaining chum that were in the river.

15
16 Further upriver Districts 4 and 6 had
17 special commercial permits where they were required to
18 open with only fish-friendly fishwheel. They're
19 specially-equipped fishwheels geared to target summer
20 chum and again the requirement to immediately release
21 chinook salmon. Those chinook that were caught in the
22 later commercial gillnet fishing could not be sold, but
23 they were allowed to be kept for subsistence use.

24
25 Preliminary commercial harvest from the
26 summer season were approximately 510,000 summer chum,
27 5,800 chinook were caught and released from the special
28 gear types and then later 443 chinook were caught but
29 not sold in the commercial fishery. Incidentally, this
30 was the highest commercial harvest of summer chum since
31 1989 and that was even with the selective gear types
32 being employed most of the summer chum season.

33
34 Due to the conservation efforts of the
35 Yukon River fishermen, the estimated U.S./Canada border
36 passage of 65,000 chinook ended above the interim
37 management escapement goal range of 42,500 to 55,000.
38 They had an additional surplus that was available for
39 Canadian harvest share as stipulated in the Yukon River
40 Salmon Agreement.

41
42 As many of you are aware, unfortunately
43 the high water hampered several escapement projects
44 this year, yet the data that was collected at weirs
45 Andrafsky, Gisasa and a few others and subsequent
46 aerial surveys indicate that chinook escapements were
47 strong. The harvest was poor, the run was poor, but we
48 did manage to meet most of our escapements and did
49 pretty well there, so that bodes well for the future.
50

1 For the fall season, based on the
2 performance of the summer chum, the fall chum
3 relationship revised the projection for the 2014 season
4 outlook run size to be greater than 850,000 fall chum.
5 This is considered to be adequate for escapement needs,
6 fall subsistence use and provide a surplus for
7 commercial harvest and other uses.

8
9 At the beginning of the fall season,
10 Districts 1, 2 and 3 subsistence fishing reverted to
11 their standard fishing gear and schedule. Since little
12 or no commercial fishing effort was anticipated in
13 upriver Districts 4, 5 and 6, subsistence fishing there
14 began on relaxed schedules and remained relaxed
15 throughout the fall season. Many subsistence fishermen
16 indicated to managers early on that they intended to
17 make up for their low chinook harvest with good quality
18 fall chum from the front half of the run. Those tend
19 to be the most desirable fish for putting in the
20 freezer and smoke racks.

21
22 Commercial salmon fishing was initiated
23 in the lower river at the start of the fall season and
24 take advantage of the overlap in the summer and fall
25 chum runs. However, through the front half of the fall
26 season chum entered the river below average run
27 strength. Some managers were cautious, being sure to
28 pass enough fish upriver for subsistence fishermen who
29 were looking to harvest the early fall chum to make up
30 for that lack of chinook.

31
32 During the second half of the season
33 two large pulses of approximately 100,000 and 250,000
34 fall chum entered the river. These pulses brought the
35 run projection back inline with preseason expectation
36 of a pretty good run.

37
38 Commercial fishing continued in the
39 lower river throughout the season with attempts to
40 align commercial openings on top of those pulses to
41 increase the harvest strength and that was done in each
42 district as the fish moved through them.

43
44 Meanwhile, the later coho salmon run
45 appeared to be developing above average with the
46 passage at the mainstem sonar near Pilot Station being
47 the second highest on record. Fall chum commercial
48 season closed by regulation on September 1 and
49 immediately following that the coho directed commercial
50 fishery was allowed as stipulated in the Yukon River

1 Coho Salmon Management Plan from September 1st through
2 September 10th. The reason for this is because the
3 abundance of coho was high and an adequate amount of
4 fall chum salmon had already passed upriver.

5
6 Additionally a small commercial harvest
7 occurred in subdistricts 5B and 5C and into District 6.
8 So the combined fall season commercial harvest through
9 September 28th was 115,000 fall chum salmon and 104,000
10 coho salmon. The fall chum commercial harvest was
11 below the most recent five-year average, while the coho
12 salmon harvest was the second highest on record. Most
13 fall chum escapement projects ended above average with
14 escapement goals being met or exceeded.

15
16 The Eagle sonar operations ended on
17 October 6 with a preliminary final passage of 165,000
18 fall chum across the border, which was adequate to
19 provide for the Canadian escapement goal and the
20 Harvest Sharing Agreement.

21
22 Escapement monitoring within the Tanana
23 River drainage will continue through November. The
24 fish really arrive there late, but indications at this
25 time are that the fall chum escapements are expected to
26 end within or above most escapement objectives for the
27 2014 season.

28
29 The Fishing Branch River, it's on the
30 Upper Porcupine River, is not going to make the goal.
31 It did not make its goal from the assessment we have so
32 far and it consistently fails to reach the agreement
33 goal.

34
35 Coho, on the other hand, may end on the
36 high end of the Delta Clearwater escapement goal. On
37 the Yukon River we only have one goal and that's on the
38 Delta Clearwater, which is near Delta Junction off the
39 Tanana River tributary for coho salmon.

40
41 Overall, subsistence salmon harvest
42 information collected in-season it's no surprise to
43 anybody that no fisherman met their chinook salmon
44 harvest goals or needs. Generally fishermen reported a
45 lack of fishing opportunity, having to fish later into
46 the season or having to shift their fishing efforts to
47 other fish species. This was expected in light of the
48 current trend of low chinook abundance. Of course, the
49 most conservative management effort taken in the
50 history of the fishery.

1 On the other hand, fishermen have done
2 well to shift their subsistence harvest to other
3 species on the Yukon. They're learning to use the new
4 selective gear options and are shifting their harvest
5 patterns to other times and locations for these other
6 fish. It is apparent that while the lack of chinook is
7 a real hardship, fishermen recognize that the chinook
8 run is not as strong as it used to be and that we all
9 need to take care of what we do have.

10
11 So I applaud the fishermen. Like one
12 gentleman said before, this sort of conservation
13 efforts couldn't be done without the support of the
14 fishermen, the people on the river, to recognize that
15 this is their resource and we need to take care of it.

16
17 So I guess to follow up this handout,
18 I'll go through a few of the charts so that you can
19 reference it. Page 2 here essentially what we're
20 showing is to give you a description of the chinook
21 season. The top graph shows the commercial harvest
22 over time. You can see how significant commercial had
23 been through the '80s and '90s, then to where it really
24 is non-existent since 2008. Commercial essentially
25 closed on the Yukon River at this point.

26
27 The middle graph shows the estimated
28 subsistence harvest of chinook across the years and
29 harvest is pretty consistent, as you can see. You can
30 see the fishermen were still able to catch what they
31 needed. Since 2001 we started putting restrictions in,
32 window restrictions, closing fishing times, closing
33 areas and the whole intent there was to spread the
34 harvest out so that we just weren't always trying to
35 catch those very first fish up the river. Since 2001
36 we were trying to spread the harvest out.

37
38 Fishermen were still fairly successful.
39 It was a lot of work, but they were getting what they
40 needed until you can see in 2012 we just broke the
41 fishermen s back there. We started implementing a lot
42 of closures and more than they could deal with,
43 essentially closing off access to the chinook. So
44 that's where you see the harvest of chinook has
45 dropped.

46
47 2013 was about a quarter of what the
48 normal subsistence harvest is. You people probably
49 know more than I do how fishing actually went in the
50 village. The subsistence surveyors are still out

1 compiling their data and talking to people, but I
2 anticipate 2014 as certainly no higher than last year,
3 2013.

4

5 The bottom graph is an effort to give
6 you an idea of total run strength. It combines the
7 harvest and escapement to indicate total run size of
8 chinook entering the Yukon River since 1982. Again
9 it's obvious something changed in 1998. Although we've
10 been making most escapement goals, production has
11 decreased and we've not been getting the returns that
12 we would normally get off those escapement levels that
13 we'd seen in the past.

14

15 I think there's like three pages of the
16 different projects. Pilot Station, Eagle sonar, East
17 Fork Andreafsky. If some of you are interested in the
18 escapement projects, I won't go into those, but you can
19 see the trends at those projects.

20

21 On Page 6, again this is directed at
22 the other species. I tried to give you a sense of how
23 the fall chum, summer chum and coho stocks are really
24 doing on the Yukon River. The top one is summer chum
25 again. It's a reconstruction. We combined harvests in
26 Districts 1 and 2 with the Pilot Station sonar, which
27 is pretty much above the commercial fishery, so
28 combining those will give you an index of how strong
29 that run was. Those go back to 1995.

30

31 Then I guess really the last chart I
32 want to show you is on the next page. It's the color
33 charts. The top figure there. Essentially this is the
34 manager's problem and this is what we're faced against.
35 This is the Pilot Station sonar passage. Give you a
36 sense of order of magnitude and timing when the chinook
37 and summer chum come into the river, fall chum and
38 coho. You can see the chinook salmon is a very small
39 fraction of the amount of total number of fish coming
40 into the river and those are the fish that we're trying
41 to protect.

42

43 So our challenge is how to protect
44 those chinook and still -- there's a lot of people that
45 use these summer chum. How do you provide access to
46 those summer chum without hurting the chinook further.
47 That's really what a lot of the comments and struggles
48 we're facing today is about the fishing gear
49 restrictions, proposals of how to manage fishing.
50 People understand there's not very many chinook, but

1 there's a lot of summer chum and people could use those
2 summer chum if they had access to them, so that's what
3 we're looking for the Councils to give us input on.

4
5 I'm pretty much speaking to the choir.
6 The fishermen here know that is the challenge and it's
7 not a simple solution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8
9 I guess I should ask Sabrina or Jeff
10 Estensen did you have anything to add to my report that
11 I missed?

12
13 MR. ESTENSEN: Mr. Chair. Jeff
14 Estensen, Fish and Game, for the record. No, I think
15 you covered it pretty well there, Fred.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Fred.
18 Any questions for Mr. Bue. Mr. Charles.

19
20 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Fred, on these bars.....

22
23 MS. GARCIA: This is Sabrina. I'm
24 having a really hard time hearing the questions. If
25 you could please speak up, I'd really appreciate it.
26 Thank you.

27
28 MR. CHARLES: Okay. Fred, on these
29 reports you made, Page 2, the last picture down there,
30 total chinook run reconstruction. I thought I heard you
31 the chinook run was the lowest last summer, but it's
32 higher than 2012, '13. Why is the last bar different
33 than the others? It's got slashes instead of dots and
34 black or whatever, escapement and harvest. Why is that
35 different than the other years?

36
37 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr.
38 Charles. No, you're right. The 2014, that's
39 preliminary data and that's -- as you know, this is
40 based off -- the 2014 is really based off of what we
41 saw come in Districts 1 and 2 and Pilot Station. Post-
42 season we do a lot of calculations, what we saw
43 actually in the escapement goals in the tributaries,
44 but we also get a better idea what the subsistence
45 harvest was.

46
47 In fact, 2013 for instance, we thought
48 we had much more fish than we did. You probably
49 remember John Riley talking to me last year, scolding
50 me that what happened to the 50,000 fish. Well, it's

1 post season. We thought we had more fish in the river
2 last year and post season calculations it turned out
3 not nearly as much as we expected. So that's why 2014
4 is still preliminary.

5
6 To get to your other question why is it
7 so much higher than those recent couple years, 2012,
8 2013, I think what we were looking at pre-season we
9 were expecting a poor run. Our outlooks we'd been
10 projecting a bracket, but for whatever reason we always
11 kept on coming in at the low end of those ranges, so
12 this year we said enough of that. We're always too far
13 off. We're going to project at the low end.

14
15 This year we came out right at the
16 upper end of our projection or a little bit above it.
17 That's kind of why we have a range is because it could
18 go anywhere in there. So we were expecting the worst
19 because it has caught us and we haven't made our goals
20 because we weren't cautious enough. So, with our
21 management strategy, we just can't keep on being --
22 taking the middle of the road. We had to be cautious.
23 We have to make goals every once in a while, so we were
24 extra cautious. If this is right, then we probably
25 didn't need to be as strict as we had in-season.

26
27 Mr. Chairman.

28
29 MR. CHARLES: Okay. Thank you.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bill. Mr.
32 Bill.

33
34 MR. BILL: Yeah. I might have heard
35 you wrong, but it seems to me that you said you were
36 trying to protect smaller king salmon than the big
37 ones.

38
39 MR. BUE: I didn't mean to say that.
40 If I did, I apologize. No, we're trying to protect all
41 chinook salmon whatever size they were.

42
43 MR. BILL: I think you said that you
44 were trying to protect smaller fish. Does that mean
45 you're trying to protect angler fish?

46
47 MR. BUE: I think often we use a
48 smaller mesh size nets to catch other species of fish
49 other than king salmon, so whitefish or if we were
50 trying to catch chum salmon.

1 MR. BILL: No, just on king salmon.

2

3 MR. BUE: Oh, so this isn't the size of
4 the fish. What this is is the abundance of fish. So
5 as the fish are coming into the river, these are the
6 dates going across, so June 5th is when Pilot Station
7 just started running. What I meant to say is there are
8 far fewer chinook salmon than there are summer chum
9 salmon. There's way more summer chum out there than
10 chinook. So the problem is when you have all these
11 fish out there but there's a couple chinook in there,
12 how do you protect them when you're trying to chase
13 these other chum salmon. How do you guarantee that
14 you're not going to catch a king salmon.

15

16 MR. BILL: I think it's my mistake. I
17 seem to have heard you say you were trying to protect
18 smaller king salmon than the big ones. It was my
19 mistake.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Peters.

22

23 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chair. Fred, you
24 know, the only reason why I request for this printout,
25 you know, I'm really glad that you have this printout
26 for the people and make the numbers and the percentage-
27 wise how much fish pass each like sonar.

28

29 And my other question was, Fred, you
30 know on the test fishery and stuff like that there was
31 a question of where does the numbers come out on that
32 test fishing for the -- you know, that fish -- I mean
33 the fish that pass the sonars and where does the
34 numbers go on the test fishing? That was one of the
35 questions that was indicated to me to bring up to
36 someone's attention like you. Thank you.

37

38 But the numbers look really good and I
39 want to thank you, Fred, for this printout. It makes
40 it very -- kind of easy to present it to people that
41 would like this information. Thank you.

42

43 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
46 for Mr. Bue. Mr. Brown and then we'll recognize Mr.
47 Aloysius. Go ahead, Mr. Brown.

48

49 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

50

1 TRANSLATOR: I'd like to ask a question
2 because I'm not on the Yukon. How many sonars are
3 there on the Yukon? From the sonars, how far is the
4 mouth of the river from the sonars on the Yukon? And
5 also how many sonars do you guys use on the Yukon? Are
6 fish that swim up to the weirs, the tributaries and
7 also other rivers such as George River, is there such
8 rivers on the Yukon?

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue, did you get
11 that?

12

13 MR. BUE: You may have to help me.
14 There were several questions there, I think. The first
15 one I think I recognized was how many sonars we have on
16 the Yukon River. Just going offhand, there's Pilot
17 Station sonar. That's about 150 miles up from the
18 mouth of the river. The other main river sonar would
19 be -- so you have Pilot Station as fish come into the
20 mouth of the river, then we have Eagle sonar as fish
21 move into Canada. Those are our main river sonars.

22

23 Then off to the tributaries we have a
24 sonar on the Anvik River, there's a sonar on the Tanana
25 River and for -- those are counting summer season.
26 Then we have a fall chum sonar up on the Chandalar
27 River. It's north of Fort Yukon, Chandalar River.
28 It's a big fall chum spawning area. Then I believe
29 Canada actually has a sonar up by Old Crow. It's way
30 up on the Porcupine River farther up. So those are the
31 main sonars that I'm aware of.

32

33 The one on the Tanana River, near
34 Manley, Manley Hot Springs, it's still in the
35 developmental experimental phase, so they don't have
36 data that they really share or put out because they're
37 still trying to sort out -- whenever you have a sonar,
38 you have to know what sort of species are going through
39 that area. So like at Pilot Station you have the sonar
40 and it counts targets. So what they do is run
41 different size gillnets -- they drift different size
42 gillnets, 2.5 up to 7.5-inch gillnets, I believe they
43 are, and try to sort out what size fish, what species
44 of fish are moving through there.

45

46 At Manley Hot Springs, there's still a
47 lot of different species of fish and they're trying to
48 still sort that out so they get a better handle on
49 what's going into the sonar. That's part of the
50 question. I don't know what else you had.

1 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that all? You
4 answered it, I guess. Are there any further questions
5 for Mr. Bue. Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Aloysius.

6

7 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Since there was
8 no harvesting of king salmon on the Yukon River on the
9 U.S. side, was there any harvest on the Canadian side,
10 subsistence or commercial? If so, how many?

11

12 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Aloysius.
13 Our reports are that the First Nations, normally what
14 they refer to most of their tribes up there, they all,
15 each one of them, agreed to not fish this year. So
16 even though there were some surplus fish that went
17 across the border that they could have harvested
18 according to the agreement, they chose not to. That's
19 not to say some individuals caught a fish here or there
20 or something. The general sense is that's what they
21 reported, they chose not to fish this season because
22 they've been below their escapement goals for a number
23 of years.

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. On the
26 summer chum versus fall chum, is there a definite time
27 when the two pass through and then the other ones take
28 over?

29

30 MR. BUE: We've looked at that and, in
31 fact, we still do. We collect genetic samples.
32 Initially we were just starting to do it during the
33 transition periods for a number of years. Now we
34 actually did genetic samples through the entire summer
35 and fall chum runs. You are right, it doesn't go by a
36 single date. At Pilot Station on the sonar we call it
37 that, but in-season we actually go back and use
38 genetics. As the summer chum are tapering off, the
39 early fall chum are starting to come in and there's
40 some overlap. So people fishing in the river will see
41 some watermarked fish with some really bright fish.
42 It's pretty obvious there's a mixture of both going
43 through there. Usually at Pilot Station, on average,
44 it's around July 19th or something like that, you know,
45 give or take five, seven days.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: May I make a
48 suggestion to the people that are out on the telephone.
49 Even though you're whispering at your location, we can
50 hear you quite loudly in our meeting. So if you have

1 anything to discuss during our teleconference could you
2 please get away from the phone before you start
3 discussing what you're discussing. We'd appreciate
4 that very much.

5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chair. Not only the
7 people on the phone, but these guys talking over in the
8 corner, we can hear them and they're interfering with
9 what's going on.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. I'm sure
12 everybody in here has heard us. Any further questions
13 for Mr. Bue.

14
15 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Wilde.

18
19 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, doing fishing we
20 were told any fish that -- king salmon you catch you
21 have to let them go. That's what most of us were
22 doing. We even do -- we want to keep it. We didn't
23 keep it because we were told you catch, even a dipnet,
24 use a dipnet, if you get king salmon, let it go alive.
25 A lot of people was disappointed and really
26 uncomfortable even though that they be needing king
27 salmon all these years, but at this time they say you
28 have to let it go alive.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you for your
31 comments, Harry. Any other questions for Mr. Bue on
32 his report. Mr. Oney.

33
34 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
35 comments are pretty much along the same concerns that
36 Harry Wilde mentioned. I'd like to thank all the in-
37 river users for allowing the pulse of chinook to reach
38 Canada. The Yukon is very long, as we all know, 2,000-
39 plus miles. I don't know how many villages are between
40 the mouth and all the way up to Eagle. That's a lot of
41 villages and I'd like to thank them for protecting that
42 pulse to reach Canada to get to the spawning grounds.
43 What really hurts me is to allow them to have
44 commercial fishing when we're not allowed to even keep
45 one. You know, that bothers me.

46
47 Another question that I have is the
48 treaty that we have between the United States is
49 between United States and Canada or the First Nations
50 of Canada?

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue.

2

3 MR. BUE: I understand what you say.
4 It is difficult to have commercial fishing. That is
5 something that we look for people's input on, you know,
6 how to do that. It's people in your community that
7 rely on commercial fishing too. They are required to
8 release all kings. That's with the dipnets. You know,
9 when most of the kings are by, then we allowed 6-inch
10 nets way late. Yeah, they caught a few. It's a trade-
11 off for sure.

12

13 As far as the treaty, it is with the
14 country of Canada. It's not with their First Nations.
15 The primary users -- well, I step back. Canada's
16 management is similar to ours in a lot of ways. They
17 have prioritized. You know, when the resource is
18 limited, they first cut back on commercial and sport,
19 recreational fisheries. Those are already closed.
20 They were completely closed and off the table.

21

22 With the amount of extra fish that went
23 across the border this year, their First Nations could
24 have harvested a few. Their First Nations is similar
25 to our subsistence except for our subsistence we allow
26 all state residents to participate where Canada it's
27 the tribal members only. But I don't know the
28 specifics on how Canada's politics work and sort that
29 out, but that's on their side of the border. But the
30 agreement is actually with the government of Canada.

31

32 Mr. Chairman.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Oney, continue
35 and then we'll get Mr. Aloysius. Go ahead, Mr. Oney.

36

37 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 Follow up. Since I'm a tribal member of my village and
39 each one of us are tribal members of each of our
40 village tribe, each village has a tribal organization
41 from all the way up to Eagle. Is there some type of
42 treaty between them and the tribes of the United
43 States? Because we are recognized by the Federal
44 government as a tribal entity and we have government-
45 to-government relationship with them. If that's the
46 case, then how come we don't have an agreement between
47 the tribal organizations in each village with the
48 Federal government relating to chinook salmon. Thank
49 you. Or even harvesting of fish species for our own
50 use.

1 Thank you.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue.
4
5 MR. BUE: I'm not sure on that
6 question. This is just speaking for the United States,
7 right?
8
9 MR. ONEY: Yes.
10
11 MR. BUE: So I think there's people
12 that are more up to date on that through this process,
13 through the Federal Subsistence Board and how that
14 applies to ANILCA and ANCSA and those sorts of things.
15 I believe there's probably other people who could
16 answer that better. You know, I do see that we do give
17 a priority for subsistence and we do that through
18 ANILCA and tribal membership, but I'm not up to speed
19 on that. Mr. Chair.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr.
22 Aloysius.
23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm sorry, I lost my
25 question.
26
27 (Laughter)
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
30 questions. Mr. Brown.
31
32 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)
33
34 TRANSLATOR: I want to ask a quick
35 question regarding the State management. Do the fish
36 get to Canada before they spawn out?
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I didn't quite
39 catch that. Did you get it?
40
41 MR. BUE: I'm not certain. Was the
42 question -- I think through the translator it sounded
43 like do the fish spawn out before they get to Canada.
44 Is that what you asked?
45
46 MR. BROWN: My question was do they
47 have to swim all the way to Canada before they die?
48
49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
50

1 MR. BUE: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Not all
2 of them. A lot of fish turn off before they get very
3 far. Andreafsky has a really strong run of chinook
4 salmon. There's a lot of tributaries where the fish
5 turn off. If you look at this picture, this is the
6 tagging study that was done in 2004, radiotelemetry.
7 They had tracking stations all along the river, the
8 different forks where they turn off. About 50 percent
9 of the chinook that enter the mouth of the river are
10 bound for Canada.

11
12 So half the fish that come in the
13 river, just generally speaking, they're spawning in
14 waters in Canada. The other half are turning off and
15 going into different tributaries on the Yukon River.
16 They don't really spawn in the mainstem river. They
17 spawn in the tributaries, the side streams, the big
18 producers, Andreafsky, Anvik and up the Koyukuk River
19 there's some and Tanana is a big producer of chinook
20 salmon. Does that answer your question?

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr.
23 Aloysius.

24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Now I remember my
26 question. Based on just what you said, do you have any
27 idea how many of the king salmon spawn in Alaska? You
28 all talk about them going to Canada and how many pass
29 through there. Do you have any idea how many go into
30 the Anvik, to the other tributaries, to Tanana?
31 Because there's a lot of tributaries in Alaska and yet
32 we never hear the number of salmon that go up the
33 tributaries. We only hear about what passes through
34 Eagle into Canada.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue.

37
38 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, I think
39 some of these pages, 4 and 5, have different
40 tributaries. Certainly these are not all the
41 tributaries on the Yukon River. Even the Andreafsky is
42 such a big river we only count one fork. We have a
43 weir there. Gisasa River, just as you turn into the
44 Koyukuk River, it's one of the first main tributaries,
45 there's a weir. Henshaw Creek, Upper Koyukuk River,
46 Chena River is a major producer, Salcha River is
47 another major producer. These are places where we
48 actually have projects in the water.

49
50 Besides these we do aerial surveys and

1 there's other test fishing places. So we do have more
2 information and it's quite varied. The Yukon is a
3 really diverse, big river. The Andreafsky is a coastal
4 stream, but you get in the Upper Koyukuk and it drains
5 in the Brooks Range and you get to the -- the Yukon
6 flows all the way through Yukon Territory and the
7 headwaters are in British Columbia. That's an entirely
8 different environment and there's chinook across all
9 that variety of different places. Canada has projects
10 also in their streams, so there's additional
11 information there too.

12

13 Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that answer
16 your question, Mr. Aloysius?

17

18 MR. ALOYSIUS: One of the major rivers
19 on the north side of the Yukon River is Archuelinguk,
20 yet we never hear anything about king salmon going up
21 in there and spawning. Why is that? It's a major
22 river. It's huge.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He's talking about
25 Archuelinguk behind Pilot Station.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Above Pilot.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Above Pilot, yeah.

30

31 MR. BUE: There's a lot of rivers like
32 that on the Yukon. There's way more than I can count,
33 I think. Chinook go, like you say, in a lot of those
34 rivers and we can't possibly count every stream and
35 have really good information. We maybe do aerial
36 surveys, but we can't count them every year all the
37 time. So what we try to do is get projects at
38 different places in the river and use those as
39 indicators of what's going on in that section of the
40 river because it's -- like they say, it's 2,000 miles
41 long, just the mainstem, and you add the tributaries
42 and it gets pretty expansive.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are you done, Mr.
45 Aloysius?

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Quyana.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Peters.

50

1 MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 What I would like to have -- I think what Mr. Oney and
3 Mr. Wilde brought up about the tribal government, I
4 think every village with tribal representation and
5 somewhere down the line to be recognized at -- you
6 know, someone should have like government-to-government
7 draft copy of what went on. I think the two delegates
8 from the other two villages on the Yukon. As myself,
9 coming from Marshall, on the Yukon, you know, I would
10 like to support Ray Oney and Mr. Wilde's comment.

11
12 I think by working together and stuff
13 like that, you know, no matter what village we're from,
14 but coming with a tribal voice and stuff like that and
15 at least have some sort of recognition and respect for
16 the people that live in these villages. At least if we
17 could get a draft copy of what went on. Since I'm new,
18 I would like to see what at least -- I know a lot of
19 times there's a lot of public comments and nobody does
20 a follow up on some of our questions that need to be
21 recognized or brought to the table.

22
23 Thank you.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any comment to
26 that, Mr. Bue.

27
28 MR. BUE: I'm not sure. I hope that
29 we're getting the information to the communities, if
30 it's season summary. A lot of -- throughout the season
31 Fish and Game has a really good process for getting
32 news releases out. They go to the tribal communities,
33 they go to city governments, they go to anybody that's
34 interested in getting those. A lot of those are filed
35 jointly. They have both State of Alaska and Federal
36 U.S. Fish and Wildlife letterhead on them.

37
38 We try to put news releases out
39 together as much as we can to minimize paper, but also
40 so that we're not confusing people and saying the same
41 thing two different ways and mixing people up, so we
42 try to combine our news releases as much as we can.

43
44 Post season, I believe this Fish and
45 Game post season summary just came out last week and
46 should have been mailed and faxed and emailed to your
47 tribal governments. As far as information goes, that
48 should have been a really good summary for the season.

49
50 The other way we do it is through

1 meetings like this. Your communities select you to
2 represent them and come here. It's really difficult to
3 go to every community. It's pretty remote and takes a
4 lot of time. If we're at one place, we can't be
5 someplace else at the same time, so we try to do the
6 best we can. Having meetings like this, we do rely on
7 representatives such as yourself to take those back to
8 the communities.

9

10 Then again State AC meetings are pretty
11 big. And, like I say, this is also an opportunity for
12 you to give us feedback and comment on what you think
13 about what we're doing. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

14

15

16 MR. PETERS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
17 Thank you, Fred, for answering those questions. Thank
18 you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
21 for Mr. Bue.

22

23 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bill.

26

27 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

28

29 TRANSLATOR: I want you guys to
30 translate for me because I'm going to speak in Yup'ik.
31 Regarding the king salmon here, regarding the
32 subsistence contribution for the numbers of the
33 chinook, why is there no mention of any deep sea
34 trawlers bycatch number of the king salmon? Why are
35 the bycatch number of the chinook salmon not counted
36 from the high sea trawlers? Because that is always
37 affecting our numbers up here and they can also make an
38 impact on the number of the fish entering the rivers.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue.

41

42 MR. BUE: You're faster than I am, Mr.
43 Chairman. I was listening. There's a lag.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I understand what
46 he says. Fred, he asked me to please wait for him
47 until he gets done with his translation before I call
48 your name. That's the reason why. I was keeping my
49 eye on him. So, go ahead, you've got the floor, Mr.
50 Bue.

1 MR. BUE: I'm not trying to make light
2 of it or dodging the question, but the trawl bycatch,
3 there are a whole other group that's keeping track of
4 those harvests. They're being sampled and there are
5 studies about how many fish -- you know, they're being
6 sampled as they come on board, what the estimated
7 bycatch is, but they're also taking some genetic
8 samples from them to estimate what proportion may have
9 gone to the Kuskokwim River, what proportion may have
10 gone to the Yukon River, but I don't have those with me
11 and I apologize. It's difficult for me to tell.

12
13 The other problem is that with all
14 those samples and those big fisheries there's a lag in
15 time, so I can't tell you -- you know, it takes a while
16 for them to process those samples. There's also an age
17 class out there. There's a bunch of different age
18 classes and I don't know that in those bycatch fish
19 what year those would come back in. Are they coming
20 back next year or the year after or which age class.
21 So it's difficult for me to say right now how to add
22 those into the catch.

23
24 MR. BILL: The magic word that
25 everybody has been using on human or other places is
26 DNA. The industry fishermen and CDQ and trawlers who
27 does the bycatching are bycatching yearly, every year
28 they're counted. There's a way that might get the DNA
29 out of them and include them in the number that you
30 have. Not just the subsistence, include also the
31 bycatch. If you can't do it, that's where the DNA --
32 they might have it. It's a way that you might get the
33 notes of what the heck is going on.

34
35 MR. BUE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I do
36 believe that has been done. I don't know if it's done
37 every single season, but I know it's done pretty
38 regularly and they have been doing it, but to what
39 extent, I think there's other people that know, but I
40 sure don't know right now.

41
42 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair. I'm trying to
43 bring this up so whenever something like this come up,
44 that subsistence users are taking too many fish or
45 something like that, there's somebody else doing it,
46 not just the subsistence users, because bycatchers are
47 catching 60,000 king salmon every year, mostly every
48 year.

49
50 Thank you.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
2 questions for Mr. Bue. Mr. Brown.

3

4 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

5

6 TRANSLATOR: This year at this time
7 there was hardly any wind from the south. A lot of
8 times when it's breezing from the north and at Eek the
9 rivers at this time are kind of dry or low on water.
10 How is the Yukon in reference to our river, is the
11 river low or is it normal?

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue.

14

15 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. The last I've
16 been watching -- you know, the river is -- again, it's
17 a huge drainage and there is water that comes in from
18 all different directions; from the Brooks Range, from
19 the Alaska Range, from Canada, the mouth of the river,
20 just depends on which way the wind is blowing and the
21 tides.

22

23 In the rapids area around the Middle
24 Yukon, the Haul Road Bridge where it goes by Rampart,
25 seems to me at this time of year it was a little bit
26 above average. Not too much, but it was -- Interior
27 Alaska had a lot of rain this summer, so the water
28 stayed fairly high for the main river. It cooled down
29 some, so, Interior, when it cools down, those glaciers
30 stop melting and the water starts slowing down, starts
31 dropping. But you have to look at it in perspective to
32 the time of the year. Is it normal water for this time
33 of year or how is it doing.

34

35 So I think when I saw it on Friday, I
36 believe, there was an update and it looked like it was
37 right around average, maybe slightly above average, but
38 that's this time of year. Sometimes when you're
39 thinking about water effects, there's times when the
40 fish are actually spawning maybe is an important time
41 to know what the water level is doing. If it's really
42 high, maybe the fish spawn up too high on the sandbar
43 and the water will just drop or else fish will swim too
44 far upriver and in the winter they'll freeze out.

45

46 So there's critical times that it's
47 important to really watch what the water is doing. I
48 don't think it was really flooding, but it was high
49 most of the summer.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other questions
2 for Mr. Bue before we go on with our agenda.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you,
7 Mr. Bue.

8
9 MR. BUE: I'll be here through tomorrow
10 night. So, if anybody has additional questions, I'll
11 be here. Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Prior to going into
14 our proposals we're going to be hearing the public
15 testimony for each of the proposals. At this time, if
16 we take them prior to each of the proposals as they
17 wanted to speak, it would take a lot longer time, I
18 think. So at this time we'll get all the people that
19 are going to be testifying on these proposals to go
20 ahead and come on up.

21
22 The first one on our list is Mike
23 Williams. Do you have a specific proposal that you
24 would like to address, Mike?

25
26 MS. BURKE: This is Melinda, the acting
27 Council coordinator. Once again we're still hearing
28 some paper shuffling. If you have not pushed *6,
29 please push *6 to mute yourself unless you are
30 speaking. Thanks. We really appreciate it.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Melinda.
33 Go ahead, Mike.

34
35 MR. WILLIAMS: Mike Williams from
36 Akiak. I also serve on the tribal council in Akiak.
37 Also still serving on the Kuskokwim Fisheries
38 Management Group.

39
40 I just wanted to briefly testify on our
41 issue this past summer. Starting off, the season
42 closed has caused a lot of anxiety to our elders and
43 people on the Kuskokwim River because it has never
44 happened that way before in the history of the river.
45 I think that caused a lot of community anxiety and not
46 fishing from May 20th until later in June because of
47 that closure.

48
49 One thing that we have seen on the
50 Kuskokwim River is the 4-inch 60-foot, you know, 4 to

1 5-inch mesh and there was all kinds of nets up and down
2 the river and that was my deep concern about the
3 whitefish and the small chinook that were being wiped
4 out in the Kuskokwim River.

5
6 I think starting off the season closed
7 and then we know what the conservation concern for the
8 chinook is, but I think there is a way that the Federal
9 and State managers need to understand that they need to
10 sit down with each community and prepare for the summer
11 carefully to address all those issues that are going to
12 hit us. And I think all of these issues that the
13 Kuskokwim River people went through has an impact in
14 our communities.

15
16 I think my specific comments and
17 recommendation both for the Federal managers and the
18 State managers, because they were both in control this
19 past summer, that they sit down with the tribal
20 governments in a good way to prepare for next season
21 because it's going to have an effect. We've tried --
22 we've sponsored I think seven meetings, tribal forums,
23 in trying to avoid civil disobedience from taking place
24 because our fishing started off closed and we wanted to
25 avoid civil disobedience which occurred a couple of
26 years ago, a few years ago, here in the Kuskokwim
27 River.

28
29 But that is what we try to avoid and I
30 really appreciate the Federal departments and the
31 managers and the State government and Federal managers
32 coming to our meetings to discuss these issues, but it
33 was pretty -- very difficult, but I think we need to
34 have our leadership to make sure that we prepare here
35 in the Kuskokwim River. I know that the Yukon river is
36 a little different and more complex.

37
38 I think there are proposals and
39 resolutions out to form the Kuskokwim Intertribal Fish
40 Commission, which needs to be considered and also the
41 Yukon River Fish Commission's idea following the
42 Northwest -- I mean the Columbia River and Great Lakes
43 process that set those precedents to involve the tribal
44 governments to start managing the fisheries to make
45 sure that we sustain all species in the future.

46
47 So I just wanted to make those brief
48 comments and I really appreciate the time. A lot of
49 you are on the Kuskokwim River Management Working Group
50 and I think it is time to look at different ways of

1 managing our fisheries and our wildlife. I think
2 tribal governments need to be on the table because we
3 depend on the wildlife and we depend on fish.

4
5 I commend all your work over the years,
6 but I think we need to get to the next level to really
7 make sure that the Federal managers trust obligations
8 are carried out. As we know, Fish and Wildlife and
9 the Federal government is our trustee. They have to
10 protect us. The different between the State is that
11 the State of Alaska, you know, there's no rural
12 preference under ANILCA. So there's two different
13 management systems that we are concerned about in the
14 Kuskokwim River. We would rather have one management
15 system where there wouldn't be any confusion.

16
17 So that's all I wanted to make those
18 comments, Mr. Chairman, and I really appreciate the
19 time. I have to run because I have to take care of my
20 mom who has some concerns healthwise. I wish I could
21 be here and listen to the Yukon River issues of chinook
22 and the issues of bycatch, et cetera.

23
24 Thank you very much.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.
27 Any questions.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a couple
30 comments. No matter how many agencies are involved in
31 this process the simple fact is the king salmon
32 population is down and everybody has to be responsible
33 for making sure that we don't wipe them out. If
34 there's too many people wanting to fish when there's
35 not enough to go upstream and spawn, conservation is
36 the key and everybody has to be involved in it, not to
37 go after salmon. Well, you guys can do what you want,
38 but I'm going to go fish, I've been fishing all my
39 life. Great, but this is today, it's not last year or
40 10 years ago or 20 years ago, 50 years ago. This is
41 today.

42
43 We are in a crisis for concerning and
44 making sure we get our king salmon to the spawning
45 grounds. That's the thing we have to educate our
46 people to. You know, it's as simple as that. We're
47 not trying to take away food from anybody. Like I
48 always say before, king salmon harvesting is a learned
49 process. We never targeted kings before 1960. This is
50 something we have to re-educate our people. If we want

1 our king salmon to keep coming back, we have to do our
2 best to leave them alone. Leave them alone and let
3 them do their natural thing.

4

5 You know, I get -- I don't have the
6 intellect or the way of expressing myself in a way
7 that's not going to be offensive to anybody. I am not
8 a diplomat. I never was trained to be a diplomat. It
9 just makes me frustrated that no matter how many times
10 we tell the people we need to conserve the king salmon,
11 other people that don't have that thing in their heart,
12 I don't care, I'm going to go fish, that's being very
13 selfish. That is being very selfish. You're only
14 thinking about yourself right now. You're not thinking
15 about other people, their children, their children.

16

17 It's for you to conserve the salmon so
18 that they have the opportunity that we have right now.
19 That's the thing that we have to get across to our
20 people. Everybody is involved in this crisis. It
21 takes everybody, everybody to make sure that we have
22 something and let them all understand that king salmon
23 are the first priority to conservation of the king
24 salmon. Chum salmon, red salmon and cohos are more
25 abundant and that was the way that the old people
26 fished a long time ago. Luqaa fish, was the priority.
27 They never targeted king salmon.

28

29 I could go on and on, but this is
30 something we need to get across to all our people; the
31 Feds, the State, the local and the tribes and the
32 people. We have to sacrifice and the only way we're
33 going to get any reward for a sacrifice is to make sure
34 that we do sacrifice. Maybe three or four years, five
35 years, whatever the cycle is for kings. We need to
36 look at that.

37

38 Thank you.

39

40 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Chairman. I really
41 appreciate the traditional knowledge. We have seen the
42 Federal managers and the State managers managing our
43 fisheries for a long time. The missing link has been
44 the tribal governments and local governments. Until
45 recent time, we are in advisory capacities. We have
46 seen the Eskimo Whaling Commission, the marine mammal
47 and the moose populations and when the tribes get
48 involved it seems to me that works.

49

50 I'm not saying that we have to go out

1 and fish for the resource that's in jeopardy. I'm not
2 saying that. If the people are on the table to lead,
3 to conserve and to come up with solutions, I think in
4 the end the win/win situation will be realized. All of
5 us are in it together. The State managers, the Federal
6 managers and the tribal people, we're all here for the
7 -- I remember the chum crash and that's another concern
8 that I have. We've lived through that.

9
10 Anyway, I just really appreciate
11 preparing for the summer together to make sure all of
12 are in the same boat and not in a conflict situation.
13 I think that's what the recommendation is and what has
14 happened in the Northwest Indian Fish Commission and
15 they're willing to share all the things they went
16 through historically for a long time, for 40 years, and
17 we can learn from their issues and avoid those mistakes
18 that they may have made, but they're willing to share
19 all of their relationship with the state of Washington
20 and the Federal managers.

21
22 So I think we can learn from their co-
23 management regimes that happened before and they're
24 willing to help us. And thanks for bringing those up
25 and I think we're all in it together. I have relatives
26 up in Chuathbaluk, up and down the river. We've got a
27 -- and he's unfortunately my relative too.

28
29 (Laughter)

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.
34 Next on the testimony Mr. Alex Nick will be testifying
35 on FP15-01 and 03, 04, 06 and 07. Mr. Nick, you have
36 the floor.

37
38 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 Members of the Regional Advisory Council and Staff and
40 audience. Before I begin my very short, summarized
41 testimony on the proposals that I listed I would like
42 to share a story, a very short story.

43
44 I was a member of the Yukon-Kuskokwim
45 Health Corporation and also the Public Health Service
46 Advisory Committee from 1968 through 1981. There was a
47 respected elder. His name was Isaac Hawk and he was my
48 apa. We were translating for him, very much like the
49 translators are translating for everyone into Yup'ik or
50 English. He stopped the translator and he said I'll

1 speak for myself. And before he speak he went up to
2 the podium and he said educated people -- he said in
3 Yup'ik, educated people tend to depend on what's
4 written in black and white and when they stray their
5 eyes away from a written document, they get confused.
6 What he said in Yup'ik was, I am going to speak from my
7 heart, meaning what he knows about.

8

9 I am not prepared to give these
10 comments on behalf of my family and relatives that live
11 in both drainages in Yukon River and also in Kuskokwim
12 River, but I would like to do exactly what my apa was
13 against, look at my written notes, which will help me
14 remember because I am not prepared to give these
15 comments.

16

17 On Proposal FP15-01, it seems to me
18 this is going to cause a lot of confusion whether it
19 becomes part of the regulation whether to have barbed
20 hook, the one with little hook to keep it from slipping
21 away. That's not what our people is used to. For
22 example, my family have different views. I taught my
23 sons and daughters how to fish and hunt, but they
24 learned their own method.

25

26 I oppose this proposal and I will
27 oppose this proposal personally only if it's an
28 alternate method. I would be a little skeptical to
29 have something like this in regulation and have
30 enforcement person catch that person who is unaware of
31 the regulation and given a citation for using a hook, a
32 simple hook that is barbless, I think that is what they
33 call it, and given a citation for that. I don't think
34 it would be a good experience for the other people
35 because the fact that no matter how we try people don't
36 read Federal fishery regulations in the village. I've
37 seen that. I've experienced that.

38

39 I've asked people are you aware of this
40 so-and-so regulation in Federal regulation that says
41 these are the methods and means of harvest for fresh
42 fish or salmon. The person I would think is the most
43 learned person or educated person in the village would
44 ask me where can I find that. That's the reason why I
45 would be in opposition to this.

46

47 On the second Proposal FP15-02, I also
48 would oppose that proposal because allowing 48 hours
49 twice a week in the area where people are blaming other
50 people below them or below their village it would not

1 seem right to me. It would cause more fighting going
2 on maybe, more blaming going on between the villages.
3 So, for that reason I would be opposed to that.

4
5 For FP15-03, the way it's written I
6 would be in opposition to that proposal unless it's
7 modified to a language which would be acceptable to you
8 who are sitting here representing me and others to
9 bring forward to Federal Subsistence Board this is how
10 you want the regulation written. I am trying to make
11 these comments very short.

12
13 For FP15-04 I am also opposed to that
14 because I have been a subsistence fisherman and
15 commercial fisherman all of my life, since I was able
16 to setnet. I was a subsistence fisherman and
17 commercial fisherman at the same time and I've seen --
18 and I think Mr. Peters and some of you will agree I've
19 seen very effective setnet eddies. A person could be
20 drifting and getting maybe five salmon a day, but those
21 setnets could exceed 100 in some good setnet sites.
22 For that reason I would be opposed to allow set
23 gillnets to harvest chinook salmon when drift gillnets
24 are not allowed.

25
26 My comments for FP15-05. With due
27 respect to people, representatives like Mr. Williams
28 from Lower Kuskokwim, I would also oppose the proposal
29 because we would not be fair to other people who also
30 want to exercise their tradition. For example, we
31 could say in Bethel this is our traditional way to do
32 this and for that reason we want to do it this way and
33 now allow someone who is below Bethel, in Oscarville or
34 Napakiak, the same thing we're doing. That would not
35 be fair to those people because they would also want to
36 exercise their traditions as well.

37
38 For Proposals FP06 and 07, I'm opposed
39 to those proposals. Let me mention what experience I
40 experienced this summer. Because we were told and
41 because we were aware that we would be allowed to use
42 dipnets, I bought a \$230 dipnet and it went down the
43 drain within an hour. Not because we wanted to, but
44 because the manufactured handle broke off. There was
45 no fish in it. It just broke off, the dipnet sunk and
46 we couldn't retrieve it.

47
48 One of the things I want to let the
49 Council know is that these are very expensive. Dipnets
50 are very expensive because the regulation it tells you

1 exactly how big it's supposed to be and what material
2 it's supposed to have. I know people out there, even
3 my own relatives living here in Bethel and nearby
4 villages, they can't afford \$250 dipnet.

5
6 I also know that in the stores they are
7 allowing people who are low income to buy dipnets with
8 Quest cards or food stamps, but I am aware that not all
9 of those people who are out there who need the fish
10 are eligible Quest card or food stamps. For some
11 reason they would be denied.

12
13 These are my comments and I hope you --
14 I know that you will, but I hope you will review the
15 analysis of these proposals, listen to the analysis as
16 best that you can and try to make a sensible
17 recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board.

18
19 I will let you know that my family is
20 one of the people who are very hurt by not having king
21 salmon in our winter supply. All throughout the summer
22 with 6-inch mesh gillnet my family caught one little
23 jack about that big. That's all we have for the
24 winter. We set our 4-inch net, but there were a lot of
25 fishermen out there. People were complaining that
26 there were people who were checking their nets and some
27 of our nets would have nothing in it.

28
29 We also heard some complaints about
30 what the effects those little 4-inch nets are causing
31 to salmon, like king salmon. Some people would
32 complain that they'd see these king salmon bobbing up
33 and down, drifting downriver. That's what was
34 happening this summer.

35
36 So with due respect to all, even the
37 managers, I ask the Council to please make a thorough
38 review of these documents, see what needs to be fixed
39 and then let that go forward to the federal board.

40
41 Thank you very much for your time and
42 it's good to see all of you here. I will be around. I
43 will make some comments from time to time and I will
44 also help in any way I can to make -- hopefully make
45 good decisions down the road sometime.

46
47 Thank you very much, Mr. Chair.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
50 Nick. Any questions for Mr. Nick.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you,
4 Mr. Nick. The next person to testify is Mr. Stanislaus
5 Sheppard on FP-04.

6

7 MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
8 The majority of what my testimony was going to be on
9 Proposal 04 was brought up by Mr. Nick, so I'm out of
10 testimony. Thanks very much, sir.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Sheppard.
13 Thank you for showing up. Mr. Martin Nicolai on 06 and
14 07. Mr. Martin Nicolai.

15

16 MR. ALEXIE: He went to go get his
17 wife.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: How about Nicholai
20 Alexie on 06 and 07.

21

22 MR. ALEXIE: Qu yana. My name is
23 Nicholai Alexie and I'm from Kwethluk. Today I'm
24 testifying on FP15-06 and 07 authorizing dipnets in a
25 Federal fishery. I am opposing those two proposals.
26 The reasoning is the cost. It is expensive for those
27 people that are not on food stamps or any other
28 assistance and they have to supplement their income
29 with foods from the land.

30

31 Plus it is expensive to go out there
32 and put food on the table when there is no other source
33 or food because in the general stores they are
34 expensive in the small communities. The further you
35 are from the community, from the hub community, the
36 more expensive it is for the goods you buy to eat or to
37 use.

38

39 For those reasons I am against using
40 dipnets because of the time and the cost and the
41 effort.

42

43 Qu yana.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
46 Nicolai -- or is it Mr. Alexie? I'm sorry.

47

48 If there is no one else to testify on
49 these proposals, let's take a 10-minute break, after
50 which we'll come back in and go right into our

1 proposals.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's call the
8 meeting back to order. Next on our agenda are the
9 proposals. The presentation procedure for proposals
10 will be as follows. First we'll have the introduction
11 and presentation of the analysis of the proposal and
12 then the report on the board consultation, the tribes
13 or ANCSA corporations. After them we'll be asking the
14 agency for agency comments. That's ADF&G, the Federal
15 agencies, the Native, tribal and village organizations,
16 and other InterAgency Staff Committees. After them
17 we'll ask for the advisory group comments, other
18 Regional Council comments, written comments and
19 otherwise, Fish and Game and Advisory Committee
20 comments, Subsistence Resource Commission comments and
21 after them we'll have a summary of the written comments
22 with public testimony. After that Regional Council
23 recommendations, motion to adopt and then we'll follow
24 with a discussion of the justification.

25

26 The first proposal is statewide
27 Proposal FP15-01, defining fish hook as with or without
28 barb. Mr. Rivard.

29

30 MR. RIVARD: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair.
31 Thank you. I will be guiding you through six fisheries
32 regulatory proposals. These are action items for your
33 Council to make recommendations about. The first one,
34 as you mentioned, is FP15-01. It starts in your book
35 on Page 61.

36

37 Proposal FP15-01 submitted by the
38 Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory
39 Council requests that the definition of hook be
40 described in Federal regulation as a hook with or
41 without a barb.

42

43 The proposed language would clarify the
44 type of fishing hook that could be used under Federal
45 subsistence fisheries regulations where hooks are an
46 authorized methods and means to take fish.

47

48 The proponent requests a change to
49 existing statewide Federal regulatory language to
50 eliminate the potential for adoption of default methods

1 and means restriction of a Federal subsistence fishery
2 to the use of barbless hooks. This proposal was
3 submitted in response to a recent Alaska Board of
4 Fisheries
5 decision to restrict the Kenai River Chinook salmon
6 sport fishery methods and means to the use of barbless
7 hooks under certain conditions.

8

9 If the Kenai River Chinook salmon sport
10 fishery is restricted to the use of barbless hooks, the
11 Federal subsistence rod and reel fishery might also be
12 restricted to the use of barbless hooks by default.

13

14 In many parts of Alaska, stand-alone
15 Federal subsistence fisheries regulations do not exist
16 and therefore Federal subsistence fisheries methods and
17 means regulations are the same for taking of fish under
18 State of Alaska sport fishing regulations.

19

20 Again, as I kind of pointed out, if the
21 State of Alaska adopts fisheries regulations, such as
22 requiring barbless hooks in a fishery where Federal
23 subsistence fisheries regulations do not exist or do
24 not address what type of hook is allowed, Federal
25 subsistence regulations would default to State
26 regulations resulting in Federal subsistence users
27 being restricted to barbless hooks.

28

29 Many Federal subsistence fisheries in
30 Alaska allow the use of fishing hooks as a legal means
31 of harvesting fish. Current Federal subsistence
32 fisheries regulations reference allowing the use of a
33 hook with a handline, jigging gear, long line,
34 mechanical jigging gear, troll gear, hook and line
35 attached to a rod or pole, and rod and reel. Though the
36 use of fishing hooks is authorized, Federal subsistence
37 regulations do not define a fishing hook and do not
38 clearly indicate whether or not fishing hooks require a
39 barb or not.

40

41 I'll show you this. In our regulation
42 books, some of you may have it, some of you don't, but
43 if you go to Page 89 there is nothing in here that says
44 hook. So what this proposal is asking is that we get
45 hook in here and we define it as both with or without a
46 barb so that it's in Federal regulation. It's not
47 going to restrict people to use one or the other, it's
48 just saying under Federal regulations you'll be able to
49 use a hook with or without a barb.

50

1 The Southcentral Advisory Council
2 indicated adoption of this proposal, if submitted as a
3 statewide proposal, could benefit
4 Federally-qualified subsistence users throughout
5 Alaska. Allowing the continued use of barbed hooks in
6 all Federal subsistence fisheries, where use of hooks
7 is authorized, will benefit subsistence users by
8 reducing the chance of losing a fish hooked on a
9 barbless hook as subsistence fishing is characterized
10 by
11 efficiency of harvest.

12
13 Additionally, the Southcentral Regional
14 Advisory Council transcripts state the purpose of this
15 proposal is to legally
16 maintain Federal subsistence fishermen's choice if they
17 want to use a barbed or a barbless hook.

18
19 Now there was an alternative
20 considered. An alternative to consider for Proposal
21 FP15-01 is to support the proposal with modification by
22 incorporating the regulatory language offered in
23 this proposal with the regulatory language adopted by
24 the State of Alaska. Supporting Proposal FP15-01 with
25 the modification of mirroring the State of Alaska's
26 statewide definition of a barbless hook will reduce
27 regulatory complexity and enforcement concerns.

28
29 The following is alternative proposed
30 regulatory language reflecting the above suggested
31 modification. I'm going to read it. It's in the
32 middle of Page 64 in your book. It's the bold
33 definition of a hook. Again, this is a combination of
34 what the State proposed and what's being proposed under
35 15-01. Hook means a single shanked fish hook with a
36 single eye constructed with one or more points with or
37 without barbs. A hook without a barb means the hook is
38 manufactured without a barb or the barb has been
39 completely removed or compressed so the barb is in
40 complete
41 contact with the shaft of the hook. So that's one of
42 the alternatives that was considered.

43
44 The effects of this proposal. If this
45 proposal is adopted, it would maintain
46 Federally-qualified subsistence users' ability to
47 select the type of fishing hooks, with or without
48 barbs, they want to use. Once a definition of hook is
49 in Federal regulation, Federally-qualified subsistence
50 users will not have to be concerned if the State of

1 Alaska changes the definition of a hook or restricts
2 other fisheries to the use of barbless hooks.

3
4 Adoption of this proposal is not
5 expected to have any effect on Federally-qualified
6 subsistence users, practices, fisheries,
7 or fish stocks targeted. Adoption of this proposal
8 will not result in additional impacts Federal
9 subsistence users have on Alaska's fishery resources
10 because Federal subsistence users most likely utilize
11 barbed hooks where hooks are authorized to increase
12 harvest efficiency as subsistence fishing is
13 characterized by efficiency of harvest.

14
15 If this proposal is adopted, Federal
16 and State regulations will be different, they'll be
17 divergent in fisheries restricted to use of barbless
18 hooks under State regulations. Adoption of FP15-01
19 will establish a Federal subsistence regulatory
20 definition of hook to include both barbed and barbless
21 hooks which will supersede both current and future
22 State barbless hooks regulations.

23
24 If this proposal is not adopted,
25 Federally-qualified users will be restricted to use the
26 type of hook specified and defined by the State of
27 Alaska, since there is no Federal definition of hook.
28 The first, and currently only, Federal subsistence
29 fishery which could be impacted by not adopting FP15-01
30 is the Kenai
31 River chinook salmon fishery, where rod and reel is an
32 authorized methods and means. Additionally, if this
33 proposal is not adopted, potential barbless hooks
34 restrictions in other future Federal subsistence
35 fisheries might unnecessarily decrease harvest
36 efficiency of Federally-qualified subsistence users.

37
38 So, Mr. Chair, the Office of
39 Subsistence Management preliminary conclusion is
40 support Proposal FP15-01. The reasons for that is this
41 proposal would add a definition of hook in Federal
42 regulations. Currently subsistence users must comply
43 with the State's method and means when fishing with one
44 or more hooks, even if the regulation is for barbless
45 hooks, which reduces harvest efficiency. Restricting
46 subsistence users from harvesting fish with barbed
47 hooks would be an unnecessary restriction to existing
48 fishing practices statewide.

49
50 Adoption of this proposal would protect

1 Federal subsistence fishermen's choice to use barbed or
2 barbless hooks. Adoption of this proposal would not
3 result in additional impacts to Alaska's fisheries
4 resources by Federal subsistence fishermen.

5
6 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes
7 my presentation.

8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
10 Rivard. Are there any comments from tribe, AVCP. Do
11 you have any comments?

12
13 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. I wanted to
14 note to the Council that there was a teleconference
15 held in preparation for these fall Council meetings and
16 there was a tribe that spoke out in support of FP15-01
17 during one of those teleconferences and it was the
18 Inupiaq Community of the Arctic Slope.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, we'll be
21 asking for that later. And that was from who?

22
23 MS. BURKE: The Inupiaq Community of
24 the Arctic Slope.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, okay. I guess
27 that qualifies. Any other further tribal comments.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: ANCSA corporation
32 comments.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any ADF&G comments.

37
38 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 This is Jennifer Yuhas again from Fairbanks. I wish I
40 could be there. The State is supportive with
41 modification of this proposal. The definitions in the
42 State regulations actually say a single hook is a fish
43 hook with only one point with or without a barb and
44 that a multiple hook is a fish hook with two or more
45 points with or without a barb. So we would support the
46 proposal with slight modification. Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
49 Federal comments. Department of Fish and Game, Fish
50 and Wildlife.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there any
4 comments from other Regional Advisory Councils. Madame
5 Burke.

6

7 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. The North Slope
8 Council discussed this proposal at length and they
9 chose to unanimously support the motion to support
10 FP15-01 with the modification to include the language
11 adopted by ADF&G that Jennifer just mentioned. The
12 Northwest Arctic Council last week met in Kiana. They
13 are in support of the proposal and agree with the OSM
14 preliminary conclusion.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Melinda.
17 Mr. Rivard.

18

19 MR. RIVARD: I'd also add that the
20 Seward Peninsula Council met last week and they also
21 supported Proposal FP15-01. Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Were
24 there any comments from the Fish and Game Advisory
25 Committees. Mr. Charles.

26

27 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
28 No comments from Lower Kuskokwim AC.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any comments from
31 the Lower Yukon, Mr. Oney.

32

33 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No
34 comments from the Lower Yukon Advisory Council.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Summary
37 of written comments, public comments. Were there any
38 written comments?

39

40 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. I do not see
41 any other written public comments in addition to the
42 comments we received from the public today. I have two
43 more also to add. I forgot to mention the Kodiak
44 Aleutians Council has also met and they are in support
45 of FP15-01.

46

47 One of the Subsistence Resource
48 Commissions submitted a comment in regard to this
49 proposal. Wrangell-St. Elias is in support of the
50 proposal. They do not believe any conservation

1 concerns are associated with this proposed change.
2 They believe it would benefit subsistence users by
3 clarifying the definition of hook and would allow
4 Federal subsistence users to choose whether to use
5 barbed or barbless hooks.

6
7 Also on Page 66 there is a comment by
8 Ahtna, Incorporated and they are also in support of
9 FP15-01. Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
12 public comments. Mr. Sheppard.

13
14 MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 On behalf of the Upper/Lower Yukon Advisory Committee,
16 I would most likely say they'd be no comment. As of
17 October 20th we'll be getting our new coordinator for
18 the Upper and Lower Yukon AC. The previous one that we
19 have was eliminated and they're filling up her
20 position. So I would probably say the Upper Yukon have
21 no comment. Thank you.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
24 Sheppard. Any Regional Council recommendations. Mr.
25 Andrew.

26
27 MR. J. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. John
28 Andrew. I'm from Kwethluk. As I was thinking, it's
29 going to be a problem for us Yup'ik. A lot of Natives
30 that are in families go manaq at the same time and a
31 lot of times we go hooking together as a family. If
32 they use barbless manaq hook, they could lose a lot of
33 fish and a lot of those hooks. I'm exempling myself,
34 75-80 hooks are few. If this becomes a law for those
35 that use old hooks, they'd probably be outdated and I
36 think they might be taken to court and be fined and
37 that's going to be a situation for those that have
38 families that like to go jigging.

39
40 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
43 Andrew. Any other comments. Mr. Peters.

44
45 MR. PETERS: Mr. Chair. I would like
46 to make a comment. Looking at this proposal, it's
47 coming from these groups, but, you know, people like
48 living in the Kuskokwim and in the Yukon and I could
49 talk up in Marshal about how it's going to affect us.
50 You know, somewhere in that language or in their

1 language what they need to do is indicate how it's
2 going to affect the subsistence people of the way --
3 see, they're trying to regulate something or they don't
4 have it in writing about the sport fishermen and how
5 it's going to affect our area out there.

6
7 The reason why I want to oppose it is
8 that -- you know, I'm new on this board, but, you know,
9 I would like to hear the -- you know, I would be
10 opposed to it because, you know, it's going to affect,
11 whatever affect in our area coming from Marshall on the
12 Yukon.

13
14 The only reason why, you know, on what
15 I would like to say is that, you know, for a consent
16 vote like this coming from the board I would like to
17 see every board member give their comment on this
18 because it's going to affect our children, your
19 families and our grandchildren and that's something
20 that we really need to look at, the wording. The
21 wording could be always -- of how it could be
22 rejustified of how it's going to work in like every
23 specific area and I just want to bring it to your
24 attention -- I mean to the people's attention because
25 it's going to affect us a long way and I just want to
26 not support something that they're just going to throw
27 at us.

28
29 You know, it could have been done in
30 black and white. Anything that's going to be discussed
31 about how it's going to affect our way of life and our
32 people I think when they do have these meetings and
33 stuff like that they need to let us know in a draft
34 copy of how whatever proposal is going to affect our
35 people and the people that we represent. You know,
36 some of them don't have no money to come here to
37 comment on some of these proposals. I think it's very
38 clear that we have to look at it really clear and try
39 to work together of how it's going to work for our
40 people.

41
42 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
45 Peters. Could you repeat that proposal again just to
46 make sure that everybody understands exactly what that
47 proposal is about, Mr. Rivard, please.

48
49 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair. As simple
50 as I can put it, I think, is what this proposal is

1 basically asking is that there be put into Federal
2 regulation a definition of hook. Right now there is no
3 definition of hook in Federal regulation. So it's just
4 saying please put in the word hook and a definition in
5 this book. What they want for the definition is what
6 you can see in the book here, that it be either a
7 barbless or a barbed hook. I guess Tom Kron is going
8 to give more clarification.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Kron.

11

12 MR. KRON: Mr. Chair. Just to follow
13 up on what Mr. Rivard just said. Again, the intent is
14 to put a definition in the Federal subsistence
15 regulations of a hook and this basically would allow
16 subsistence users to continue to fish with a hook where
17 they're using hooks. The subsistence users could
18 choose to use a barbed hook, which we think most of you
19 are, or they could use a barbless hook, either one.

20

21 All it does is -- if the State were to
22 implement a barbless hook regulation, it wouldn't apply
23 to you without going through the proposal process, the
24 review process, the Federal Board. A barbless hook
25 proposal would not apply to you until it had done that.
26 So this is protection for subsistence users across the
27 state.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
32 Kron. Any other comments. Mr. Aloysius.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. It does not
35 change how we fish. All it does is make a definition
36 of what a hook is. That's it. It does not change how
37 we fish. It does not change how we fish. We're fishing
38 the way we did for centuries and the way we fish today.
39 All that proposes is just to define the word hook,
40 period.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
43 discussion on Proposal WP15-01. Mr. Peters.

44

45 MR. PETERS: You know, I'd like to make
46 a comment on that definition. For clarification, I
47 think for people that don't quite understand, it need
48 to be, you know, not one person's opinion or stuff that
49 like. It should be coming from a whole -- like people
50 that are sitting on this board. I know that it might

1 be not agreeable, but to have it in writing and stuff
2 like that, at least to show us like a draft copy of how
3 it's going to affect us and why and stuff like that.
4 That's the only reason why I thought I'd bring that up,
5 you know, for the record.

6
7 That's why people sit on these boards.
8 You could make your comments of why and how it's going
9 to affect my people. Some of them might not understand
10 what's the process and how come one individual is
11 making -- coming from a department and just having
12 these regulations for us.

13
14 I think reclarification is what needs
15 to be done and let the people know of why it's going to
16 be changed and stuff like that or how to regulate that.
17 That's only one reason why I thought I'd bring it back
18 -- put it back to the table for discussion and stuff
19 like that, you know. People have their different
20 opinions on this.

21
22 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
25 discussion on WP15-01, Council members.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
30 discussion.

31
32 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Wilde.

35
36 MR. H. WILDE: I'm not supporting this.
37 I think I will because we have so many regulations
38 already. We cannot take anymore. Our people are right
39 now, even in Yukon, they're not supporting some of this
40 regulation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
43 Wilde. If there's a motion to adopt, make sure you
44 make the motion in the positive sense. Any further
45 discussion.

46
47 MR. BILL: Mr. Chairman.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.

50

1 MR. BILL: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 TRANSLATOR: I will say this is Yup'ik.
4 For any issues that are brought forth, even if we
5 misunderstand the intentions of the intentions, we will
6 always naturally be against any of these intentions.
7 But if we do recognize what the intentions of any
8 wording is, then we will be able to make a better
9 choice. This is not very clearly stated as what the
10 intention is of this proposal. So if we can do a
11 better statement of the proposal's intention, then we
12 would be better informed to make a decision. I am from
13 the coast, so that is what I wanted to say regarding
14 this proposal.

15

16 If I was in this area -- if I truly
17 understand the issue at stake, then I will be able to
18 be in support of the the proposal. So if we could get
19 a better rundown on the proposal and what the
20 intentions of the proposal are then we will make a
21 better informed decision and I'll be able to vote in
22 the positive.

23

24 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other further
27 discussion, Council members. Mr. Brown.

28

29 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

30

31 TRANSLATOR: What I was just thinking
32 about Mr. Bill just stated because the proposal here
33 was given to us without any forethought or any
34 intention of us knowing what this proposal was. At
35 first it was like we really don't understand the
36 intentions of the proposal here, but if we do
37 understand the intention, then we would be able to
38 figure out the intentions because without any due
39 process or understanding of the proposal, then it's
40 going to be a problem for us.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I thought that it
45 was made pretty clear earlier, but what other
46 explanations would you need in order for you to make a
47 decision on this proposal? Mr. Brown.

48

49 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

50

1 TRANSLATOR: The proposals are brought
2 forth to us without us knowing what the intentions of
3 the proposals are, but when the proposals are adopted
4 they do make newsletters and say these are the
5 intentions of the proposals. Thank you.
6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If I may, to fully,
8 clearly understand this, there's only one thing that
9 this proposal does and it defines hook. That's all it
10 does. It doesn't tell you how to use the hook or what
11 type of hook to use in what fisheries. It just simply
12 defines what you can use and what a hook is.
13

14 Mr. Rivard, and then we'll get back to
15 you. Go ahead, Mr. Rivard.
16

17 MR. RIVARD: Well, I certainly want to
18 make this as clear as possible and your Council should
19 know what you're being asked to vote on. I just want
20 to remind people that this proposal came from the
21 Southcentral Regional Advisory Council, that their
22 subsistence users are being affected by the fact that
23 there is no definition of hook in Federal regulation.
24 So instead of being able to use either a barbed hook or
25 a barbless hook, if this proposal doesn't pass and
26 doesn't get adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board,
27 then Federal subsistence users in the Kenai area will
28 have to use only barbless hooks. They will not have
29 the option of being able to use a barbed hook. Okay.
30 So that's why they thought it was important that this
31 ought to go in front of all the Councils so that your
32 people in your region do not get affected the same way.
33

34 So here is the most simple thing. If
35 you'll go to the top of Page 62 in your book, this is
36 what the proposal is about. It's asking your Council
37 if you want to put into Federal regulation the
38 definition of hook and the proposal is hook means a
39 single shanked fish hook with a single eye constructed
40 with one or more points with or without barbs. That's
41 all you're being asked is are you willing to put into
42 Federal regulations the definition of a hook as
43 proposed here on the top of Page 62. That's what
44 you're being asked to do. That's all.
45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Council
47 members, any further discussion. Mr. Aloysius.
48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't understand what
50 the confusion is. It's a simple definition of (in

1 Yup'ik).

2

3 TRANSLATOR: A hook is a hook. There's
4 one shank or there's three shanks and there's a little
5 barb at the end of that or there isn't any. That's the
6 only -- the name of that is written down in here and
7 they just want to put the hook with or without a bar
8 into the regulation. It does not say how you will use
9 it or how you will not use it. It's not even
10 pertaining to any of that stuff. The only hook is
11 being mentioned, especially the hook or without the
12 hook, so it's only saying that the hook will be into
13 the regulation.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you,
16 Mr. Aloysius. I think at this time the Chair will
17 entertain a motion for adoption.

18

19 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, I need a motion
22 for one way or the other.

23

24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr.....

27

28 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adopt
29 Proposal -- I even forgot what.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: WP15-01.

32

33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes, that one.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do I hear a second
36 to the motion.

37

38 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. Second.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
41 Raymond Oney. Any further discussion.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45

46 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
49 called for. Roll call vote, please.

50

1 MR. ONEY: We'll start from the bottom.
2 David Bill, Sr.
3
4 MR. BILL: Abstain.
5
6 MR. ONEY: Robert Aloysius.
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
9
10 MR. ONEY: Greg Roczicka is absent.
11 Raymond Oney, yes. Mary Gregor, absent. Harry Wilde,
12 Sr.
13
14 MR. H. WILDE: No.
15
16 MR. ONEY: Anthony Ulak.
17
18 MR. ULAK: Yes.
19
20 MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik, absent.
21 Lester Wilde, Sr.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
24
25 MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.
26
27 MR. PETERS: No or abstain.
28
29 MR. RIVARD: Which is it?
30
31 MR. PETERS: No.
32
33 MR. ONEY: A no vote, okay. John
34 Andrew.
35
36 MR. J. ANDREW: Yes.
37
38 MR. ONEY: James Charles.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
41
42 MR. ONEY: William Brown.
43
44 MR. BROWN: Abstain.
45
46 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman, we have 6 yes,
47 2 abstain, 2 no.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion carries.
50

1 MR. ONEY: Motion carries.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We are down
4 to Proposal FP15-02, providing two 48-hour fishing
5 periods in Yukon River Subdistrict 5C. Mr. Rivard.

6

7 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
8 analysis starts on Page 69 in your book. Proposal
9 FP15-02, submitted by the Rampart Village Council,
10 requests at least two 48-hour fishing
11 periods per week in Yukon River Subdistrict 5C.

12

13 The proponent states that the community
14 of Rampart, situated in Subdistrict 5C, relies year
15 round on fish that is harvested for subsistence in the
16 summer. By allowing at least two 48-hour fishing
17 periods per week, there will be more food for Rampart
18 families and winter living will be easier because of
19 food security. Further, the proponent anticipates that
20 every subsistence user in the community would support
21 this proposal.

22

23 It should be noted that there is never
24 a complete closure to all subsistence fishing in the
25 area. State regulations currently allow for two 48-
26 hour fishing periods per week for salmon in
27 Subdistricts 5A, 5B and 5C. However, for salmon, in
28 recent years the regular fishing schedule consisting of
29 two 48-hour weekly periods have been closed for long
30 periods in June and July in order to protect and
31 conserve chinook salmon. The majority of chinook
32 salmon typically move upstream of Subdistrict 5C by
33 late July.

34

35 Federal public waters in Subdistrict 5C
36 are limited to about 6 miles of the Yukon River,
37 approximately 60 miles upriver from Rampart. If you
38 look on your map on Page 72, you'll get a better
39 perspective of this. You can see 5C. Right about in
40 the middle of 5C is Rampart. You can see the
41 boundaries of 5C. It starts between Tanana and Rampart
42 and then goes up to just below Stevens Village. The
43 boundaries of the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge
44 and there's only a small section of 5C that falls
45 within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge. So
46 we're only talking about six river miles there.

47

48 The people of the village of Rampart, I
49 believe they mostly use fishwheels. They're not
50 traveling all the way up to that Federal land in the

1 Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge 60 miles upstream
2 in order to get their fish. So just to kind of put
3 that all in perspective.

4
5 If this proposal is adopted, it would
6 likely increase the opportunity for subsistence users
7 to harvest salmon and/or other fish species during
8 times of conservation. Continued harvest of salmon or
9 other fishes during times of conservation when
10 restrictions are necessary could result in insufficient
11 numbers of fish for spawning and thereby threaten the
12 continuance of subsistence uses of overharvested salmon
13 or other fish species in the future. What this
14 proposal is asking is that they get a guaranteed two
15 48-hour periods per week for fishing.

16
17 So the Office of Subsistence Management
18 preliminary conclusion is to oppose this Proposal FP15-
19 02. The justification for this conclusion is that for
20 the Yukon area, Federal subsistence fishing schedules,
21 openings, closings, and fishing methods are the same as
22 those issued for subsistence taking of fish under State
23 issued emergency orders unless superseded by Federal
24 Special Action or regulation. State regulations
25 currently allow for two 48-hour fishing periods per
26 week in Subdistricts 5A, 5B, and 5C.

27
28 Beginning the first week of August in
29 both 2013 and 2014 fishing seasons, subsistence fishing
30 schedules have been liberalized to at least a 5-day per
31 week schedule allowing the use of fishwheels or
32 gillnets with a mesh size of 7.5 inches or smaller.
33 However, as cited in regulation, the commissioner may
34 alter fishing periods by emergency order, if the
35 commissioner determines that pre-season or in-season run
36 indicators indicate it is necessary to restrict for
37 conservation purposes.

38
39 Fishery managers have the ability to
40 manage both time and area and liberalize or restrict
41 fishing opportunities based on the abundance of salmon
42 that enter the river. The proposed regulatory change
43 would likely increase the level of harvest of salmon or
44 other fishes during times of conservation and thereby
45 reduce the likelihood of meeting spawning needs.
46 Failure to provide sufficient numbers of salmon or
47 other fish species for spawning could threaten the
48 continuance of subsistence uses of salmon or other
49 fishes in the Yukon River in the future.

50

1 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes
2 my presentation.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
5 Rivard. You've heard Proposal 15-02. Are there any
6 tribal comments. Mr. Naneng.

7
8 MR. NANENG: Good afternoon, Mr.
9 Chairman and members of the Regional Advisory Council,
10 my cousins or whatever. Regarding this proposal, right
11 now our people on the Yukon from the very beginning are
12 closed to subsistence fishing for chinook salmon or
13 king salmon before they start heading up the river. As
14 the season has -- you know, some of us have experienced
15 and know that on the Yukon if there's a good run of
16 chinook salmon that are going on the north mouth, then
17 they allow people to do limited subsistence, especially
18 on the south mouth. But if the chinook salmon are
19 running good and strong on the south mouth, then they
20 limit south mouth from being able to fish for salmon
21 even with the other species. Right now they've only
22 been only allowed to fish for salmon on the mouth of
23 the river with dipnets in an effort to allow the
24 chinook salmon to escape to their spawning grounds. I
25 think that our people on the Yukon have made sacrifices
26 all the way since 1994 to try and make that escapement
27 objective. Within the last seven years of chinook
28 salmon escapement efforts on the Yukon Treaty, it's
29 only been met twice and I think it was finally met this
30 past summer because our people were forced to -- in a
31 way prevented from.....

32
33 (Cell phone ringing)

34
35 MR. NANENG: Sorry about that. Were
36 prevented from fishing for chinook salmon and some of
37 the villages made a commitment to do a moratorium on
38 chinook salmon along the whole river system and they
39 did that back on May 20th when they met at St. Mary's.

40
41 As a commercial fishermen, we used to
42 fish at one time two 48-hour periods per week on the
43 Lower Yukon. It does not happen anymore. You may be
44 lucky to fish six hours with a dipnet commercially and
45 even for subsistence for that matter because of the
46 restrictions that have been placed in trying to meet
47 escapements of salmon up on the river.

48
49 So AVCP does not support this proposal
50 with the concern that the villages on the Yukon have

1 shown -- both within the Lower Yukon and the AVCP
2 region and also on the Tanana Chiefs region when they
3 met asking for a moratorium on chinook salmon on the
4 whole river system. So that's a position that I know
5 that Tanana Chiefs will also take. They want to see a
6 good return of chinook salmon. And to allow people to
7 have a big impact when other people are completely shut
8 off is not fair to the whole river system.

9

10 With that, Mr. Chairman, that's our
11 position on this proposal.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
14 Naneng. Any questions for Mr. Naneng.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
19 thank you. Any ANCSA corporations.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: How about ADF&G, do
24 you have any comments?

25

26 MS. YUHAS: Thank you again, Mr.
27 Chairman. This Jennifer Yuhas calling from Fairbanks.
28 The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is in agreement
29 with OSM on this one. We oppose it and think that the
30 runs should be managed on the number of fish that are
31 coming in.

32

33 That's it for my testimony, Mr.
34 Chairman.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
37 comments from Fish and Wildlife.

38

39 (No comments)

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No comments from
42 Fish and Wildlife.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
47 tribal or village comments.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: InterAgency Staff
2 Committee.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: None. Advisory
7 groups, other Regional Council comments. Melinda,
8 please.
9
10 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. The Seward
11 Peninsula Council met October 7th through 8th. They
12 are opposed to FP15-02, stating that providing these
13 two 48-hour fishing periods could cause conservation
14 concerns for salmon during years of low salmon returns.
15 Mr. Chair.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Fish
18 and Game Advisory Committee comments. Mr. Oney.
19
20 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 Yukon has no comments.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Kuskokwim.
24
25 MR. CHARLES: Kuskokwim AC has no
26 comments.
27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Summary
29 of written public comments. Ms. Burke.
30
31 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair, Council. There
32 were no additional written public comments for this
33 proposal.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
36 public comments on 02.
37
38 (No comments)
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Regional Advisory
41 Council member comments.
42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I move that
48 we support FP15-02.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion has been

1 made to adopt FP15-02. Do I hear a second.
2
3 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.
4
5 MR. CHARLES: Second.
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
8 Charles. Any further discussion.
9
10 (No comments)
11
12 MR. ONEY: Question.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
15 called for. Roll call vote, please.
16
17 MR. ONEY: William Brown.
18
19 MR. BROWN: Yes.
20
21 MR. ONEY: James Charles.
22
23 MR. CHARLES: No.
24
25 MR. ONEY: John Andrew.
26
27 MR. J. ANDREW: No.
28
29 MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.
30
31 MR. PETERS: No.
32
33 MR. ONEY: Lester Wilde, Sr.
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
36
37 MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik, absent.
38 Anthony Ulak.
39
40 MR. ULAK: No.
41
42 MR. ONEY: Harry Wilde, Sr.
43
44 MR. H. WILDE: No.
45
46 MR. ONEY: Mary Gregory, absent.
47 Raymond Oney, no. Greg Roczicka, absent. Robert
48 Aloysius.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

1 MR. ONEY: David Bill, Sr.

2

3 MR. BILL: No.

4

5 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman, we have one
6 yes, nine opposing, no abstentions. Motion fails.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Motion
9 fails. We are down to FP15-03, eliminating drift
10 gillnet for chinook salmon in Yukon River Districts 1-
11 4. Mr. Rivard.

12

13 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. If
14 you'll go to Page 80 in your book, you will see there's
15 a supplement that has this analysis. Inadvertently
16 where 15-03 should have gone 15-02 was copied again.
17 So there's a supplement in your books. Each of you
18 should have one. So I'm going to be working with this
19 supplement that you were given.

20

21 Proposal FP15-03 was submitted by the
22 Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council, requests
23 the elimination of the use of drift gillnet fishing
24 gear for the targeting of chinook salmon in Yukon River
25 Districts 1 4.

26

27 This proposed regulatory change is
28 intended to eliminate the use of drift nets for the
29 targeting of chinook salmon in the Yukon River. The
30 proponent states that escapement goals have not been
31 met for chinook salmon in recent years and this change
32 in regulation should improve overall chinook salmon
33 escapement
34 throughout much of the Yukon River drainage.

35

36 I'm going to talk a little bit about
37 some current events. Directed commercial fishing for
38 Yukon River chinook salmon has been discontinued since
39 2007 and subsistence fishing opportunities have become
40 increasingly restrictive in an effort to conserve
41 chinook salmon. In 2013, fishery managers reduced
42 subsistence fishing opportunity to limit harvests to
43 approximately 25 percent of historical levels.
44 However, even with reduced subsistence harvests, most
45 escapement objectives were not met.

46

47 The 2013 chinook salmon run was one of
48 the poorest runs on record. The chinook salmon return
49 to the Yukon River in 2014 was forecasted to be
50 extremely poor and likely insufficient to meet all

1 escapement goals. As you heard from the Federal in-
2 season manager, Fred Bue, a little earlier today, the
3 run was a little bit better than forecasted, but not
4 all escapement goals were met.

5
6 Fishermen throughout the drainage were
7 advised ahead
8 of the season to not expect fishing opportunity to
9 harvest chinook salmon and to consider using other more
10 abundant fish resources available to them to supplement
11 their subsistence needs. The 2014 Yukon River chinook
12 fishing season began with no subsistence, sport, or
13 commercial fisheries anticipated for chinook salmon in
14 the U.S. portion of the Yukon River drainage.

15
16 Subsistence fishing opportunities for
17 species other than chinook salmon were available
18 throughout the 2014 season and the majority of
19 subsistence fishing restrictions that occurred were
20 during June and July to protect chinook salmon as they
21 moved upriver to spawning areas.

22
23 The effects of the proposal. If this
24 proposal were adopted, it would remove drift gillnets
25 as a gear type for the Federal subsistence harvest of
26 chinook salmon in Yukon River Districts 1-4 and could
27 reduce the fishing efficiency for harvesting chinook
28 salmon in the U.S. portion of the Yukon River in these
29 districts.

30
31 Eliminating the use of driftnets for
32 the targeting of chinook salmon in Yukon River
33 Districts 1-4 could benefit chinook salmon during times
34 of conservation concerns if it effectively reduced
35 harvest efficiency to the extent that it reduced
36 overall harvest. However, the elimination of this gear
37 type could also be a detriment to subsistence users
38 whose harvest of chinook salmon during years of strong
39 chinook salmon runs may be more effective with the use
40 of driftnets.

41
42 State regulations allow the taking of
43 salmon with drift gillnets in State waters within
44 Districts 1-4. Therefore, Federally qualified users
45 fishing under State regulations could still utilize
46 gillnets.

47
48 Mr. Chair, the Office of Subsistence
49 Management's preliminary conclusion is to oppose FP15-
50 03 and the reasons are that this proposal would remove

1 a fishing gear option that is currently relied upon by
2 one segment of the subsistence fishing community and
3 would not affect the fishing practice of others.
4 Additionally, if the intention is to reduce the harvest
5 of chinook salmon during times of conservation need,
6 this could be achieved through existing regulatory
7 authorities that allow in-season managers to open or
8 close Federal subsistence fishing
9 periods or areas provided under regulations and to
10 specify methods and means.

11

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
15 Rivard. Any tribal comments. Mr. Andrew.

16

17 MR. T. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
18 For the record, my name is Timothy Andrew. I'm the
19 director for natural resources for AVCP. As you have
20 seen, Myron has stepped out of the meeting, so I will
21 be giving comments on behalf of AVCP.

22

23 Mr. Chairman and members of the
24 Regional Advisory Council, we oppose this proposal
25 primarily because over the years we have seen more and
26 more restrictions imposed on the subsistence user ever
27 since the conservation concerns started back in 1998
28 and became even more evident in about 2007. So it's
29 been about a seven-year period since we've seen major
30 conservation concerns for the Yukon River chinook
31 salmon.

32

33 Throughout that time period we were
34 starting to see other types of gear being authorized
35 for subsistence and commercial harvest on the Yukon
36 River. Many of those were adopted to avoid harvesting
37 chinook salmon in the commercial fishery and provide a
38 little bit more opportunity for subsistence as well.
39 But in those nets that the Board of Fisheries and also
40 the Federal Subsistence Board has adopted allows the
41 subsistence user or the commercial fisherman to harvest
42 all species of fish but to live release chinook salmon.

43

44 This is an extremely dangerous proposal
45 if it was adopted because it would provide a trend of
46 eliminating primary subsistence gear for our
47 subsistence users. Eventually we would probably see
48 the Yukon River managed just as much or like the Kenai
49 River, making it a sport fish only river by utilization
50 of hook and line gear or perhaps dipnet.

1 As the OSM representative indicated, in
2 times of abundance, if this regulation were adopted, it
3 would severely cripple the efficiency of the
4 subsistence fishermen. It's a legal gear currently.

5
6 You know, we're basically in a
7 conservation crisis right now and we have management
8 tools or means and methods to harvest other abundant
9 species without the utilization of drift gillnets at
10 the moment. There's really no sense in eliminating
11 drift gillnet gear because we're not going to be in
12 conservation concern forever. I hope and pray that
13 this situation that we're in will improve at some
14 point.

15
16 That's AVCP's comments to oppose this
17 proposal. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Are
20 there any questions for Mr. Andrew.

21
22 (No comments)

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
25 Andrew. We are down to any ANCSA corporation comments.

26
27 (No comments)

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none.
30 How about ADF&G comments.

31
32 MS. YUHAS: Thank you again, Mr.
33 Chairman. This is Jennifer Yuhas. The Department also
34 opposes this proposal. The gear type is already
35 limited in the subdistricts it needs to be and the
36 managers already have the tools that they need in place
37 for conservation measures and this would take away a
38 type of gear that some of the subsistence users are
39 using.

40
41 Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do we have any Fish
44 and Wildlife. Mr. Bue.

45
46 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Fred
47 Bue, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is just more
48 to inform you the protocol that you're going through,
49 Fish and Wildlife has already had opportunity to
50 comment on the Staff analysis. We've provided input

1 into it. OSM is part of it.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So we don't
4 necessarily need your comments at this time.

5

6 (Laughter)

7

8 MR. BUE: So at least on the Yukon we
9 have contributed already. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you
12 for that information, Fred. Native, tribal, village
13 comments.

14

15 (No comments)

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Agency Staff
18 comments. Anyone here from agency Staff.

19

20 (No comments)

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: InterAgency Staff.

23

24 (No comments)

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No InterAgency
27 Staff comments. Other Regional Corporations. Ms.
28 Burke.

29

30 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair, Council. The
31 Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Council has voted to
32 oppose FP15-03. They stated that eliminating drift
33 gillnets would be detrimental to some subsistence
34 users. Drift gillnets are a tool that some subsistence
35 users need to have an opportunity to fish. If needed,
36 the in-season manager can make adjustments to drift
37 gillnet use. Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ms.
40 Burke. Fish and Game Advisory comments, Yukon.

41

42 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. We have no
43 comments from Lower Yukon Advisory.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
46 comments from the Kuskokwim Advisory Council.

47

48 MR. CHARLES: No comments from Lower
49 Kuskokwim AC.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.
2 Subsistence Resource Commissions.

3
4 (No comments)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I don't think we
7 have anyone from there either. Summary of written
8 comments. Ms. Burke.

9
10 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. I did not
11 receive any additional public comments in regard to
12 this proposal.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Public
15 testimony. Anybody here to testify on 15-03.

16
17 (No comments)

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
20 thank you. Regional Council recommendations.

21
22 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Ms. Burke.

25
26 MS. BURKE: I just wanted to remind the
27 Council when we're agreeing or disagreeing with the
28 proposal, we need to put a little rationale on the
29 record. It's really useful for both Staff and the
30 public when they're reviewing this later on. So if
31 you're agreeing to the OSM conclusion or, for example,
32 we want to refer.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We have been -- we
35 have been agreeing with the OSM comments.

36
37 MS. BURKE: We just want to make sure
38 we put that on the record what the rationale is.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that okay with
41 the rest of the Council that unless you want to make
42 your own comments and justifications on these proposals
43 that we will go with the OSM comments.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. The
46 voting process takes care of that. There's a motion, a
47 second and discussion by different members. That's the
48 time that they make comments for or against the
49 proposal. Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Are
2 there any discussions.
3
4 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.
7
8 MR. BILL: I just want to ask a
9 question.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.
12
13 MR. BILL: I just want to ask a
14 question. I'm just wondering how come the setnet is so
15 dangerous in the Yukon. That's my question.
16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does anybody know
18 what he was asking? What are you exactly asking, Mr.
19 Bill?
20
21 MR. BILL: I'm asking why is the setnet
22 -- I mean the driftnet so dangerous in the Yukon?
23 That's my question.
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Can anybody answer
26 that? Mr. Bue, Mr. Rivard, one or the other.
27
28 MR. RIVARD: Fred may be able to answer
29 this better than I can, but it's not a matter of being
30 dangerous. I think what the Eastern Interior Regional
31 Advisory Council is saying that these driftnets are so
32 efficient that they're taking a lot of chinook salmon
33 when people are allowed to fish for chinook salmon. So
34 they want to reduce their efficiency by taking away
35 this particular type of gear.
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that understood?
38
39 MR. BILL: Yeah, thank you.
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Bue, do you
42 have a comment.
43
44 MR. BUE: Fred Bue, U.S. Fish and
45 Wildlife Service. I think also the Eastern Interior's
46 discussion was that drift fishing puts the net out
47 further into the channel whereas a setnet fishes near
48 the bank. The thought there is that fish close to the
49 bank are bound for tributaries close to that fishing
50 location. So the further the fish are going upstream

1 farther to Canada, the deeper the water they tend to be
2 swimming in and moving farther up. That's the local
3 knowledge and thought behind that. You know whether or
4 not we have a lot of scientific data to say otherwise,
5 it's difficult, but that's part of their thought
6 process.

7

8 Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bue.
11 Any recommendations from the Regional Council. Mr.
12 Oney.

13

14 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
15 would also be in opposition to Proposal 15-03 based on
16 my comments that I made at the beginning of the
17 meeting. That's my only method of harvesting
18 subsistence salmon for my family. I do not have a
19 dipnet, a fishwheel, a blackfish trap. I don't have
20 any of those other methods to harvest salmon, so that's
21 the only way to put food on the table or to provide my
22 family for the winter.

23

24 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
27 other discussion.

28

29 (No comments)

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The Chair will
32 recommend a motion to adopt.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

35

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

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support
39 Proposal FP15-03.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
42 made to support Proposal FP15-03. Do I hear a second.

43

44 MR. ONEY: Second.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
47 Oney. Any further discussion.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
4 called for. Mr. Oney.
5
6 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On
7 FP15-03. David Bill, Sr.
8
9 MR. BILL: No.
10
11 MR. ONEY: Robert Aloysius.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
14
15 MR. ONEY: Greg Roczicka is absent.
16 Raymond Oney, no. Mary Gregor, absent. Harry Wilde,
17 Sr.
18
19 MR. H. WILDE: No.
20
21 MR. ONEY: Anthony Ulak.
22
23 MR. ULAK: No.
24
25 MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik, absent.
26 Lester Wilde, Sr.
27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
29
30 MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.
31
32 MR. PETERS: No.
33
34 MR. ONEY: John Andrew.
35
36 MR. J. ANDREW: No.
37
38 MR. ONEY: James Charles.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: No.
41
42 MR. ONEY: William Brown.
43
44 MR. BROWN: No.
45
46 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman, we have 10 no.
47 Motion fails.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion fails.
50 Thank you. Could you tell me what Appendix A is 03,

1 Mr. Rivard.

2

3 MR. RIVARD: That's part of the
4 analysis for this proposal. It starts in your book on
5 Page 90, I believe. That is part of the proposal
6 itself. Just some more information for you. It shows
7 the Federal fisheries manager's delegation of
8 authority.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, the motion's
11 failed anyway.

12

13 MR. RIVARD: There's really not much.
14 Yeah, your motion is already taken care of.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We've already taken
17 care of that. We are down to 15-04, allowing Federal
18 subsistence users to use set gillnets to harvest salmon
19 in Yukon River drainage when drift gillnet salmon
20 fisheries are closed. Mr. Rivard.

21

22 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
23 analysis for this Proposal FP15-04 starts on Page 98 in
24 your book.

25

26 Proposal FP15-04, submitted by the
27 Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council, seeks to
28 allow Federal subsistence users to continue using set
29 gillnets to harvest salmon in the Yukon River drainage
30 when drift gillnet salmon fisheries are closed.

31

32 The proponent's intent is to give the
33 Federal manager the authority to independently
34 differentiate between gear types by allowing set and/or
35 drift gillnets during fishing periods and in areas
36 targeting summer chum salmon, while at the same time
37 allowing only set gillnets during fishing periods in
38 areas targeting chinook salmon or during times of
39 chinook salmon conservation.

40

41 According to the proponent, this
42 proposal would provide for some subsistence harvest of
43 chum salmon while reducing impacts to chinook salmon by
44 fishing close to shore with setnets where chinook
45 salmon are less likely to be abundant and, if present,
46 there's usually more abundant smaller jacks. The use of
47 setnets in place of driftnets may improve the quality
48 of chinook salmon escapement due to the incidental
49 harvest of chinook salmon being located closer to shore
50 where smaller chinook salmon tend to run.

1 Avoiding mid-river deep drifts, which
2 the proponent states tend to catch larger, more fecund
3 chinook salmon, should improve escapement for larger,
4 more fecund chinook salmon. Fecund means basically
5 females that have more eggs in them. The more there
6 are, the more fecund they're considered.

7
8 The in-season manager currently has the
9 delegated authority to manage gear types in a manner
10 consistent with the proposed action.

11
12 Now the effects of the proposal.

13
14 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page are you on?

15
16 MR. RIVARD: I'm sorry. We're now on
17 Page 106. If this proposal is adopted, it would be
18 anticipated to reduce the fishing efficiency for
19 harvesting salmon in the Yukon River. By allowing only
20 set gillnets during fishing periods in areas targeting
21 chinook salmon or during times of chinook salmon
22 conservation, this proposal would remove a fishing gear
23 option that is currently relied upon by one segment of
24 the fishing community and would not affect the fishing
25 practice of others. Without a shift in allocation, the
26 fishery manager would be required to judge how new,
27 variable combinations of time and area without use of
28 drift gillnets might offset the previous observed
29 harvest performance when drift gillnets were utilized.

30
31 According to the proponent, this
32 proposal would provide for some subsistence harvest of
33 chum salmon while reducing impacts to chinook salmon by
34 only fishing close to shore with set nets where chinook
35 salmon are less likely to be abundant and usually
36 consist of smaller jacks. The use of setnets in place
37 of driftnets may improve the quality of chinook salmon
38 escapement due to the incidental harvest of chinook
39 salmon being located closer to shore where smaller
40 chinook salmon tend to run. Avoiding mid-river deep
41 drifts, which the proponent states tend to catch
42 larger, more fecund chinook salmon, should improve
43 escapement for larger, more fecund chinook salmon.

44
45 Mr. Chair. The Office of Subsistence
46 Management's preliminary conclusion is to take no
47 action on Proposal FP15-04.

48
49 The justification for this is that the
50 proposed action is not needed as the delegated

1 authorities granted to the Federal in-season manager by
2 the Federal Subsistence Board already allows what the
3 proponent is asking for. It applies to waters within
4 the Yukon River Drainage and permits the opening or
5 closing of Federal subsistence fishing periods,
6 designating areas or specifying methods and means,
7 permit requirements, and setting of harvest and
8 possession limits for Federal subsistence fisheries.
9 This delegation may be exercised only when it is
10 necessary to conserve fish stocks or to continue
11 subsistence uses.

12

13 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes
14 my presentation.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could I ask who is
17 the proponent of the proposal.

18

19 MR. RIVARD: Again, it's the Eastern
20 Interior Regional Advisory Council.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
23 Rivard. Tribal comments.

24

25 MR. T. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
26 Timothy Andrew with AVCP. If you are going to take
27 action on this proposal, we would recommend that you
28 would, as Mr. Rivard says, either take no action, but
29 if you are going to vote yes or no on this, we
30 encourage you to vote no. This proposal I believe is
31 tied with the thought that the driftnet ban would be
32 adopted. It is already an option for managers to
33 utilize setnets on the Yukon River as a way to conserve
34 chinook salmon. They can utilize various mesh sizes,
35 from four-inch gear, six-inch gear, to unrestricted.

36

37 And, additionally, if you look at the
38 Yukon River, the current basically goes one way and it
39 goes out towards the ocean. In the area where I'm
40 from, setnet sites are extremely limited. I believe
41 it's the same way from Holy Cross and the same way down
42 around the mouth. It might be a little bit different,
43 but setnet sites are extremely, extremely rare. To
44 force the subsistence user to utilize setnet sites only
45 would be taking out a whole bunch of Federally
46 qualified users from harvesting salmon if this proposal
47 were to pass.

48

49 So, on that, we would recommend either
50 take no action or, if you are going to vote yes or no,

1 we'd encourage you to vote no.
2 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
5 Andrew. Are there any ANCSA corporation comments.

6
7 (No comments)

8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No comments. Are
10 there any ADF&G comments.

11
12 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 Jennifer Yuhás with the Department again. The
14 Department is neutral on this proposal. We don't see a
15 need for it right now given, as Mr. Rivard said, the
16 mechanism is already there for the Federal managers to
17 implement this if it's needed. In the meantime, the
18 Board of Fish hasn't taken any action, so we have no
19 opinion on this one, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Are
22 there any village council comments.

23
24 (No comments)

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Village, tribal
27 council comments.

28
29 (No comments)

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: InterAgency Staff
32 Committee comments.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No InterAgency
37 Staff Committee comments. Other Regional Council
38 comments. Ms. Burke.

39
40 MS. BURKE: Mr. Chair. The Seward
41 Peninsula Regional Advisory Council is opposed to FP15-
42 04 stating that there is not a conservation concern
43 caused by using drift gillnets. Set gillnets also
44 harvest chinook salmon. If there are problems with the
45 conservation of chinook salmon, the in-season manager
46 already has the authority to make changes to the
47 harvest methods.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Fish
50 and Game Advisory Committee comments.

1 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. For the Lower
2 Yukon Advisory Council I have no comments.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.
5 Kuskokwim.

6
7 MR. CHARLES: No comments from Lower
8 Kuskokwim AC.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Summary of written
11 comments. Ms. Burke.

12
13 MS. BURKE: No additional public
14 comments were submitted in writing. Mr. Chair.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Any
17 public comments. Mr. Nick.

18
19 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For
20 the record, my name is Alex Nick. I just wanted to add
21 a few more comments to the comments I made this
22 morning. I worked for Department of Fish and Game in
23 early 1970s. During that time I was involved in a
24 tagging program or research as a technician. We tagged
25 king salmon, which is better known nowadays as a
26 chinook salmon, with a setnet and we were trying to
27 keep all of the chinook salmon alive and release after
28 we tagged each and every one of them. During the peak
29 period in the Yukon River, we had a little over 80 king
30 salmon, 80 dead king salmon from one setnet close to
31 the shore. And that's one of the reasons why I
32 mentioned this morning that set gillnets are very
33 effective depending on where you set those gillnets.

34
35 With that in mind, my recommendation,
36 my personal recommendation is to oppose this proposal.
37 In addition to that, I want to mention that not every
38 eddy is a good eddy to harvest anything. It doesn't
39 matter what kind of fish there is. I think most
40 everyone who are avid fisher, avid hunter will know
41 that not every location is a good site.

42
43 Another factor for potential dropouts
44 would be slow current close to the shore. Whenever
45 there's a slow current, there will be mortality of
46 chinook salmon. For that reason, Mr. Chair, I
47 personally oppose this proposal. Thank you.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
50 Nick. Regional Council recommendations. Is there a

1 motion coming from the Regional Council. Mr. Aloysius.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: You're asking us?

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.

6

7 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question for
8 Don on the justification. It says the proposed action
9 is not needed as the delegated authorities granted to
10 Federal in-season managers by the Board already allow
11 what the proponent is asking for.

12

13 We have three choices the way I
14 understand it. One is to approve, one is to oppose and
15 one is to recommend that we take no action. What would
16 be the detriment in opposing this proposal?

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard.

19

20 MR. RIVARD: Oh, I don't think there
21 would be any detriment to it. I think it's how strong
22 a statement does your Council want to make on this, I
23 guess. If you just take no action or if you oppose it.
24 Our office recommended take no action because, again,
25 the in-season manager can already do this. He can
26 differentiate between driftnets and setnets. So
27 there's really no need to even take action on this
28 because it's already something that can be done.

29

30 MR. ALOYSIUS: On the other hand, if we
31 support it, what are the consequences of that?

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Rivard, do you
34 have an answer to that?

35

36 MR. RIVARD: Well, it's a good
37 question. Not one that I pondered, but I guess if you
38 supported it -- I don't want to -- I haven't had time
39 to really think about it. If you support it and it's
40 something that can already be done, I guess there's no
41 real difference between it. I don't want you to hold
42 me to the fire with that one because I haven't had time
43 to really analyze that.

44

45 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason why I asked
46 the question is because there's something that doesn't
47 click right with me. The proposed action is not
48 needed. Okay. So that's fine with me. But what are
49 the consequences if you vote for it or vote against it?
50 Those are the two that -- what is it going to do to the

1 in-season manager if you support it? That's what I'm
2 asking. Are they going to be restricted? Hey, you,
3 you had this, the only one you can do.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. In-season
6 Manager, would you answer that, please.

7
8 MR. BUE: Yeah, I was afraid you'd ask
9 that question.

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MR. BUE: It's difficult, but what I do
14 when I come to these RAC meetings, there's three RACs
15 and they all have different ideas and input they give
16 to us. This may not change my requirement for
17 management, but I do take it home and I think about it
18 and when I'm faced with a decision, your thoughts,
19 opinions I value and I consider those when I have to
20 make a decision.

21
22 So if this RAC would support this or
23 thinks it's a good idea to go that direction, I may
24 lean that way when I'm stacking up all the different
25 opinions and thoughts out there. So that may be a
26 decision in-season if I see that, you know, this RAC
27 supports this concept, Eastern Interior RAC supports
28 this concept. I may be weighing some of those values
29 and it may weigh on decisions I make in the future.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Bue.

32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. To me, if we
34 take no action, everything will be status quo, so we
35 won't interfere or push you to go this way or that way.
36 Use your own judgment based on the number of fish and
37 the conditions. I feel more comfortable with taking no
38 action. Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are you making that
41 as a motion?

42
43 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, I was just stating
44 my opinion. In the event that you want a motion, I
45 move that we take no action on Proposal FP15-04.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
48 Aloysius. Do I hear a second to the motion.

49
50 MR. ULAK: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
2 Ulak. Any further discussion.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 MR. ONEY: Question.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
9 called for. Roll call vote, please.
10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Remember that if you
12 vote yes, you're voting for taking no action. That's
13 it. I want to make that clear.
14
15 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. Rather than a
16 roll call, do it by unanimous consent. If there's
17 opposition, then you go to roll call. Thank you.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. I'll do that
20 then. Are there any oppositions.
21
22 (No opposition)
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
25 then so ordered.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Quyana.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to -- I
30 think before we go down, Mr. Nicolai, did you have
31 something to say on 06 and 07? I was kind of holding
32 that off until that came up, but if you wanted to come
33 up and go ahead.....
34
35 MR. NICOLAI: (Shakes head negatively)
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We'll go on
38 down to item 15-05 and that is to allow continuous
39 fishing Subdistrict 1B during June.
40
41 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
42 We're going now from the Yukon to the Kuskokwim, so
43 these next two proposals pertain to the Kuskokwim
44 River. We're on Page 112 in your Council book.
45
46 Proposal FP15-05, submitted by Nick
47 Carter, requests that the Federal Subsistence Board
48 allow subsistence fishing for all fish species to occur
49 without interruption in the lower section of fishing
50 Subdistrict 1B, Kuskokwim River, during the month of

1 June.

2

3

4 The proponent states that he is making
5 this request because it is tradition to be able to
6 fish anytime for any and all fish species in the lower
7 section of Subdistrict 1B during the month of June.
8 All of Subdistrict 1B is in the Federal public waters
9 within and adjacent to the exterior boundaries of the
10 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

11

12 The implication in this proposal is
13 that the Federal in-season fisheries manager would not
14 have the authority to impose any restrictions during
15 the month of June in the lower section of Subdistrict
16 1B, regardless of the run size and/or population
17 estimates of the subsistence fish species targeted for
18 harvest.

19 There's a nice map on Page 114 that really shows
20 Subdistrict 1B and the lower section of Subdistrict 1B.

21

22 The effects of this proposal. Fishing
23 restrictions (time, area, and gear types) are put in
24 place based on fish population estimates and/or run
25 strength, and are utilized to ensure continued
26 viability of a species and/or to address conservation
27 concerns.

28

29 If this proposal were adopted, all
30 Federally-qualified subsistence users in the Kuskokwim
31 Management Area would be eligible and allowed to take
32 all fish species during the month of June in the lower
33 section of Subdistrict 1B of the Kuskokwim River 24
34 hours per day, 7 days per week, regardless of the run
35 size and/or population estimate of each fish species.

36

37 This could lead to serious conservation
38 concerns for those species that are experiencing weak
39 run sizes, such as Kuskokwim River chinook salmon
40 stocks have been doing since 2010. Also, if this
41 proposal were adopted, the lower section of Subdistrict
42 1B would likely have to be under Federal management for
43 the month of June, while the rest of the river would be
44 under State management. This could lead to confusion
45 on the part of subsistence users. So that's one
46 scenario.

47

48 Adoption of this proposal would remove
49 the Federal in-season manager's authority to regulate
50 and/or manage the Federal subsistence fisheries during
the month of June in the lower section of Subdistrict

1 1B of the Kuskokwim River. This could lead, at times,
2 to severer restrictions being imposed upriver in order
3 to ensure continued viability of a species and/or to
4 address conservation concerns.

5
6 Adoption of this proposal could also
7 lead to public safety concerns, as it is likely that
8 many more subsistence fishermen than normal would
9 congregate during the month of June in the lower
10 section of Subdistrict 1B of the Kuskokwim River to
11 take advantage of unrestricted fishing.

12
13 Mr. Chair, the Office of Subsistence
14 Management's preliminary conclusion is to oppose FP15-
15 05 and the justification for that is that fishing
16 restrictions (time, area, and gear types) are put in
17 place based on fish population estimates and/or run
18 strength, and are utilized to ensure continued
19 viability of a species and/or to address conservation
20 concerns. Fisheries managers need to be allowed the
21 flexibility to impose restrictions if and when
22 necessary based on these biological parameters. To
23 allow unrestricted fishing in the lower section of
24 Subdistrict 1B during the month of June would likely be
25 detrimental, at a minimum, to the conservation of
26 chinook salmon stocks throughout the Kuskokwim River
27 basin.

28
29 In addition, it is essential that the
30 Federal in-season manager retain his/her authority and
31 flexibility to manage all sections of Federal public
32 waters of the Kuskokwim area based on in-season
33 assessments of the run strengths of all subsistence
34 fish species.

35
36 Thank you, Mr. Chair. That concludes
37 my presentation.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
40 Rivard. Any comments from the tribal organization,
41 AVCP.

42
43 (No comments)

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any ANCSA
46 corporation comments.

47
48 (No comments)

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: ADF&G, do you have

1 any comments.

2

3 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
4 Jennifer Yuhas again for the Department and the
5 Department is also opposed to this proposal for the
6 same reasons as OSM. We don't think that it provides
7 enough flexibility to the Federal manager. Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Native,
10 village, tribal organizations.

11

12 (No comments)

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: InterAgency Staff
15 Committee.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: None.

20

21 (No comments)

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Advisory groups,
24 other Regional Councils. Ms. Burke.

25

26 MS. BURKE: No, Mr. Chair. This Council
27 is the first Council to take up this proposal.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Fish and Game
30 Advisory Council.

31

32 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Bill.

35

36 MR. BILL: I have a question. What
37 month were you talking about? I was unable to hear you
38 correctly, the month of the time when the people would
39 be fishing.

40

41 MR. RIVARD: What month?

42

43 MR. BILL: Uh-huh. Talk a little bit
44 louder.

45

46 MR. RIVARD: Are you talking about in
47 Subdistrict 1B?

48

49 MR. BILL: I'm talking about Kuskokwim
50 area, Kuskokwim Bay area, like Nelson Island all the

1 way up to mouth of Kuskokwim.
2
3 MR. RIVARD: The Kuskokwim Bay area up
4 to the mouth of the Kuskokwim. So you're talking about
5 in marine waters?
6
7 MR. BILL: Yeah. Are we included in
8 that one?
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
11
12 MR. RIVARD: It's not part of this.....
13
14 MR. BILL: In that area, the coastal
15 area villages of Kwigillingok, Chefornak, all of Nelson
16 Island, Mekoryuk, Nunivak Island and Newtok, are they
17 included.
18
19 MR. RIVARD: Through the Chair. If you
20 look at Page 114, you'll see a map.
21
22 MR. BILL: Oh, okay.
23
24 MR. RIVARD: And it's just that lower
25 section. So James Charles may be able to tell you a
26 little bit better where those boundaries are, but that
27 lower boundary there that's Eek Island that's going
28 through, I believe, right?
29
30 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair, continue. I was
31 looking at the wrong map. I'm sorry. Thank you.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Now you got me all
34 confused.
35
36 (Laughter)
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Where were we, Ms.
39 Burke? I just lost my spot.
40
41 MS. BURKE: No problem, Mr. Chair. I
42 believe we had gotten down to the Advisory Committees
43 and the SRCs.
44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, okay. Thank
46 you. Any comments from the advisors.
47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. Before
49 you make any comments please follow the motion, second
50 and discussion process. So, therefore, I move that we

1 support FP15-05.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion has been
4 made to support FP15-05.

5

6 MR. BROWN: Second.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
9 Brown. Any further discussion.

10

11 MR. BILL: Question.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
14 called for. Roll call vote, please.

15

16 MR. ONEY: I was going to mention about
17 the other advisory groups. I think they haven't
18 commented.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was no
21 comments from any other one.

22

23 MR. ONEY: FP15-05, and you called for
24 a roll call vote.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. Could
27 you hold that back. Lower Kuskokwim has some comments.
28 Mr. Charles.

29

30 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
31 I am with Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee and we
32 have moved the boundary before. Not this time, but it
33 has been years ago. It was way up here to north of Eek
34 Island, West Point across to Eek Island. There was
35 some illegal activity going on downriver from that
36 boundary line, so we moved it down to Popok and then
37 onto what you call that, Ishkowik.

38

39 This year, since the Federal took over
40 the subsistence fishing they changed the boundary
41 outside of this boundary, B1 boundary. It was out to
42 the mouth of Kuskokwim from Ishkowik to where Harsh
43 Creek or I don't know where this goes, Kuskokwak. It's
44 way down there at the mouth of Eek, Old Lake Island --
45 I mean Eek River. So that's the way I saw it this
46 year, from Ishkowik on down. We outside the line and
47 we don't know where that boundary was. That's my
48 personal comment too with AC. But the AC, like I said,
49 we moved it down before. Lower Kuskokwim AC moved it
50 down from West Point to Popokamiut.

1 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other advisory
4 group comments.

5

6 (No comments)

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did you have a
9 comment, Mr. Brown.

10

11 MR. BROWN: Yeah.

12

13 (In Yup'ik)

14

15 TRANSLATOR: At springtime, this past
16 spring, the Federal line -- U.S. Fish and Wildlife
17 Refuge line, according to the map, the line it has been
18 there for many years, that boundary, the mouth of
19 Apokak all the way across to Popok. That land boundary
20 has been -- this past spring the Federal boundary was
21 at above Quinhagak on down to the mouth of Harsh Creek.
22 For us that fish for subsistence it was very hard to
23 get to because gasoline was very expensive and a lot of
24 gas was going to be used to go to that area for purpose
25 of subsistence.

26

27 So a lot of people wanted to go, but
28 had no money to purchase fuel for round trip. For that
29 reason it was a concern and a problem this spring
30 because the overnight boundary was relocated to the
31 area indicated and that wasn't very acceptable to us
32 who subsist in that area. So it was very hard to fish
33 legal, so we had to go down further near Quinhagak to
34 do subsistence fish. So without any communication and
35 knowledge of where the lands are, it's kind of hard to
36 take fish when they're in.

37

38 Quyana.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Was
41 there any summary of written public comments. Ms.
42 Burke.

43

44 MS. BURKE: I don't have any additional
45 public comments in addition to what was stated here in
46 the room today. Mr. Chair.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
49 Any public testimony.

50

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Being none.
4 Regional Council recommendations. You are?

5

6 MR. LALONDE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7 Neil LaLonde, Refuge Manager for Yukon Delta and in-
8 season manager for the Kuskokwim. We agree with OSM
9 and we oppose this proposal regardless of where the
10 boundary may fall. During years of conservation
11 concern any unrestricted fishery during the month of
12 June could have major impacts. So I just wanted to
13 state we do agree with OSM.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. There
16 was a motion on the floor that was seconded. Is there
17 any other comments.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Point of order, Mr.
20 Chairman. There was a call for the vote and that's
21 what you're on.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I got a little mixed
24 up on the procedures, so I ask for an apology for that
25 mistake. At this time we'll be -- was there a motion
26 on the floor to this effect? I can't quite remember.
27 There was a motion on the floor?

28

29 MS. BURKE: Yes, Mr. Chair, there was a
30 motion to support by Mr. Aloysius and it was seconded
31 by Mr. Brown.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

34

35 MR. ALOYSIUS: And the question was
36 called for a vote and you asked for a roll call.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Roll call
39 vote, please. Thank you.

40

41 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
42 FP15-05. David Bill, Sr.

43

44 MR. BILL: I did not understand some of
45 the words that you guys were talking about. Can I vote
46 a little bit later? I'm having a little trouble
47 understanding what's going on.

48

49 MR. ONEY: Robert Aloysius.

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
2
3 MR. ONEY: Greg, absent. Raymond Oney,
4 no. Mary Gregor, absent. Harry Wilde, Sr.
5
6 MR. H. WILDE: No.
7
8 MR. ONEY: Anthony Ulak.
9
10 MR. ULAK: No.
11
12 MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik, absent.
13 Lester Wilde, Sr.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
16
17 MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.
18
19 MR. PETERS: No.
20
21 MR. ONEY: John Andrew.
22
23 MR. J. ANDREW: No.
24
25 MR. ONEY: James Charles.
26
27 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
28
29 MR. ONEY: William Brown.
30
31 MR. BROWN: Yes.
32
33 MR. ONEY: David Bill, Sr.
34
35 MR. BILL: Yes.
36
37 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. We have three
38 yes, seven no. Motion fails.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion fails.
41 Thank you. I apologize. It's getting a little bit
42 late, so we're going to get the next proposal and then
43 we'll take a break for the rest of the evening after
44 the next proposal. Our next proposal is 15-06/07. An
45 introduction to this proposal, please, Mr. Rivard.
46
47 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. The
48 analysis starts on Page 126 in your book. Proposal
49 FP15-06 submitted by the Yukon Delta National Wildlife
50 Refuge, and proposal FP15-07 submitted by Lisa

1 Feyereisen, request that dipnets be authorized as legal
2 gear for the harvest of salmon in the Kuskokwim River
3 drainage. Additionally, FP15-07 requests inclusion of
4 the following provision: All king [chinook] salmon
5 captured with a dipnet must be immediately released
6 back to the water. Since both proposals seek similar
7 regulatory action, they are consolidated and analyzed
8 together.

9
10 The proponent of FP15-06 states that
11 the Kuskokwim [River] Salmon Management Working group
12 and the State of Alaska successfully petitioned the
13 Alaska Board of Fisheries to implement dip nets as a
14 legal gear type in the Kuskokwim management area for
15 the 2014 salmon fishing season. This proposal if passed
16 would make permanent the allowance of dipnets in the
17 Kuskokwim management area [under Federal regulations].

18
19 The proponent for FP15-07 states that
20 dipnets will likely only be used when restrictions
21 for king salmon are implemented; consequently, the
22 harvest of chum and sockeye salmon with dip nets will
23 be much lower than in typical years when gillnets are
24 the preferred method, because dipnets are a very
25 inefficient means of fishing.

26
27 The effects of the proposal. I'm on
28 Page 130 now. If this proposal is adopted,
29 Federally-qualified subsistence users would be allowed
30 to utilize dipnets to harvest salmon within and
31 adjacent to the boundaries of the Yukon Delta National
32 Wildlife Refuge. This addition could broaden fishers
33 opportunity to provide for their families by allowing
34 them to attempt to harvest salmon when gillnet
35 restrictions are in place.

36
37 The Federal Subsistence Board and the
38 Alaska Board of Fisheries authorized dipnets as a legal
39 gear type in the Kuskokwim Management Area for the 2014
40 subsistence salmon fishing season. These proposals, if
41 adopted by the Board, would add dipnets as a legal gear
42 type for the harvest of salmon in the Kuskokwim
43 Management Area in Federal subsistence salmon fishing
44 regulations.

45
46 The provision requested in FP15-07,
47 All king salmon captured with a dip net must be
48 immediately released back to the water, is
49 unnecessary. The in-season manager has the authority
50 to implement that provision, if necessary, such as in

1 times of chinook salmon conservation. It is expected
2 that there will be minimal, if any, negative affects to
3 chinook salmon caught in a dipnet and then immediately
4 released.

5
6 Mr. Chair. The Office of Subsistence
7 Management preliminary conclusion is to support FP15-06
8 and take no action on FP15-07. The justification.
9 Dipnets have been utilized historically to harvest
10 salmon in the Kuskokwim River drainage and are
11 currently a legal gear type to harvest non-salmon
12 species of fish. The Federal Subsistence Board
13 authorized the use of dipnets to harvest salmon in the
14 Kuskokwim River drainage for the 2014 fishing season
15 under a special action.

16
17 The Alaska Board of Fisheries recently
18 authorized the use of dipnets to harvest salmon in the
19 Kuskokwim River drainage under State of Alaska
20 regulations. The provision requested in FP15-07, All
21 king [chinook] salmon captured with a dipnet must be
22 immediately released back to the water, is
23 unnecessary. The in-season manager has the authority
24 to implement that provision, if necessary, such as in
25 times of chinook salmon conservation.

26
27 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
30 Rivard. AVCP.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any ANCSA
35 corporations. I'll get to you. It's down the list a
36 ways, but we'll get to you.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Agency comments,
41 ADF&G.

42
43 MS. YUHAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
44 This is Jennifer Yuhas again with the Alaska Department
45 of Fish and Game. We're going to do the opposite of
46 OSM this time, Mr. Chairman. We're going to support
47 the public proposal, which is 07, by Lisa Feyereisen
48 instead of the agency proposal, which is 06. We think
49 the public member's proposal 15-07 is less confusing
50 and less divergent than the State regulation and this

1 is an important distinction between the two proposals.
2
3 That's all I have unless there's
4 questions.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. Could
7 you please repeat the last portion of your statement
8 there. You were broken up.

9
10 MS. YUHAS: Sorry about that. I
11 apologize for the technology here. I've gotten kicked
12 off a few times today and had to dial back in too.
13 That we think this is an important distinction between
14 the two proposals that the public member's Proposal 07
15 is more in line with the State's regulation so that
16 there's not one thing happening in one portion of the
17 river and another thing happening in another portion.
18 As you know, the dipnets were very welcomed in the
19 Yukon area, but fewer people in the Kuskokwim have been
20 embracing them, but we want that option to be available
21 for those who do.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Native,
24 tribal organizations. Mr. Martin Nicolai from
25 Kwethluk.

26
27 MR. NICOLAI: I'm Martin Nicolai. I'm
28 not in the Native tribe, I'm the ANCSA corporation,
29 Kwethluk, Incorporated, just to clarify that. On the
30 justification it says the dipnets have been used
31 historically. In my lifetime, that's true only for
32 smelts and I've heard people use them just after
33 freeze-up to collect whitefish and pike using dipnets.
34 In my lifetime, I have never, never seen dipnets
35 utilized by my people to harvest any type of salmon
36 here in the Kuskokwim. It may have been used before my
37 time when there used to be millions of salmon, so much
38 that the waters on the top of the river were just
39 brimming with their fins. It may have been that time
40 utilized, but I have never seen it. It may have been
41 historically used, but in my lifetime I have never seen
42 it here used in the Kuskokwim.

43
44 We tried to use it last summer, some of
45 us, with no success at all. Nothing. Kuskokwim River
46 is not like the Yukon River. The Kuskokwim River, it
47 may be similar way up there past Aniak to the Yukon
48 River. But historically, you know, we used bow and
49 arrows, but it doesn't mean we revert back to bow and
50 arrows. Historically we used canoes, but we don't use

1 canoes. Historically we never used long gillnets, but
2 we use them to get more subsistence food more easily
3 for us and that works for us. I don't see the need for
4 putting in the dipnets into our regulations.
5 Therefore, I request to the Board that they take no
6 action on both of these proposals.

7

8 Thank you very much.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

11

12 MR. ALEXIE: (In Yup'ik)

13

14 TRANSLATOR: Thank you very much. I'm
15 going to speak in Yup'ik toward this and it will be
16 short. I'm glad that you guys give me the opportunity.
17 I'm opposed to both of these two propositions because
18 there's already regulation under State. If they put
19 this under Federal regulations, State will comply with
20 Federal regulations. For that reason, and I mentioned
21 this earlier, I'm opposed to this proposal and also I
22 make this in addition to the comment that I made
23 earlier.

24

25 Thank you.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

30

31 MR. ALOYSIUS: He did not state his
32 name for the record.

33

34 MR. ALEXIE: Nicholai Alexie, Kwethluk,
35 Incorporated. Quyana.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.
38 Advisory group comments.

39

40 (No comments)

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Other Regional
43 Council comments. No comments?

44

45 MS. BURKE: No, Mr. Chair.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Fish and Game
48 Advisory Committee comments.

49

50 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. Lower Yukon

1 Advisory, no comments.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Lower Kuskokwim.

4

5 MR. CHARLES: Lower Kuskokwim, no

6 comments.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Summary of written

9 comments. Ms. Burke.

10

11 MS. BURKE: No additional written

12 public comments.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other public

15 comments. Did you want to make a comment?

16

17 MR. TIKIUN: (In Yup'ik)

18

19 TRANSLATOR: My name is Henry Tikiun.

20 I forgot to take my hat off earlier when I addressed
21 the committee here. Regarding the dipnets, I'm the
22 only person from the tundra villages and they're always
23 talking about in opposition to the dipnet on the
24 Kuskokwim. Since I have moved to the tundra villages,
25 the only use of dipnet that we have is for whitefish
26 and we have stopped using the dipnets out in our area
27 and we don't even see the dipnets in my hometown
28 anymore. So we only use the gillnets for the whitefish
29 in place of the dipnets that we used to use in the
30 tundra villages.

31

32 In the summer, it was a very bad
33 fishing season for us because there was no water in the
34 lakes. When these issues come up, a lot of the young
35 people that are not aware of these seasons and it is as
36 if when they come to a cliff, so to speak. My parents
37 and my grandparents, they used to tell us about the
38 six-inch mesh and they told us that if we start fishing
39 using the six-inch net gear size regarding the king
40 salmon, they said that we'll decimate the population of
41 the king salmon.

42

43 So way before they passed on into the
44 next life they had address this and they told them even
45 though we had discussed this way years ahead, they are
46 not listening to what our comments are regarding the
47 conservation. I am 74 years old now and at that time I
48 wasn't even 65 years old when one of the elders had
49 mentioned that. If we start regulating the gillnet
50 size to six inches, it will have a negative effect on

1 the king salmon. So it's been about 10 to 15 years
2 that they had mentioned that.

3
4 Our subsistence way of life, if we
5 start talking negatively about any of our way of life,
6 they used to tell us that our subsistence activities
7 will be curtailed and I see that now as the gillnets in
8 my area are more abundant than the dipnets. So we are
9 no longer a traditional, cultural use that we used to
10 employ.

11
12 Perhaps we're coming to a different
13 season or a way of life, especially when it starts
14 getting cold like this the whitefish usually leave the
15 lakes. In my area right now there are no whitefish
16 leaving the lakes and it's probably been three months
17 ago the small fry left the lakes in my area. The
18 whitefish left three months ago and that has never
19 happened before. So the whitefish fry left and we saw
20 that there are an abundant number of fish leaving the
21 tundra villages and that was an anomaly for us.

22
23 Perhaps when the king salmon coming to
24 the Kuskokwim River the whitefish leave the tundra
25 lakes and so they meet ahead and they overlap each
26 other when going one way and the other going out. Our
27 elders had told us not to use the six inches because of
28 the overlap. They said the king salmon population
29 would be decimated because of the six inch that we were
30 using to try to catch the whitefish.

31
32 So these people knew what they were
33 talking about because they weren't putting everything
34 on paper, they weren't learned in the scientific
35 methods, but they already knew how to predict
36 everything. They knew how to predict how the weather
37 was going to be in the summer. They knew how the berry
38 harvest was going to be. They already knew that. Even
39 if we tell this traditional knowledge to all these
40 committees and all these agencies they have never
41 really given us any time of day and they would not even
42 believe any of what we were telling them.

43
44 Our elders used to prepare us for all
45 of these seasons, about the hardship, about the
46 abundant harvest that we were going to be and now, with
47 the agencies taking over all of our way of life we are
48 never told about what is going to happen to our future.
49 The Western civilization that is creeping into our
50 society it's like they are really putting us into a

1 detrimental situation, pushing us towards hunger, to
2 starvation.

3

4 If other people are listening to what I
5 am saying, please take this to heart because people
6 have not seen any hardship before in their life.
7 That's why there is nobody attending these meetings.
8 If we had come into famination, there would be a lot of
9 people from the villages attending this, but because
10 they have not seen any problems, there's nobody here.

11

12 I thank you for giving me the
13 opportunity to say this.

14

15 Quyana.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Regional Council
18 recommendations.

19

20 MR. BILL: Mr. Chair. Did I understand
21 you to say if the dipnet passed this time, it will be
22 there forever?

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. It's just
25 putting it into regulation. There was only one season
26 for 2014. So this proposal would put it into
27 regulation so it doesn't have to just be done by
28 special action. It would exist in regulation. What
29 this is is just another gear type that could be
30 utilized to harvest salmon.

31

32 MR. BILL: It will stay in regulations
33 forever, for a long time.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: It would stay in
36 regulation unless somebody else submits a proposal. If
37 it's adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board, it would
38 stay in regulation until somebody else put in a
39 proposal to have that regulation changed and, again, be
40 adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board. So there's
41 always a chance, there's always a possibility of
42 changing a regulation if it's shown that it doesn't
43 work or it doesn't have its intended consequences.

44

45 Thank you.

46

47 MR. BILL: Thank you. You just
48 answered a question that I was going to ask without
49 saying it. Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any Regional
2 Council recommendations. Mr. Brown.

3

4 MR. BROWN: (In Yup'ik)

5

6 TRANSLATOR: It's been a while, since
7 last year, that we talked about and hearing the word
8 dipnet. As for myself, living at the mouth of the
9 Kuskokwim, and you guys know that my area the water is
10 not -- the clarity is not like -- seven to nine knots
11 is the current. That's how fast it is, but once the
12 current stops it does change at the same speed, seven
13 to eight knots. At my village, the mouth of the
14 Kuskokwim, we cannot even leave a setnet there.

15

16 When Ray Baxter was a biologist, when
17 they used to test the -- they used to have a short
18 setnet and his setnet would be along the bank. In
19 addition, the water at the mouth of the Kuskokwim is
20 not clear. It's mostly muddy and this is how far
21 clarity where you could see on the bottom of the river.
22 The river is pretty deep and it's very -- to fish very
23 careful because a part of it is deep and the cut bank
24 is really deep, like 70 to 90 feet depth.

25

26 When I used to navigate a tugboat at
27 that time, 70 to 90 feet depth. For that reason I
28 don't think this is going to be a useful proposal on
29 dipnet for us people on the mouth of the Kuskokwim
30 because our village is a couple hours inland from the
31 Kuskokwim and we use a lot of gasoline to get to the
32 fishing grounds to the mouth of the river. The same
33 way we use a lot of gas going back to Eek, to my
34 village.

35

36 So it's not going to work for us and
37 you guys all know and understand I used to dipnet when
38 the smelt would arrive. Sometimes I didn't catch a
39 lot, but for that reason I'm not supporting this
40 proposal.

41

42 Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council
45 recommendations.

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. This is a
48 point of clarification. This is just another thing
49 that will add to your tools to fish. That's all it is.
50 It doesn't say you have to use a dipnet. Let's make it

1 clear. It's just another tool that you can use. It's
2 never been clarified.

3

4 (In Yup'ik)

5

6 TRANSLATOR: I think the use of dipnet
7 is not written on the proposal, but it's not written
8 for you guys to use dipnet. If you guys want to use
9 the dipnet, it's up to you guys to use.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you for your
12 clarification, Mr. Aloysius. Is there any
13 recommendations or a motion from the Regional Council.

14

15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we support

20 FP15-06.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion has been
23 made to support 15-06. Do I hear a second.

24

25 MR. ONEY: Second the motion.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
28 Oney. Any further discussion. I think you know we're
29 taking into consider both 06 and 07, but your
30 motion.....

31

32 MR. ALOYSIUS: I made a motion for only
33 06.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. That's
36 clear. Motion was only for 06. Any further
37 discussion.

38

39 MR. CHARLES: Question.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question is
42 called for. Roll call vote, please.

43

44 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. For FP15-06.

45 William Brown.

46

47 (No comment)

48

49 MR. ONEY: James Charles.

50

1 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
2
3 MR. ONEY: John Andrew.
4
5 MR. J. ANDREW: No.
6
7 MR. ONEY: Michael Peters.
8
9 MR. PETERS: No.
10
11 MR. ONEY: Lester Wilde, Sr.
12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
14
15 MR. ONEY: Paul Manumik, absent.
16 Anthony Ulak.
17
18 MR. ULAK: No.
19
20 MR. ONEY: Harry Wilde, Sr.
21
22 MR. H. WILDE: No.
23
24 MR. ONEY: Mary Gregory, absent.
25 Raymond Oney, yes. Greg Roczicka, absent. Robert
26 Aloysius.
27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
29
30 MR. ONEY: David Bill, Sr.
31
32 MR. BILL: No.
33
34 MR. ONEY: William Brown.
35
36 MR. BROWN: No.
37
38 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman, we have seven
39 no, three yes. Motion fails on 15-06.
40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion fails. We
42 are down to FP15-07. That was just for 15-06.
43
44 MR ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
47
48 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we take no
49 action on FP15-07.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion has been
2 made to take no action on 07. Do I hear a second.

3

4 MR. CHARLES: Second.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
7 Charles. Any further discussion.

8

9 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question has
12 been called for. Any opposition.

13

14 (No opposing votes)

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So ordered. We
17 will recess for tonight. It's 6:10. We'll adjourn in
18 the morning at 9:00. You can leave your material here
19 if you don't want to take it home and study it. We'll
20 start again in the morning at 9:00 o'clock.

21

22 (Off record)

23

24 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, 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 2 through 154 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the YUKON KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING taken electronically on the 14th day of October 2014;

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 5th day of November 2014.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/18