

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

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME I

7
8
9 City of Mountain Village Community Hall
10 Mountain Village, Alaska
11 February 23, 2011
12 9:00 a.m.

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- 21
22 Lester Wilde, Chairman
23 Greg Roczicka
24 John Andrew
25 Robert Aloysius
26 Noah Andrew
27 William Brown
28 James Charles
29 Raymond Oney
30 Evan Polty
31 Aloysius Unok
32 Harry Wilde
33
34 Regional Council Coordinator, Alex Nick

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Mountain Village, Alaska - 2/23/2011)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It is now 9:15.
We'll call this meeting to order. Roll call, please,
Alex.

MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Present.

MR. NICK: William Brown. William
Brown.

MR. BROWN: Present.

MR. NICK: James Charles.

MR. CHARLES: Here.

MR. NICK: Noah M. Andrew, Sr.

MR. N. ANDREW: Here.

MR. NICK: Evan K. Polty, Sr.

MR. POLTY: Here.

MR. NICK: Harry Wilde, Sr.

MR. H. WILDE: Here.

MR. NICK: Raymond Oney.

MR. ONEY: Here.

MR. NICK: Mary Gregory. Mr. Chair.
Mary Gregory made the last minute decision not to
attend. She wanted to be excused.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

MR. NICK: Aloysius Unok.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He's here.

MR. NICK: Greg Roczicka.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Here.
2
3 MR. NICK: Robert Aloysius.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Robert Aloysius, Sr.
6 Present.
7
8 MR. NICK: John Andrew.
9
10 MR. ANDREW: Here.
11
12 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. You have a
13 quorum.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Alex.
16 At this time we'll have an invocation. I'll ask my
17 brother Harry for the invocation, please.
18
19 MR. H. WILDE: (Invocation)
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. At this
22 time we'd like to -- have we arranged for anybody,
23 Alex.
24
25 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I need a couple
26 minutes to set this up, and then we'll be ready to go,
27 because there's at least a couple of people that would
28 like to conference in today.
29
30 Mr. Chair.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Go ahead,
33 Alex.
34
35 While Alex is getting ready, this is
36 for the public comments. The public comments are
37 welcome for each agenda item. If you have any
38 comments, please fill out a green card or a card like
39 this for testimony. This testimony form or be
40 recognized by the Chair. Public testimony time limits
41 will not be given today, because we don't have any --
42 it looks like we have a lot of time, and everybody will
43 be given an opportunity to testify or speak on any
44 subject that we may be covering, so if you want to
45 speak to the Council, just let us know and we'll be
46 recognizing you.
47
48 The times for the meeting each day, the
49 order of business and the agenda are estimated and are
50 subject to change without notice. Contact any of our

1 Staff at this meeting for the current agenda and
2 meeting schedule. And I don't think we will have any
3 evening sessions unless we are pressed for time.

4
5 The Regional Advisory Council arranges
6 its meetings to hear and understand the subsistence
7 concerns of the area where we meet, and please feel
8 free to share your subsistence concerns and knowledge
9 during the meeting.

10
11 Our agenda is an outline for the
12 meeting and is an open agenda, and is open to the areas
13 of subsistence concern whether it's listed on our
14 agenda or not. So if you have any concerns you have
15 about our subsistence or subsistence in your area, let
16 us know.

17
18 At this time we will welcome -- have
19 some welcoming remarks from our local official. Was
20 there a designated local official for the welcome. Oh,
21 Anita, the young lady here is the city manager. Do you
22 have any welcoming remarks?

23
24 EPHRIM: I guess on behalf of city
25 council I welcome all of you to be here, and I hope
26 that.....

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Get up in front.

29
30 EPHRIM: (In Yup'ik)

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

33
34 EPHRIM: Good morning.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning.

37
38 EPHRIM: Welcome to City of Mountain
39 Village. On behalf of being city council member, I
40 welcome all of you to be here to listen to our concerns
41 and I hope we will have more local people here that
42 need to hear things from you folks. It's good to see
43 you people, and I recognize half of the crew up here.
44 So, doi, the city's welcome.

45
46 And there's city office out there if
47 anybody needs anything, and there's a VPO close by just
48 in case somebody needs help.

49
50 Other than that -- do you have anything

1 else?

2

3 MS. ANDREWS: No.

4

5 EPHRIM: No. Thank you and enjoy the
6 day. Welcome to Mountain Village.

7

8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ephrim.

9

10 At this time we will have the election
11 of officers. Mr. Coordinator. Alex, we'll turn the
12 chair over to you.

13

14 MR. NICK: Thank you. Mr. Chair. The
15 general rule is for a coordinator to chair the election
16 of Chairman, and then the chair is turned over to the
17 new Chair or re-elected Chair.

18

19 We'll begin. The floor is now open for
20 nomination of Chairman. Mr. Unok.

21

22 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chair. I would nominate
23 the same Chair we have in the past. That worked.

24

25 MR. NICK: Mr. Lester Wilde has been
26 nominated.

27

28 MR. J. ANDREW: Second.

29

30 MR. NICK: It's been seconded. And
31 then are there any more election for Chair. Any more
32 nominations for Chair.

33

34 MR. BROWN: I move that nominations be
35 closed.

36

37 MR. NICK: There's been a motion by Mr.
38 William F. Brown to close the nominations. Do I hear a
39 second.

40

41 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion.

42

43 MR. NICK: Seconded by James Charles.
44 Discussion on the motion.

45

46 MR. J. ANDREW: Question.

47

48 MR. NICK: The question's been called
49 for. Since we're doing this -- I'm going to ask for a
50 show of hands to vote on the motion. The motion is to

1 retain Mr. Wilde as the Chair. All those in favor
2 raise your right hand. All opposing, same sign.

3

4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

5

6 MR. NICK: Mr. Aloysius.

7

8 MR. ALOYSIUS: The motion was to close
9 nominations. There was no motion for.....

10

11 MR. NICK: I haven't chaired the
12 meeting for a long time. Sorry. I stand corrected.
13 The motion was to close nominations.

14

15 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

16

17 MR. NICK: Mr. Roczicka.

18

19 MR. ROCZICKA: Since there is only one
20 nomination, I request unanimous consent be shown for
21 the record that Lester Wilde is maintained as Chairman.

22

23 MR. NICK: I'm sorry, I did not hear
24 that motion.

25

26 MR. ROCZICKA: I requested a vote of
27 unanimous consent being as we have only one nominee.

28

29 MR. NICK: Okay. That there's.....

30

31 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chairman, if you're
32 going to go by Robert's Rules, then have to go by
33 Robert's Rules. You're not going to be jumping around.
34 The motion was to close the nominations, and that was
35 the motion on the floor. And you ask for a vote on
36 that motion.

37

38 MR. NICK: A member has made a nom --
39 rather a motion to ask for unanimous consent to re-
40 elect Mr. Wilde as the chair.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, there was
43 motion prior to that to close the nominations.

44

45 MR. NICK: Yes, that's been taken care
46 of already. But I think I heard.....

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: That was not taken care
49 of, because the word you said was to have Mr. Wilde
50 continue to be the chair. There was no motion to that

1 effect. The motion is still the one that Mr. Brown
2 made to close the nominations. And you ask for a vote
3 on it.....

4
5 MR. NICK: Mr. Aloysius, that has been
6 voted on.

7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

9
10 MR. NICK: That has been voted on
11 already. It was voted on by show of hands. I.....

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: It was not voted on.

14
15 MR. NICK: I stood correct.....

16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: It was not.

18
19 MR. NICK: Okay. We'll start over
20 then.

21
22 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Good idea.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, the motion is
25 simple, that nominations be closed. That's the motion
26 we're voting on.

27
28 MR. NICK: I'm getting confused. Okay.
29 I think the best thing to do at this point is to start
30 over again.

31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's no need to start
33 over. All we have to do is vote on the motion.

34
35 MR. NICK: Well, since there's been
36 opposition to what's been done, I think it's best to go
37 ahead and start over. Start the nominations, so we
38 start over.

39
40 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chair.

41
42 MR. NICK: Mr. Unok.

43
44 MR. UNOK: There's no need to start
45 over. What he's saying is he closed.....

46
47 MR. NICK: The nominations.

48
49 MR. UNOK: The nominations only.

50

1 MR. NICK: And there was only one
2 person nominated.
3
4 MR. UNOK: Yes.
5
6 MR. NICK: And what I heard Mr.
7 Roczicka said earlier was to ask for unanimous consent.
8 Is that correct?
9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: That's correct, but to
11 be exact with it, you should have asked if there was
12 any objection to closing the nominations, and with no
13 objection, then the next motion for the unanimous
14 consent would be in order.
15
16 MR. NICK: Okay.
17
18 MS. ARMSTRONG: So just start there.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: If you're going to go by
21 Robert's Rules, you're going to go by Robert's Rules,
22 period.
23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chairman.
25
26 MR. NICK: I'll let Helen explain the
27 process.
28
29 MS. ARMSTRONG: So ask if there's no
30 objection to closing the nominations. Do you want to
31 go back that far? Should we do that?
32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
34
35 MR. NICK: Okay. Even though you voted
36 on the motion, are there any objections for closing the
37 nominations at this time.
38
39 (No objections)
40
41 MR. NICK: So what's the Council's
42 wishes at this point? Do you want to start over
43 or.....
44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If I may, Mr.
46 Chairman, may I make a suggestion that you vote on the
47 motion to close the nominations first and then go on
48 with the rest of the business. The motion at the time
49 that was not voted on was to close the nominations.
50 The vote was when you had a show of hands was to keep

1 me on, but there was no vote on the motion that was
2 made by Mr. Brown. So the motion that's still standing
3 with a second and not voted on was to close
4 nominations. And if you get back to that and then go
5 forward, then we'll be okay.

6
7 MR. NICK: Okay. We'll get to that.
8 The motion on the floor is to close the nominations.
9 Are there any objections to that?

10
11 (No objections)

12
13 MR. NICK: If not, then vote is that.
14 Those all in favor of the motion raise your right hand.

15
16
17 (Council unanimous)

18
19 MR. NICK: All opposing, same sign.

20
21 (No one opposing)

22
23 MR. NICK: Motion passes. Now going
24 back to Mr. Roczicka's motion. What is the motion, Mr.
25 Roczicka.

26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: It was at the time, yes.

28
29
30 MR. NICK: You want to restate your
31 motion, please.

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. I would move for
34 unanimous consent for Lester Wilde to be retained at
35 Chairman.

36
37 MR. NICK: There's a motion on the
38 floor, if I understand it correctly, to retain Mr.
39 Wilde as the Chair. Is there a second.

40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: There's already been a
42 nomination and a second for his being the Chair.

43
44 MR. NICK: So I'm getting confused here
45 a little bit.

46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: So ask them if all in
48 favor of -- so there was a motion and there was a
49 second, so now you can.....

50

1 MR. NICK: Who was seconding -- who
2 seconded Mr. Roczicka's motion to retain Mr. Wilde? I
3 didn't hear any second. (In Yup'ik)
4
5 MR. UNOK: Second.
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Unok seconded the
8 motion.
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Question.
11
12 MR. NICK: The question's been called
13 for. All those in favor of the motion raise your right
14 hand.
15
16 (Council unanimous)
17
18 MR. NICK: All opposing, same sign.
19
20 (No one opposing)
21
22 MR. NICK: Motion passes. Mr. Wilde,
23 congratulations. That was a trying time for me.
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Thank
26 you for your confidence, gentlemen.
27
28 Now continue on with our business. At
29 this time we will be voting for Vice Chair. Any
30 nominations for Vice Chair.
31
32 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Oney, go ahead.
35
36 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
37 Chairman. I nominate Greg Roczicka for Vice Chair.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Greg Roczicka has
40 been nominated.
41
42 MR. J. ANDREW: Second.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
45 Andrew. Any further nominations. Any further
46 nominations for Vice Chair.
47
48 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. I move to
49 close the nominations.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
2 to close nominations. Do I hear a second.
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: Second.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr. --
7 was that you, Mr. Aloysius? Yeah, Mr. Aloysius
8 seconded the motion.
9
10 All in favor of the motion say aye.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed, same
15 sign.
16
17 (No opposing votes)
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
20 Greg, you're now the old new Vice Chair.
21 Congratulations.
22
23 We're down to Secretary. Nominations
24 for Secretary. Mr. Oney.
25
26 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. I vote for
27 John Andrew. John Andrew's been nominated for
28 Secretary. Do I hear a second.
29
30 MR. UNOK: Second
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
33 Unok. Any further nominations.
34
35 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chair. I move to close
36 nominations.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Motion's
39 been made to close nominations. Do I hear a second.
40
41 MR. BROWN: Second.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
44 Brown. Any further discussion. There being none, all
45 in favor say aye.
46
47 IN UNISON: Aye.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
50

1 (No opposing votes)
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
4 Thank you. Congratulations, Mr. Andrew.
5
6 MR. J. ANDREW: Quyana.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do we have any
9 housekeeping items and announcements. Mr. -- I forgot
10 your name now.
11
12 (Laughter)
13
14 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.
17
18 MR. NICK: After my experience, I'm not
19 sure how well I will do on this, but, yes, Mr.
20 Chair.....
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, we all have
23 those times.
24
25 MR. NICK:we do have housekeeping
26 items.
27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So don't feel bad
29 about it.
30
31 MR. NICK: First of all I'd like to
32 welcome a couple of new members to the Regional
33 Advisory Council: Mr. Noah M. Andrew, he's from
34 Tuluksak.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Welcome, Noah.
37
38 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you.
39
40 MR. NICK: And Mr. Evan Polty from
41 Pilot Station.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Welcome, Evan.
44
45 MR. NICK: These two gentlemen are new
46 members on the RAC, and you're welcome to this Council.
47
48 Mr. Chair. I do have a couple of
49 things that I wanted to mention. First of all, I'd
50 like to apologize for failing to make this meeting

1 happen in St. Mary's for the second time in a row after
2 you requested to meet in St. Mary's. Logistics has
3 been done in St. Mary's. Unfortunately they did not
4 meet the policy we have for the community to have a --
5 rather be registered in CCR. And because the time was
6 getting really tight for us, we had no choice but to
7 relocate the meeting to Mountain Village.

8

9 Mr. Chair. At this time I would like
10 to thank the Community of Mountain Village for working
11 with me very closely, especially Anita Andrews, if
12 she's still here, as she worked very hard to work with
13 the community to make this meeting happen. And I
14 applaud her for doing that.

15

16 And also there's a couple of people
17 that would like to be placed on the agenda: North
18 Pacific Fishery Management Council and -- rather,
19 organizations or agencies. North Pacific Fishery
20 Management Council and George Weekley -- I forgot what
21 your.....

22

23 MR. WEEKLEY: SWCA.

24

25 MR. NICK: SWCA?

26

27 MR. WEEKLEY: Yes.

28

29 MR. NICK: He's the one that came to
30 your meeting in Bethel about a year or so ago. They're
31 doing contract to I believe doing a wildlife harvest
32 survey up and down the Yukon River. He would also like
33 to be placed on the agenda.

34

35 And for your information, I was told by
36 Anita, I don't know if she's still here, that
37 transportation has been arranged for those of you who
38 would like to go to store or go elsewhere in the
39 community during the time you're here. Even to
40 airport. Transportation to airport.

41

42 And also this evening there will be I
43 believe fund raising dinner. You are all welcome to go
44 eat at that fund raising dinner this evening. I'm not
45 sure what the charge is going to be, but we will
46 announce that later on today.

47

48 I believe that's just about all I've
49 got at this time. Mr. Chair.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Alex.
2
3 Mr. Aloysius, go ahead.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I would request
6 that everybody turn their cell phones off, because
7 we're here at a very important meeting and I don't
8 appreciate having to be disturbed by cell phones.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,
11 Mr. Aloysius. I was going to make the same suggestion.
12
13 Any further discussion from the Council
14 before I get going to introductions. Mr. James.
15
16 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. Yeah, I'd
17 like to know who all is here from the Staff and our
18 visitors. About introduction.
19
20 Thank you.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, if you would
23 have waited just a few more minutes, you would have
24 found out.
25
26 Any further discussion from the Council
27 before we go on to introductions. Mr. Unok.
28
29 MR. UNOK: You got a phone number for
30 the drivers? How we get ahold of them.
31
32 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.
33 Unok. That information will be provided later on after
34 it's given to me.
35
36 And also North Pacific Fishery
37 Management Council would like to be moved up on the
38 agenda if possible, Mr. Chair.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: When we get to the
41 agenda we'll have that discussion.
42
43 Any further discussion from you. No.
44
45 Mr. Brown.
46
47 MR. BROWN: Yeah. I have a common cold
48 and I had a hard time walking. I get sweat. I need
49 some transportation to walk.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. That can be
2 taken care of by talking with one of the -- with Anita
3 or go next door. They'll make arrangements for you
4 next door at the city office.

5
6 Anything else from the Council before
7 we go into introductions.

8
9 (No comments)

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, we'll go
12 into introductions, starting from the young man sitting
13 under those pictures back there and working this way.
14 Starting from you way back there.

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
17 away from microphone) Mountain Village.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. And back
20 there, the gentleman standing already, what's you're
21 name.

22
23 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: (Indiscernible,
24 away from microphone), Alakanuk.

25
26 MR. WILLIAMS: Brian Williams from
27 Alakanuk.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa.

30
31 MR. THOMPSON: Thompson, Mountain
32 Village.

33
34 MR. HESS: Francis Hess, Mountain
35 Village.

36
37 MR. WALTERS: Clifford Walters,
38 Mountain Village.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Simon. The
41 gentleman here on the end. Simon.

42
43 MR. HARPER: (In Yup'ik) from Mountain
44 Village. I'm Simon Harper.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Simon Harper from
47 Mountain Village. Go ahead, Fred.

48
49 MR. BUE: Fred Bue, Fish and Wildlife
50 Service.

1 MR. PAPPAS: George Pappas, Fish and
2 Game.
3
4 MR. FIELDS: Duncan Fields with North
5 Pacific Fishery Management Council.
6
7 MR. HYDER: I'm Roy Hyder with North
8 Pacific Fishery Management Council, and I live in
9 Oregon.
10
11 MR. REARDEN: Spencer Rearden, Fish and
12 Wildlife Service.
13
14 MR. WEEKLEY: George Weekley, SWCA.
15
16 MR. MEARS: Jeremy Mears, Fish and
17 Wildlife Service.
18
19 MR. JAMES: Mike James, City
20 Administrator for the City of Alakanuk.
21
22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, OSM.
23
24 MS. KENNER: Pippa Kenner, OSM, which
25 is also Fish and Wildlife. The Office of Subsistence
26 Management.
27
28 DR. STRAM: Diana Stram, North Pacific
29 Fishery Management Council
30
31 MR. VIRDEN: Gene Virden, Bureau of
32 Indian Affairs, Regional Director.
33
34 MS. PETRIVELLI: Pat Petrivelli, BIA
35 subsistence anthropologist.
36
37 MR. NICK: Alex Nick, OSM, Bethel,
38 originally from Russian Mission.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Alex.
41 And the young lady over there with the purple shirt,
42 that's the city manager, Anita Andrews, from Mountain
43 Village. Okay.
44
45 Go ahead, starting with the Council,
46 starting with Mr. Ray Oney.
47
48 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
49 Chairman. Ray Oney, Alakanuk.
50

1 MR. J. ANDREW: John Andrew out of
2 Kwethluk.
3
4 MR. N. ANDREW: Noah Andrew, Tuluksak.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka, Bethel.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm Lester Wilde
9 from Hooper Bay.
10
11 MR. UNOK: Al Unok from Kotlik.
12
13 MR. H. WILDE: Harry Wilde from
14 Mountain Village.
15
16 MR. POLTY: Evan Polty from Pilot
17 Station.
18
19 MR. CHARLES: James Charles from
20 Tuntutuliak.
21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
23 Translation, my name is Robert Evan Aloysius. I'm from
24 Kalskag.
25
26 MR. BROWN: William Charlie Brown, Eek.
27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. I have
29 one request I would like to ask is that all our cell
30 phones be turned off, because we're going to have some
31 important discussion that we have.
32
33 And one thing that I would like to ask
34 the public here, if you have anything that you would
35 like to talk about, please don't start talking in this
36 while we're doing our business here. Find a corner
37 somewhere where you can be out of earshot so you don't
38 disturb us in our discussion of some of this important
39 information that we have.
40
41 Thank you.
42
43 What's that? Oh, I'm sorry. Our
44 recorder, could you please introduce yourself, too?
45
46 REPORTER: My name is Tina Hile, I'm
47 the recorder for this RAC.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you
50 very much, Tina. I forgot you.

1 (Laughter)
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Not really.
4
5 (Laughter)
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: At this time we'll
8 -- yes, ma'am.
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, Mr. Wilde.
11 I just wanted to make -- just to let people know, I
12 have people who have been asking me. I'm Helen
13 Armstrong. I'm the chief of anthropology at the Office
14 of Subsistence Management. People have said, where's
15 Larry Buklis, where's Tom Kron, where's Pete Probasco.
16 Larry Buklis is retiring, I thought you might want to
17 know that, in April, and so you won't see Larry up here
18 any more. He's moving somewhere to the Lower 48. And
19 Tom Kron is not retiring, but he had other meetings he
20 had to go to.
21
22 And this is only the second time I have
23 been to this Council meeting, but I have been with OSM
24 the longest. I've been there almost 20 years, so I am
25 delighted to be here. I think this is a wonderful
26 Council to visit, and I wanted to on behalf of the
27 Federal Staff thank you all for welcoming us so nicely.
28 And the dancing last night, the potluck, it was just
29 wonderful. So we're very, very happy to be here.
30
31 And I also wanted to just make a
32 comment about one of our Staff members, Spencer
33 Rearden, who's been a wildlife biologist with us, is
34 leaving us in March sometime I think. He's going to be
35 moving back to Bethel and be a wildlife biologist here
36 for the refuge. So I thought you all would be
37 interested to know that. And while we will miss
38 Spencer, because he's been a great addition to our
39 Staff, we're very happy that he will be working still
40 with Fish and Wildlife Service and on important
41 wildlife issues.
42
43 So we're in the process of hiring two
44 new wildlife biologists, because we have Pete DeMatteo
45 also retired, who I think many of you also know.
46
47 Thank you very much.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, thank you.
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Who's on teleconference?
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Alex, is
4 somebody -- is there anybody on teleconference,
5 listening to us on the phone?
6
7 MR. JIMMIE: Yeah. Good morning. This
8 is Michael Jimmie. I'm calling, I'm listening in.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
11
12 REPORTER: Who was it?
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Michael Jimmie.
15 Michael, could you repeat, please?
16
17 REPORTER: No, that's okay.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Michael.
20 Is there anyone else?
21
22 MR. JIMMIE: In the Emmonak Tribal
23 Council. I'm the natural resource specialist, and I'm
24 listening into conference.
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Michael.
27 I was just asking if there was anyone else on the
28 phone.
29
30 MR. JIMMIE: I'm the only one here so
31 far. I had notices posted, but I'm the only one so
32 far.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
35 At this time we'll go down to -- if there's anything,
36 nothing else coming that's important prior to the time
37 that we'll get to the agenda. Mr. Nick.
38
39 MR. NICK: Yes. Mr. Chair. I think
40 later on this morning or this afternoon AVCP will go on
41 line.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
44
45 At this time we're going down to review
46 the agenda. The agenda is as follows.
47
48 Item 8, review and approve minutes from
49 September 30-October 1st, 2010 meeting.
50

1 Item 9, Council Appointments. We need
2 to appoint in Item A representative for the Lower
3 Yukon to Coordinating Fisheries Committee; and Item B,
4 appoint members to the Tri-Council Customary Trade
5 Subcommittee.

6
7 Item 10 is Council concerns and
8 comments.

9
10 Item 11, we'll have a Chair's report on
11 the .805(c) report.

12
13 Item 12 is wildlife closure review and
14 Council recommendations. Item A, closure review
15 briefing. Item B, closure policy. Item C, WCR 10-39,
16 Unit 19A moose.

17
18 Item 13, call for proposals to change
19 Federal subsistence wildlife regulations.

20
21 Item 14, salmon bycatch in
22 groundfisheries. A under 14 is Bering Sea/Aleutian
23 Islands groundfisheries. Item B, information session
24 on North Pacific Fishery Management Council Staff.
25 Item C is Gulf of Alaska.

26
27 Item 15, review and finalize draft 2010
28 annual report.

29
30 Item 16, Council Charter review.

31
32 Item 17, agency and organization
33 reports. Under 17 is A, Office of Subsistence
34 Management will be reporting on update on travel
35 procedures. Item 2, Secretarial program review update
36 and actions needed. Under that is small letter a,
37 letter from Secretary to Federal Subsistence Board
38 Chair Tim Towarak. Item b, Federal Subsistence Board
39 action items. i, expansion of Board to include two new
40 members representing rural Alaskan subsistence users.
41 No. ii is deference to Councils on items other than
42 matters of take; that's informational, no action
43 needed. And iii item, I don't know what that little
44 three i's means, but anyway it's iii, review of
45 memorandum of understanding. Under that is, a,
46 briefing document; b, memorandum of understanding.
47 Item 4 is customary and traditional use determinations.
48 Under item numeral 4 is a, is current process working
49 for you? b, if not, how or what would you change?
50 Item numeral 5 is rural determination. Roman numeral 6

1 is executive session policy. Item 7 is tribal
2 consultation, outline of process to date. Item a under
3 numeral 7 is letter from Tim Towarak to all Council
4 members. Item 8 is other. 3 under 17 is summary of
5 January 5, 2011 Federal Subsistence Board executive
6 session.

7

8 Item B under 17 is U.S. Fish and
9 Wildlife Service. No. 1 under B is Yukon Delta Refuge.
10 Item 2 is Togiak Refuge. Item C, migratory birds.

11

12 17.C is Bureau of Land Management.
13 17.D, Alaska Department of Fish and Game. 17.E,
14 Association of Village Council Presidents. Item F,
15 Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association. Item G,
16 Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council.

17

18 Item H, Tribal representatives. Under
19 that is Orutsararmuit Native Council Natural Resources.
20 And Item 2 is Kuskokwim Native Association.

21

22 Item I, municipal governments. J is
23 ANCSA village corporations. K is Bering Sea
24 Fisherman's Association. L is other organizations that
25 would like to have any reports.

26

27 Under 18 is other business. Confirm
28 fall 2011 Council meeting date and location. 18.B,
29 select winter 2012 Council meeting date and location.

30

31 19 is closing comments. And Item 20 is
32 adjourn.

33

34 We don't have any proposals to work on
35 at this time or at this meeting. So it will mostly be
36 reports I guess.

37

38 Are there any changes to the agenda.
39 Now is the time for people that would like to move
40 their agenda items up to discuss the agenda.

41

42 DR. STRAM: Mr. Chairman, members of
43 the Council. If it's at all possible to move the
44 salmon bycatch item up in your agenda, we would really
45 appreciate it.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: To the top of our
48 agenda?

49

50 DR. STRAM: Yes, please. We're trying

1 to get out on a flight.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any
4 suggestions, Council, on moving up the -- what was that
5 request?

6

7 DR. STRAM: The salmon bycatch agenda
8 item with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Salmon
11 bycatch agenda item.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Where was that?
16 What subject was that under that?

17

18 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Roczicka.

21

22 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I
23 saw that, that's under Item 14, and we could probably
24 accommodate that by switching places with Item 12, and
25 move it up. So that would be the beginning of the
26 reports.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Would that
29 be sufficient?

30

31 DR. STRAM: (Nods affirmatively)

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We'll move
34 bycatch information, Item 14, to 12 and move 12 to 14,
35 if that's okay with the Council.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. That's how
40 it will be. Anything else. Mr. Roczicka.

41

42 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Our
43 coordinator also mentioned that Mr. Weekley had his
44 report on the Yukon big game harvest study that they've
45 been doing. And, let's see, add it onto the agenda.
46 Probably somewhere within the agency/ organization
47 reports, perhaps right before Item C.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that?

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Unless is there any
2 suggestions for where that might fit in? Just put it
3 in, have him give it under agency/organization reports.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Which item was
6 that?

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: It was one requested by
9 Alex that was brought forward. We have an individual
10 here to give a report on the Yukon River big game. Mr.
11 Weekley.

12
13 MR. WEEKLY: Yes, I would like to be
14 placed on the agenda for the -- to provide a report on
15 our study.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And you were just
18 suggesting where, Greg?

19
20 MR. ROCZICKA: I was looking for game
21 issues or a wildlife section to put it into, but
22 there's not really one, is there. Maybe we could add
23 him in following Item B, after the Fish and Wildlife
24 Service and right before C, Bureau of Land Management.
25 Maybe insert it there.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Under 17?

28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Under 17, at the end of
30 B and before C.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: At the end of B and
33 before C. Any problems with that, Council.

34
35 (No comments)

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And that's a big
38 game -- what was that, again? Big game what?

39
40 MR. WEEKLEY: Subsistence harvest
41 study.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Subsistence
44 harvest under -- how about directly under B. Just a
45 minute. Let me settle with this guy here.

46
47 MR. WEEKLEY: That's fine.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And how soon do you
50 need to leave?

1 MR. WEEKLEY: I think my flight is 3:00
2 o'clock tomorrow.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Tomorrow? Oh,
5 yeah, we'll take -- you'll be okay. We could put you
6 way down on the bottom of the list, you'd still be
7 okay.

8
9 MR. WEEKLEY: Thank you.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We need to
12 put you in a place, so where did you put him, Greg.

13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Could I
15 make a suggestion.

16
17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: I have two suggestions
20 actually. When you swapped the salmon bycatch with the
21 closure reviews, we'd actually like to keep the closure
22 review before the call for proposals, so just have
23 salmon bycatch be number 12 and then have the closure
24 reviews be number 13.

25
26 And then I'd like to suggest that the
27 wildlife, this report from Mr. Weekly go before the
28 call for proposals in case there's anything that comes
29 out of the closure review section or his report that
30 would make you want to do something in a wildlife
31 proposal.

32
33 So my suggestion is, to go back, number
34 12 would be salmon bycatch, number 13 would be wildlife
35 closure review, number 14 by SWCA's report on the large
36 mammal Yukon subsistence study, and then number --
37 let's see, was I on 15? 15 be the call for proposals,
38 and then we continue on after that.

39
40 Did you follow me? Do you want me to
41 do it again?

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm a little
44 confused here. Could you?

45
46 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'll say it again.
47 Okay. Salmon bycatch, then wildlife closure review,
48 then SWCA, and then call for proposals. And then we
49 continue on as in the agenda.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No call for
2 proposals under the closure review briefing?
3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's after the closure
5 review briefing.
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. After the
8 closure policy?
9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes.
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Or directly after
13 c, after the moose?
14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes. But I would like
16 to insert SWCA before the call.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Put a d in there
19 for?
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: You could do -- it's
22 not part of wildlife -- if you put a -- a d is fine,
23 yeah. SWCA.
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Put a d under 14
26 for wildlife study.
27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: SWCA subsistence
29 report.
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. W
32 subsistence report. An Item d under 14, subsistence
33 report.
34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: That probably makes it
36 the easiest, instead of changing the numbers. Yeah.
37 And then salmon bycatch before all of that.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.
40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay?
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right.
44
45 MS. ARMSTRONG: I think that way we get
46 the information that -- I don't know, but you have
47 before we get to the call for proposals.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. If I do get
50 a little mixed up on the agenda, somebody still remind

1 me when we get to the time.
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right. Thank you
4 very much.
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.
7
8 MR. WEEKLEY: Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa, can we do
11 something for you?
12
13 MS. KENNER: (Shakes head no)
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No. Mr. Bue. Or
16 either one of you. Mr. Bue, go ahead.
17
18 MR. BUE: Yeah, good morning. Thank
19 you, Mr. Chairman. You don't really have anything for
20 me, fisheries, Yukon River Fish and Wildlife Service on
21 the agenda slot here, but I guess I don't see Steve
22 Hayes or anybody with Alaska Fish and Game. And what
23 we had was a joint piece of paper here, a flyer, just
24 informational, and so my suggestion was I could speak
25 to that under agency reports, Alaska Department of Fish
26 and Game, since it's a joint paper that we submitted
27 that we have copies of. It's on the table. But we
28 didn't make it in time to get it into your workbooks.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. How about
31 right under U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
32
33 MR. BUE: That's fine. Some place
34 there.
35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Item C.
37
38 MR. BUE: Yep.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Right under Item B
41 is 1 under U.S. -- oh, no, we have 1, 2. Well, we'll
42 just throw that in as Item A under U.S. Fish and
43 Wildlife Service. Is that okay. Fish report.
44
45 (No comments)
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other changes
48 on the agenda. Any additions. Mr. Nick.
49
50 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Just a point of

1 clarification for the audience who are here from other
2 places. When I prepared the agenda, and you know very
3 well about this, because, you know, we've gone through
4 this a lot, you'll notice that even though somebody's
5 not planning to attend, like for example AVCP and/or
6 maybe Yukon River Tribal Watershed Council, what I
7 usually do is leave a placeholder for those
8 organizations or agencies so that, you know, when they
9 pop up, you know, they'll be able to present their
10 issues if there's any.

11

12 Mr. Chair.

13

14 And for your information I talked to
15 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge Staff before I
16 leave Bethel and they told me possibly they will pop up
17 during this meeting to give you a little information on
18 moose survey in the area.

19

20 Mr. Chair.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Alex.
23 And for the audience, if you have any questions
24 regarding this agenda or need additional information,
25 please get ahold of Mr. Alex, and he could bring that
26 up to us.

27

28 Also for the public information, we
29 always have teleconferences upon request. You need to
30 get ahold of Alex prior to the time that these meetings
31 are held and his phone number, if you need it, we've
32 got it up here.

33

34 U.S. Fish and Wildlife is committed to
35 providing access to this meeting for all participants.
36 Please request any kind of sign language interpretation
37 or if you need -- I see at this time we don't have an
38 interpreter, but if you do, I'm sure that we could come
39 up with something. And if you need alternate format
40 for services because of disability, we've got an
41 address for you to get ahold of also.

42

43 Any questions.

44

45 (No comments)

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, we are down
48 to -- we have an agenda, and we are down, our first
49 agenda item now, okay, is review and approve the
50 minutes.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Aloysius.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adopt the
6 agenda.
7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair,
9 Mr. Aloysius, for the reminder. Second.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motions been
12 made to adopt the agenda.
13
14 MR. CHARLES: Second.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
17 Roczicka. What were you pointing to, Robert.
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: He's the one who
20 seconded it.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, I heard the
23 second from over here, but either one is fine.
24
25 All in favor of the motion say aye.
26
27 IN UNISON: Aye
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
30
31 (No opposing votes)
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
34 We have an agenda. Thank you, Robert.
35
36 At this time we have down to Item 8,
37 review and approve minutes from September 30th/October
38 1st, 2010 meeting. Any discussion on approval of
39 minutes of September 30th to October 1st.
40
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.
42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.
44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I
46 guess more of an informational. I received a copy of
47 an email, I was cc'd and Gene Sandone who's here
48 representing Lower Yukon Fisheries was fairly concerned
49 that he wasn't specifically mentioned in our minutes,
50 but I believe that's being taken care of

1 administratively, and those will be included. Alex
2 Nick, can you add some more in there?

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

5

6 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Gene Sandone did
7 communicate with me regarding that. It was my
8 oversight. I told him that I would make sure, I would
9 revise the draft minutes after you approve it.

10

11 Mr. Chair.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
14 discussion on draft minutes of September 30th to the
15 1st?

16

17 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

20

21 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we adopt the
22 -- I mean approve the minutes of September 30/October
23 1, 2010 meeting.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
26 to approve the minutes of September 30th meeting. Do I
27 hear a second.

28

29 MR. CHARLES: Second.

30

31 MR. BROWN: Second the motion.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
34 Brown. Don't shake your head, because I've got eyes, I
35 saw Mr. Brown raise his hand.

36

37 All in favor of the motion say aye.

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
42 sign.

43

44 (No opposing votes)

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.

47

48 Council appointments. We need to
49 appoint a representative for the Lower Yukon
50 Coordinating Fisheries Committee. I think at the time

1 we -- or prior to the time that Mr. Oney was reelected
2 on the Council.

3

4 MR. ONEY: You appoint the.....

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you turn on
7 your phone, please.

8

9 MR. ONEY: Oh, yeah. Thank you, Mr.
10 Chairman. I was just mentioning that at our last
11 meeting Al Unok was nominated to be the Yukon Fisheries
12 Committee coordinator.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. At the last
15 meeting. Was there an appointment to the Coordinating
16 Fisheries Committee at the last meeting.

17

18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

21

22 MR. NICK: Last meeting you remember
23 that Mr. Paul Manumik, Sr.'s term was ending or has
24 ended at the time. And during that time you appointed
25 -- rather -- I'll restate what I said, Mr. Chair. Last
26 meeting in Bethel when we discussed the Coordinating
27 Fisheries Committee, Ray Oney was the only one that was
28 serving on the Coordinating Fisheries Committee for
29 Lower Yukon. At that time Mr. Paul Manumik, Sr. was
30 serving as second CFC member for Lower Yukon, but his
31 term was ending. So if I heard correctly during the
32 last meeting, you appointed -- was it Al? Al Unok.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Al Unok?

35

36 MR. NICK: Yeah.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Was there another
39 one besides him that was appointed?

40

41 MR. NICK: No. There was.....

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So we need at least
44 -- how many more people do we need on there.

45

46 MR. NICK: The Coordinating Fisheries
47 Committee is serving on as-needed basis for the Lower
48 Yukon at this time, and when you need to, you send
49 those people to meetings.

50

1 And, Helen, if you're here, if you
2 could help me out a little bit, Helen.

3
4 But anyway right now in the Lower Yukon
5 you usually have a couple of members. If you remember,
6 Mr. Hoelscher was a member, but he resigned from the
7 position -- I mean, from the RAC and he left a vacant
8 position. And that was filled by your appointment.

9
10 Mr. Chair.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Are
13 there any preferences on who the Council would like
14 representing on the Yukon Fisheries Committee. If
15 not.....

16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Two members.....

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Nick.

20
21 MR. NICK: Yeah. In the Lower Yukon
22 River I think there's usually two members.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, there is
25 usually two.

26
27 MR. NICK: Two CFC members.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So at this time,
30 are you still interested in retaining your seat on the
31 Coordinating Fisheries Committee, Mr. Oney.

32
33 MR. ONEY: Yeah, if the Council wants
34 to appoint me, I'll be glad to serve on that.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. You will
37 serve on there. So you and Mr. -- if it's all right
38 with the rest of the Council, for the Yukon
39 Coordinating Fishery Committee we'll have Mr. Unok and
40 Mr. Oney, if that's okay.

41
42 (No comments)

43
44 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

47
48 MR. NICK: Yeah. I stand corrected.
49 Your last meeting minutes indicates that after your
50 brief discussion about a vacant seat on the CFC

1 membership, the Chair appointed Mr. Manumik to fill
2 current vacant seat on Lower Yukon.

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

5

6 MR. NICK: So there were -- I mean,
7 that was your appointment.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. At this
10 time, I think if it's all right with the Council, we'll
11 appoint Mr. Oney and Mr. Unok for the Yukon Fisheries
12 Coordinating Fisheries Committee.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We also need the
17 Coordinating Fishery Committee for the Kuskokwim, and
18 that's two more people. Who are the Kuskokwim. At one
19 time we had Mr. James and Mister.....

20

21 MR. NICK: Mr. James?

22

23 MR. NICK: Mr. James Charles and Mr.
24 Robert Aloysius. Do you two feel that you are able to
25 continue with that position as Coordinating Fisheries
26 Committee?

27

28 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmative.)

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Robert's okay.
31 What about you, James.

32

33 MR. CHARLES: (Nods affirmative)

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: At this time we'll
36 have Mr. James Charles and Mr. Robert Aloysius as the
37 Kuskokwim Coordinating Fisheries Committee's
38 appointment.

39

40 Okay. Now we're down to Item B. The
41 next appointments are going to be very, very important.
42 You know, Eastern Interior and Western Interior, they
43 have already appointed their three members to go to the
44 Customary Trade Subcommittee. We need to appoint three
45 members from the Yukon preferably to go onto that
46 Customary Trade Subcommittee for Yukon Salmon.

47

48 Yes, ma'am.

49

50 MS. ARMSTRONG: Could I just add a

1 little bit here about how that happened at the Board
2 meeting?

3

4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, ma'am, you
5 may. Thank you.

6

7 MS. ARMSTRONG: I just wanted to -- it
8 is in the book, but to point out to the Council
9 members that on Page 22 of your book where it
10 summarizes the Federal Subsistence Board actions.
11 Proposal 5 that was on customary trade, it's at the
12 bottom of Page 22, that was -- that proposal was
13 withdrawn by the proponent and the Board supported the
14 withdrawal that was submitted by Mountain Village
15 Working Group. And then Proposals 8 and 9, which were
16 on Pages 24 and 25, those proposals the Board decided
17 after much discussion, these were customary trade
18 proposals, that they wanted a subcommittee to work --
19 it says it right on the -- almost at the bottom of Page
20 25, just before it says FP11-09, that paragraph above,
21 it says, the Board's intent is to allow time for
22 subcommittee work and subsequent Council
23 recommendations as noted in the current recommendations
24 of Eastern Interior, Western Interior, Seward
25 Peninsula. So they wanted to have a Tri-Council
26 subcommittee and see what the subcommittee came up with
27 before the Board makes any actions on customary trade.
28 So as Mr. Wilde said, this is a really important
29 subcommittee and they wanted three members to make sure
30 we had good representation from all of the Councils.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We had
35 two proposals that we placed in for customary trade.
36 They referred those to the Tri-Council subcommittee, so
37 those two proposals that we had on customary trade that
38 we presented to the Board were deferred to that
39 subcommittee, and that's probably one of the -- a
40 couple other things that are going to be discussing on
41 the subcommittee. They're going to be meeting in
42 Anchorage.

43

44 Like I said, Eastern Interior has
45 already appointed three members. So has Western
46 Interior. We need to appoint three strong members from
47 this appointment, and they suggested that they be
48 members from the mainstem, which means they requested
49 that people from the main Yukon and not from Hooper Bay
50 be on that subcommittee. I guess there's one or two

1 people that didn't quite like some of the statements
2 that were made by your Chairman.

3

4 So at this time, if it's all right, if
5 there are no preferences, unless the Board has a
6 preference, I would like to appoint Mr. Oney and Mr. --
7 I'd like to keep, if it's all right, my brother Harry's
8 been involved with this for a long time. Harry, would
9 you take the position to get into that subcommittee?

10

11 MR. H. WILDE: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Oney, you?

14

15 MR. ONEY: (Nods affirmative)

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And either Mr. Unok
18 or Mr. Evan, one of you two. We need one of you guys
19 to get on that subcommittee. Would you be willing,
20 since you've been in here for a while? We'll give you
21 the option to say yes or not.

22

23 MR. UNOK: Yes.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Yes, Mr.
26 Aloysius.

27

28 MR. ALOYSIUS: Why are you limiting it
29 to the Yukon River?

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Because it's on the
32 customary trade on the Yukon River. It's a
33 subcommittee for the Yukon River salmon on customary
34 trade.

35

36 MR. ALOYSIUS: So in other words it's
37 okay for us to use customary trade in the Kuskokwim
38 River?

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, as long as
41 you're not -- there's no complaints about the salmon on
42 the Kuskokwim, and I guess they don't have no problems
43 with that.

44

45 MR. UNOK: Could I explain, too, why?

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah.

48

49 MR. UNOK: Mr. Aloysius, the reason why
50 they're doing this is our fish is declining fast and

1 they don't know where it's going, and some of us, the
2 Fish and Wildlife, Fish and Game know where the fish
3 are going. That's why it's happening.

4

5 MR. ALOYSIUS: We all know where the
6 fish are going, even on the Kuskokwim River. So I
7 don't any history on that. I was just wondering why
8 there was only a selection from the Yukon River.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The main stem

11

12 MR. ALOYSIUS: But now that I know it
13 is concern of the Yukon River, thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Just a
16 concern that the customary trade on the -- it was just
17 mainly on the Yukon River. We almost had one proposal
18 passed, but I don't think that was going -- that had
19 anything to do with some of the information that was
20 passed on to them.

21

22 Yes, Mr. Roczicka, you've got a
23 statement.

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. I
26 wanted to make it clear on this one, this is not going
27 to be dealing with biological issues on the status or
28 the failure of the king run. This is going to be
29 dealing specifically with how much is a significant
30 commercial enterprise. And the big difference on the
31 discussion that's going to be coming up on this is that
32 when we put that proposal in, we named a dollar value
33 in our proposal. It's been discussed in the past by
34 the Councils up and down, and nobody could ever come to
35 any agreement on it, and there wasn't any numbers. But
36 the Board this time specifically said, you will use
37 these numbers as a starting point, which we kind of
38 grabbed out of where they came from, actually it was an
39 OSM report that talked about an average amount of cash
40 value for subsistence sales in a Middle Yukon village,
41 I think it was Holy Cross that we used, or Galena, or
42 one of those. I know it was roughly \$1500. So we
43 split that between the rural users and then the rural
44 to non-rural sales to make it 1500 so there was a cap
45 on there. But it's not going to be dealing with
46 biological issues. It's really getting down to the
47 nitty gritty so you need to be up to speed on that, you
48 guys.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And not only that,

1 not only the description on the commercial enterprise,
2 but also the Board also stated that because of the
3 proposals that we put in for the prohibition of
4 customary trade at the time that subsistence is cut
5 off, they're going to be covering just more than that.
6 The subcommittee will be discussing other things
7 besides what is a commercial value, what is a
8 commercial enterprise. They're going to be discussing
9 those proposals that we also presented to them prior to
10 the time that they appointed that subcommittee. Those
11 two proposals that we put in for customary trade,
12 they're going to be discussing those also. I think so.
13

14 From what I gathered from the Board,
15 they felt that everything concerning customary trade
16 will be brought before that subcommittee, that's how it
17 stands right now.

18
19 Any questions.

20
21 (No comments)

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
24 We are down to council concerns and comment. You're
25 just in time.

26
27 MR. N. ANDREW: Just I need to -- I
28 need clarification on your subcommittee members.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Our subcommittee
31 members were appointed with their approval Mr. Oney,
32 Mr. Unok and Mr. Wilde.

33
34 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any further
37 council comments or concerns. Mr. Brown, do you have
38 any Council comments or concerns.

39
40 MR. BROWN: I already had a comment on
41 I have a common cold.

42
43 (Laughter)

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Brown's
46 comment is he's got a cold.

47
48 Mr. Aloysius.

49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Every now

1 and then we get reminded where we are sitting, that we
2 are an advisory council to the Federal Subsistence
3 Board. And too many times there's issues that do not
4 pertain to subsistence that we get wrapped up in, and
5 take up a lot of time. One thing we have to keep in
6 mind is that we're here to advise the Subsistence Board
7 on issues that pertain to the subsistence way of life
8 of our people in this area.

9
10 And contrary to western thinking, it's
11 not a lifestyle. We are governed by the seasons, and
12 that's something that's hard for them to understand.
13 We have no control over the seasons. We have no
14 control over nature. We harvest what nature provides
15 for us in four different times of the year. And that's
16 something we have to get across to the Board.

17
18 And the other thing that really upsets
19 me is the makeup of the Board, the Federal Subsistence
20 Board. When I first sat in front of them, I walked in
21 the room, and I said, if I had anything to say about
22 it, every one of you would be replaced by rural people.
23 Thirteen people, men and women who are elders of their
24 areas, who know what the subsistence way of life is,
25 who have been out there, in fall camp, and live out
26 there, winter camp, live out there, spring camp, live
27 out there, and fish camp, and live out there.

28
29 The Federal Subsistence Board is made
30 up of paper knowledge. They have no concept of what
31 it's like to be at the mercy of nature. The only thing
32 they understand is something that is written by
33 somebody else before them, by observation, but not by
34 living. And that's the thing that really upsets me.

35
36 The other thing is that they're
37 considering to add two more people to their Board.
38 What they should do instead is remove all the people up
39 there on the Board and replace them with people from
40 the 13 regions of Alaska and appoint one person from
41 BIA, one person from BLM to be advisors, because the
42 Native people of Alaska are the ones that know what
43 it's like to have and to live, hunt, fish, trap, gather
44 in a subsistence way of life.

45
46 And our philosophy is very simple.
47 It's just says one word, (In Yup'ik). But if you look
48 at it in a true sense, it covers everything. It means
49 the daily pursuit of food, shelter, clothing, comfort
50 and companionship by hunting, fishing, trapping and

1 You know, these are just some of the
2 things that I'm really concerned about.

3
4 The more and more I attend these
5 meetings, the more and more I go to other places, the
6 subsistence way of life is being chipped away, chipped
7 away, chipped away, chipped away. Whenever you have
8 something in front of you, remind yourself that what
9 good is it doing right now, but most importantly, what
10 is going to be the impact of it in the future. Not for
11 me or my children, but my children and their children's
12 children. That's something we have to think about.

13
14 Quyana.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Bob.
17 Your point's well taken, and I'm sure that those of us
18 sitting up here have the same belief you have. But as
19 far as the Board is concerned, that's beyond our
20 control, but it doesn't stop us from talking about it.

21
22 Thanks, Bob.

23
24 Next, Mr. James Charles, do you have
25 any comments.

26
27 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
28 I just want to thank U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for
29 the help we get from Fish and Wildlife Service over
30 there in Kuskokwim. Bob and I and Greg, we are with
31 the Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working Group. And
32 that makes our -- Fish and Wildlife Service helping
33 makes our work easier, because keeping the salmon or
34 trying to keep the salmon available for everybody over
35 there. It's not easy.

36
37 We used to fight all the time, too,
38 when we have Kuskokwim Salmon Management Working
39 Groups. Now we're working together and it makes things
40 easier. So these subsistence committee for Yukon is
41 going to do the same thing like us over there in
42 Kuskokwim. But we have a lot of tools now. It's not
43 like before, we had test fishing only to see how the
44 salmon runs are. Now we have weirs and all this other
45 technology, we have like sonars, too, and that helps
46 us. I just want to thank the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
47 Service for helping us fund those projects.

48
49 Thank you.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, James.
2 Mr. Evan, do you have any comments.
3
4 MR. POLTY: Since I'm new here, that I
5 don't have very comment. Probably further listening, I
6 will be aware of what the outcome is.
7
8 Mr. Chairman. Thank you.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
11 Evan. Mr. Wilde.
12
13 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Turn on your phone.
16 I mean your mic.
17
18 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. I
19 think there's some of us feel like elder and working
20 with elder. When I was young, I lost my parents. I
21 was 14 years old. I lived, I try to take care of my
22 younger sister and brothers. I subsist. It's very
23 hard when you're 14 years old, try to take care of your
24 family. Sometimes that I go out, I hunt when I didn't
25 catch, my tears running down. Today I am 81 years old.
26 I still go out there hunting. Survive for my family.
27
28 Sometime that I rather to be out there
29 than sitting and looking at papers like this. But I
30 appreciate the State and Federal. They've been helping
31 me a lot. I was very poor English speaker. I learned
32 from Fish and Game and Fish and Wildlife. They talk to
33 me really honest ways, such like honest way. What I
34 have learned, I try to pass it out to the other people.
35 I still want to learn some more.
36
37 Now I'm living in Mountain Village.
38 People here, they treat me very good. I work with
39 them. We do everything we can. So I appreciate what
40 they've been done here.
41
42 Thank you.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Your mic, Harry.
45 Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Mr. Unok.
46
47 MR. UNOK: My name is Al Unok. My
48 really name is Aloysius. It's my second year and I
49 respect my elders. I just be the youngest one here and
50 I'm still learning. I wouldn't argue with Mr.

1 Aloysius.

2

3 But what is really bothers me is
4 subsistence users right now are looking at money.
5 That's what's killing us right now. That's not right.
6 That's all I have to say.

7

8 Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
11 Unok. Mr. Roczicka, do you have any comments.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: Oh, just sharing the
14 frustrations I suppose to some degree. Right now I
15 guess the biggest problem I've seen with the whole
16 Federal management system, or that's come to light
17 actually is the Board and the Councils were set up with
18 a very good intent, but yet as we look at the
19 development evolve, we find out that actually the
20 management agencies hold no accountability and no
21 responsibility to that process either. And there needs
22 to be some definite changes made.

23

24 The Secretary made some very nice words
25 to AFN when he stated how the system was broken and it
26 needed to be fixed. I don't know if it was broken,
27 it's definitely crippled. However, that they want to
28 maintain the spirit and intent of Title VIII of ANILCA.

29

30 I see the Service and the management
31 agencies consistently disregarding that, and it was
32 like a huge slap in the face what they did last summer
33 with the Unimak situation. They had that information
34 for years they and sat on it and didn't do a damn
35 thing. And if that is their answer for providing for
36 subsistence, they're saying it's okay just to -- that's
37 just one little village here. They and go look without
38 for another couple years for those caribou, even though
39 it's quite a simple process with good scientific
40 background. Every bit of those criteria that are there
41 that they are supposed to defer to were met, and they
42 disregarded them. I don't know how much we can do
43 through this process, but just to let people know there
44 are efforts in the works to carry that farther and to
45 let that become more of a national issues. It is going
46 to be one of main subjects for the congressional
47 hearings that were recently requested by Senator Begich
48 and will also be carried forward to Senator Murkowski's
49 office out of D.C. through Senate Indian affairs and
50 the energy and natural resource committee.

1 But that is really where the failure,
2 just a huge failure of the system sits right now.

3
4 And like it or not, the world runs on
5 paper around us, we can -- hopefully it would go away,
6 but we've got to do the best we can with what we've got
7 and keep trying to make it better.

8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
10 Roczicka. Mr. Noah.

11
12 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman. Whenever the letter that I was selected, it
14 dawned on me I had to relearn again. It first came to
15 me as a youth what I learned. I feel that experience I
16 had, physically being out there, physically exercising
17 myself. Mr. Wilde spoke about the same situation I am
18 in.

19
20 There are four words that I will share
21 with you. I heard about all the problems we have. It
22 just dawned on me, an opportunity, man.

23
24 But let me share with you what an old
25 man shared with me when he first began to teach me of
26 believing. I will give it to you in four words.
27 Observe, comprehend, acknowledge, execute. Throughout
28 my lifetime I have exercised that. And now I know from
29 what I learned from my colleagues, my colleagues know
30 here around the table, I've known them and I've seen
31 them whenever I temporarily worked with them here and
32 there. I'm learning.

33
34 (In Yup'ik)

35
36 There's only four words, Mr. Chairman.
37 Observe. Comprehend. Acknowledge. Execute.

38
39 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
42 Noah. Was there anything that you said in Yup'ik that
43 should be recorded as recorder? Is there anything that
44 you said in Yup'ik that you should -- Since our
45 recorder only speaks Yup'ik -- English.

46
47 MR. N. ANDREW: Basically if you want
48 to know it, if you know the four words, observe,
49 comprehend, acknowledge and execute, they're all in
50 there. If I give it to you in English, it's going to

1 be -- if I want to make it a book, it could be a book.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, if there's
4 any points that you need, Tina, you could ask him. I'm
5 pretty sure he covered everything that he said in
6 Yup'ik.

7

8 REPORTER: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
11 Noah. Could you please turn off your mic.

12

13 Mr. Andrew, do you have any comments.

14

15 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman, members of the RAC. Staff.

17

18 (In Yup'ik)

19

20 First I'd like to thank the people of
21 Mountain Village for putting us up here and making this
22 meeting possible.

23

24 I've got several issues I want to bring
25 up today, because yesterday I had a very bad day from
26 the morning until we got here. I was ready to give up.
27 For starters I'd like to see the winter meetings Bethel
28 and the summer meetings in the villages, because it's a
29 little harder to get to other villages in the winter,
30 because of the individual airports are different.
31 Because I waited about two hours at our own airport
32 waiting out in the open weather. It was frustrating.
33 And Noah had the same story, too. And when we got to
34 Bethel, I tried calling out coordinator. I couldn't
35 get ahold of him, because I need to stop by at the
36 hospital to pick up medication. When we finally got
37 here, they took us down there to the lodging out here.
38 We got booted out and they put us up at the upper
39 Hilton.

40

41 And they had about four months to get
42 this meeting ready, and my frustration was not being
43 able to get anything on paper as far as our itineraries
44 and other information. I have a little better luck
45 calling Anchorage office. They always respond right
46 away. So much for that.

47

48 The other one I've got is on our
49 program we have no predator control program, because
50 some people have called me about wolves and bear

1 predation on moose calves and focus on caribou.
2 They're getting to the point sometimes moose when
3 they're running away from small wolf packs they come
4 right into our villages just to try to get away. And
5 the same thing on the caribou herds. Those wolf packs
6 when they chase them down, they just kill them and
7 leave them. I've seen that more than once. And I hear
8 the same stories from other hunters that go out after
9 caribou.

10

11 And on regulatory proposal our people
12 put in, we always put in in simple language subsistence
13 wildlife or subsistence fishery proposals. And after
14 they -- after we bring it up, the Staff Committee does
15 their work on it, and after other -- it's just like
16 these -- I had some notes in here, but I left it. Just
17 like this customary proposals on the Yukon, because
18 this is such a long river, you have the Lower Yukon,
19 the Middle and the Interior all fishing on the same
20 stock. And we put it -- we asked them in our proposal
21 in a very simple language, but the other people take it
22 and they write it up, they try to make it into
23 something else like they want to make it sound more
24 like a commercial enterprise. That's our frustration,
25 too. That's why the Federal Subsistence Board
26 recommended that they have a Tri-Council committee to
27 iron these out.

28

29 I share the same frustrations with Mr.
30 Aloysius over there.

31

32 (In Yup'ik)

33

34 Quyana. Thank you.

35

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

38

39 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 First of all I'd like to thank the Community of
41 Mountain Village for allowing us to conduct the meeting
42 here in Mountain Village. I'm hoping that the word is
43 out that we're here to hear any concerns relating to
44 the agenda that we have before us.

45

46 And also I'd like to welcome the
47 regional director from BIA. I guess this is the first
48 time we've had a BIA director attend this meeting, the
49 Y-K RAC meeting. I'm hoping that he'll listen to the
50 concerns that we have from our area and to relay the

1 message to whoever the people that need to hear our
2 concerns.

3

4 That's all I have. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.

7 Oney.

8

9 Before we go into our .805(c), we're
10 going to have a short 10-minute break.

11

12 (Off record)

13

14 (On record)

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We're go our next
17 agenda item, .805(c). After the .805(c) then we'll ask
18 the two people that would like to testify on the
19 bycatch to come up and speak.

20

21 At this time our agenda item's .805(c).
22 And where is our coordinator?

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Alex. Mr. Nick.

25

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

27 .805(c) is on Page 20 of your workbook. Do you want me
28 to read the whole thing, Mr. Chair?

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We've got time.

31

32 (Laughter)

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's kind of.....

35

36 MR. NICK: Okay. Board action report,
37 Federal Subsistence Board.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You don't need to
40 read the whole thing, just go over the highlights,
41 Alex.

42

43 MR. NICK: Okay. Federal Subsistence
44 Board meting, January 18 to 20, 2011. Yukon Northern
45 Area.

46

47 FP-01. Description, requested that
48 all gillnets with greater than 6-inch mesh, stretch
49 mesh, be restricted to not much more than 35 meshes in
50 depth in Federal public waters of the Yukon River

1 drainage. Submitted by Eastern Interior Alaska
2 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

3
4 Yukon Delta opposed this proposal.
5 Western Interior Alaska opposed this proposal. Seward
6 Peninsula Regional Advisory Council opposed this
7 proposal. Eastern Interior Alaska Regional Advisory
8 Council took no action on this proposal.

9
10 The Board rejected the proposal and
11 their justification is that there's a lack of
12 substantial evidence to support such change. however
13 if new information becomes available, a new proposal
14 can be submitted. This action follows the
15 recommendation of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Western
16 Interior and Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional
17 Advisory Councils.

18
19 Proposal FP11-02. Description of the
20 proposal. Requested that Federal public waters of the
21 Yukon River be closed to subsistence and commercial
22 fishing from the river mouth to the Canadian border
23 during the first pulse, and second pulse if necessary,
24 of the Chinook salmon run. These rolling closures
25 would correspond to the periods of the Chinook salmon
26 migration when stocks returning to Canadian waters
27 constitute the majority of the run. No harvest on
28 these stocks would be allowed for at least 12 years or
29 until such time as the stock's abundance and escapement
30 quality, age/sex/length, is restored to a level that
31 provides sustained yields to support historic
32 commercial and subsistence fisheries. The proposal was
33 submitted by Jack Reakoff.

34
35 Council recommendations and
36 justification. Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta opposed this
37 proposal.

38
39 Western Interior Alaska supported this
40 proposal with modification as follows: (B) Federal
41 public waters of the Yukon River will be closed, or
42 predominantly closed, to the taking of Chinook salmon
43 by all users sequentially from the river mouth to the
44 Canadian border during the first pulse of Chinook
45 salmon through very short or no openings, using
46 statistical area closures to provide greater protection
47 to expressly protect the U.S./Canada Yukon River Panel
48 agreed-upon escapement goal without negatively
49 impacting conservation of other stocks. This
50 regulation will be in place for four years.

1 Implementing a closure for 12 years will create an
2 undue hardship and will be too restrictive for rural
3 residents. The Council supports a four-year closure to
4 protect the run and to restore it to a level that
5 supports historic commercial and substantial fisheries.

6
7 Seward Peninsula opposed this proposal.
8 Eastern Interior Alaska opposed this proposal.

9
10 The Board action and justification.
11 The Board rejected the proposal. And their
12 justification is fisheries managers currently have the
13 authority to implement this request so a regulation is
14 not necessary at this time. This action follows the
15 recommendation of the Seward Peninsula, Yukon-Kuskokwim
16 Delta, and Eastern Interior Alaska Subsistence Regional
17 Advisory Councils.

18
19 Proposal 3. Description. Proposal
20 FP11-03 requested that Federal public waters of the
21 Yukon River Subdistrict 5D be, excuse me, further
22 subdivided into three districts to provide managers
23 additional flexibility to more precisely regulate
24 harvest while conserving the Chinook salmon run that
25 spawns in the Upper Yukon River. The proposal was
26 submitted by Andrew Firmin.

27
28 Council recommendation and
29 justification. Yukon Delta opposed this proposal.
30 Western Interior Alaska deferred this proposal, and
31 their justification was deferral would allow more local
32 input and submission to the State process while the
33 proposal is considered in the Federal regulatory
34 process. Seward Peninsula took no action.

35
36 Eastern Interior supported the
37 proposal, and their justification was the Council
38 believes that this proposal would benefit conservation
39 by targeting closures as needed more effectively than
40 currently, and benefit subsistence users by allowing
41 fishing when fish are available. It aligns with
42 traditionally recognized regional boundaries which will
43 facilitate enforcement. It is a positive stewardship
44 measure that appears to enjoy the support of the affect
45 subsistence users. Probably affected subsistence
46 users.

47
48 Board action and justification.
49 Deferred action. The Board agreed that area is large
50 and that the intent of the proposal has merit.

1 Deferring action on the time will provide time to
2 refine the proposal and garner more public input.

3

4 Proposal FP11-04. Description.
5 Proposal FP11-04 requested the use of fish wheels be
6 prohibited for the harvest of salmon in Districts 4 and
7 5 of the Yukon area to allow more fish to escape to the
8 spawning grounds. The proposal was submitted by
9 Mountain Village Working Group.

10

11 Council recommendation/justification.
12 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta opposed the proposal. Western
13 Interior Alaska opposed the proposal. Seward Peninsula
14 took no action. Eastern Interior opposed the proposal.

15

16 And the Board action/justification:
17 This proposal I believe was withdrawn. The Board
18 withdraws -- I'm sorry. Excuse me. The Board withdrew
19 this proposal as requested by the proponent and
20 consistent with the recommendations of the Eastern
21 Interior Alaska Regional Advisory Council, Western
22 Interior Alaska Regional Advisory Council, the Yukon-
23 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council,
24 and the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory
25 Council.

26

27 Proposal FP11-05. The proposal
28 requested that the Board preclude customary trade of
29 salmon in Yukon River District 4 and 5, and that the
30 Board preclude the use of salmon for dog food in Yukon
31 River District 4 and 5, with the exception of whole
32 Chinook salmon incidentally during [sic] a subsistence
33 chum salmon fishery in the Koyukuk River drainage after
34 July 10. Proposal was submitted by Mountain Village
35 Working Group.

36

37 Council recommendations and
38 justifications. Mr. Chair, you'll notice that I'm not
39 reading the justification. I'm just indicating whether
40 they oppose or support.

41

42 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta opposed the
43 proposal. Western Interior opposed the proposal.
44 Seward Peninsula opposed the proposal. Eastern
45 Interior Alaska opposed the proposal.

46

47 And the Board action and justification.
48 The Board withdrew the proposal. The Board withdrew
49 this proposal as requested by the proponent and
50 consistent with the recommendation of the Eastern

1 Interior Alaska, Western Interior Alaska, Yukon-
2 Kuskokwim Delta and Seward Peninsula Subsistence
3 Regional Advisory Councils.

4
5 FP11-06. Proposal 11-06 requested that
6 a depth of 7.5-stretch mesh gillnets be restricted to
7 20 meshes in depth in Yukon River District 4 and 5.
8 Proposal was submitted by Mountain Village Working
9 Group.

10
11 Council recommendation. Yukon-
12 Kuskokwim Delta opposed the proposal. Western Interior
13 Alaska opposed the proposal. Seward Peninsula Regional
14 Advisory Council opposed the proposal. Eastern
15 Interior Alaska opposed the proposal.

16
17 Board action. Board withdrew the
18 proposal. The Board withdrew this proposal as
19 requested by the proponent and consistent with the
20 recommendation of the Eastern Interior Alaska, Western
21 Interior Alaska, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, and the Seward
22 Peninsula Regional Advisory Councils.

23
24 FP11-07. Proposal FP11-07 requested
25 that the use of drift gillnets be prohibited for the
26 harvest of salmon in District 4 and 5 of the Yukon
27 area to allow more fish to escape in the -- excuse me.
28 To allow more fish to escape to the spawning grounds.
29 Both Federal and State regulations do not allow the use
30 of drift gillnet for the harvest of salmon in District
31 5, therefore the proposal only applies to the use of
32 drift gillnets for the harvest of salmon by Federally-
33 qualified users in the Federal public waters of
34 District 4, Subdistricts 4A, 4B and 4C. Proposal was
35 submitted by Mountain Village Working Group.

36
37 Council recommendations. Yukon-
38 Kuskokwim Delta opposed the proposal. Western Interior
39 Alaska opposed the proposal. Seward Peninsula took no
40 action. Eastern Interior Alaska opposed the proposal.

41
42 Board action. The Board withdrew the
43 proposal. The Board withdrew this proposal as
44 requested by the proponent and consistent with the
45 recommendation of the Eastern Interior Alaska, Western
46 Interior Alaska, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, and Seward
47 Peninsula Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils.

48
49 FP11-08. Proposal FP11-08 requested
50 that customary trade in the Yukon River Fisheries

1 Management Area be prohibited in any year when Chinook
2 salmon runs are insufficient to full satisfy
3 subsistence harvest needs and subsistence fisheries are
4 restricted. As submitted, the prohibition would only
5 affect customary trade, rural residents. The proposal
6 was submitted by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
7 Regional Advisory Council.

8

9 Council recommendations. Yukon-
10 Kuskokwim Delta supported the proposal with
11 modifications to delete all proposed language under
12 (iii) and replace with the following: (iii) Yukon
13 River Fishery Management Area. The total cash value
14 per household of salmon taken with Federal jurisdiction
15 in the Yukon River Fishery Management Area and
16 exchanged in customary trade to rural residents may not
17 exceed \$750 annually. The Council supports proposals
18 to prohibit customary trade until salmon runs rebound.
19 This issue needs to be addressed for both Chinook and
20 chum salmon. This is a river-wide issue and it is up
21 to the people to conserve salmon. There are also
22 reports of abuse of customary trade.

23

24 Western Interior Alaska opposed the
25 proposal. Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Council
26 took no action. Eastern Interior Alaska opposed the
27 proposal.

28

29 Board action/justification. The Board
30 deferred their action on the proposal. The Board
31 approved a subcommittee of the Eastern Interior Alaska,
32 Western Interior Alaska and Yukon-Kuskokwim Subsistence
33 Regional Advisory Councils. The Board stated that the
34 purpose of the subcommittee is to define significant
35 commercial enterprise for sales of subsistence-caught
36 salmon to other rural residents and to others. The
37 intent is to develop language that will be applied to
38 the entire Yukon River drainage. The Board stipulated
39 that the subcommittee will be comprised of three
40 members of each of the three Councils, that the
41 subcommittee should consider starting with a household
42 limit of \$750 per year, that the Solicitor's Office and
43 law enforcement will assist with the final language,
44 and that the work will be completed as soon as
45 possible.

46

47 The Board's intent is to allow time for
48 subcommittee to work and subsequent Council
49 recommendation as noted in the current recommendations
50 of the Eastern Interior Alaska, Western Interior

1 Alaska, and the Seward Peninsula Subsistence Regional
2 Advisory Councils.

3
4 FP11-09. Proposal FP11-09 requested
5 that the Board limit the customary trade of Chinook
6 salmon in the Yukon River Management Area and require a
7 customary trade recordkeeping form. The proposal also
8 requests that the Board impose a geographic constraint
9 to the customary trade of Chinook salmon caught in the
10 Yukon River Management Area. Such trade, including the
11 delivery of fish to the purchaser, should only occur in
12 the Yukon River Management Area. The proposal was
13 submitted by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional
14 Advisory Council.

15
16 Council recommendations. Yukon-
17 Kuskokwim Delta supported the proposal with
18 modification to delete all proposed language under
19 (iii) and replace with the following: (iii) Yukon
20 River Fishery Management Area. The total cash value
21 per household of salmon taken within Federal
22 jurisdiction in the Yukon River Fishery Management Area
23 and exchanged in customary trade between rural
24 residents and individuals other than rural residents
25 may not exceed \$750 annually. These customary trade
26 sales must be immediately recorded on a customary trade
27 recordkeeping form. The recording requirements and the
28 responsibility to ensure the household limit is not
29 exceeded rests with the seller. There is a need for
30 measurable enforcement tools to address commercial
31 advertisements that are escalating under the guise of
32 subsistence customary trade. there should be a dollar
33 limit of \$750 annually, because there is no limit now.

34
35 Western Interior opposed the proposal.
36 Seward Peninsula opposed the proposal.

37
38 Eastern Interior took no action, and
39 their justification is given the desire of the Council
40 to work with the other affected Councils on a
41 subcommittee related to this proposal, the Council felt
42 that full examination of the proposal is not warranted
43 at this time. It was noted that there is some merit to
44 the proposal objective, but specifics regarding
45 poundage and record keeping requirements were
46 insufficient. the Council also questioned the
47 commitment of managers to enforce the proposal if
48 adopted.

49
50 Board action and justification. The

1 Board took no action. And their justification is the
2 Board took no action on FP11-09 due to its action on
3 FP11-08.

4
5 Mr. Chair, do you want me to go on to
6 another.....

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, that's all.
9 The rest of that is out of our area. So, thank you,
10 Mr. Nick.

11
12 Any questions on the .805(c) letter.
13 Mr. Aloysius.

14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I have a
16 question. How do they plan to ensure that there's a
17 \$750 limit? How are they going to monitor that? Are
18 they going to have tickets that the people who are
19 selling the fish are going to use or what? How are
20 they going to control that?

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr.
23 Aloysius, the proposal that we put into was that they
24 had to fill out a form on the amount of fish that they
25 sold on customary trade. And that was supposed to have
26 been the tool that they used in order to enforce that,
27 but that was just mainly for a beginning, just a
28 suggestion that was thrown in, but I'm sure they're
29 going to come back with -- these guys will come back
30 with their report after they get done with their
31 subcommittee with the Tri-Councils and come up with
32 something.

33
34 Go ahead.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. The other
37 question I had was how are they going to enforce that
38 limit?

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sure they will
41 come up with an answer to that also, Mr. Aloysius. At
42 this time we don't have any answers to that question.

43
44 MR. ALOYSIUS: The other thing is if
45 they find that somebody's gone over the limit, is there
46 going to be a penalty?

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, that will
49 have to come to the subcommittee also. That
50 subcommittee will be supposedly answer all those

1 questions and they'll be reporting back to us at our
2 next meeting.

3

4 Any further questions on .805(c)
5 letter.

6

7 (No comments)

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
10 at this time we're going to go into testimony on the
11 bycatch. Our first person to testify will be Michael
12 James from Alakanuk. Michael James from Alakanuk.
13 Okay. Press that little square button.

14

15 MR. JAMES: Good morning. and thank
16 you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you. My
17 name is Michael James. I am the city administrator for
18 the City of Alakanuk.

19

20 And I'm glad that we are all here
21 whether you are from Alakanuk or Kotlik or Mountain
22 Village. We are all indefinitely, permanently involved
23 with the fishery in one way or another. And it will
24 impact us for the long run in our pockets, on our
25 racks, in our livelihood. So we have to take this very
26 seriously, because every year whether I have a boat and
27 motor or not, whether I go commercial fishing or not,
28 when I do my income tax return, I am a businessman, so
29 I have to use the business form. So let's take this
30 very seriously as a business. Let's look at our bottom
31 line. How many of us have lost money? How many of us
32 have made money?

33

34 Let's look at the bycatch issue, too.
35 Let's look at the pollock fishery and the income it is
36 generating.

37

38 Good morning, members of this Board.
39 My name is Michael James. I am the city administrator
40 for the City of Alakanuk.

41

42 I would like to speak about the salmon
43 bycatch in the ground fish fisheries. I believe all
44 the king and chum salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea
45 pollock fishery is totally accountable for a drop in
46 our production. At this time significant revenue for
47 participants in the fishery is important for the
48 commercial pollock fishery, and the commercial and
49 subsistence fishermen of the Norton Sound, the
50 Kuskokwim River and the Yukon River are paying a steep

1 price. And we continue to pay that price. The Chinook
2 and chum salmon drop in production is solely due to the
3 bycatch.

4

5 Bycatch salmon caught unintentionally
6 is really devastating the Western Alaska communities.
7 I believe that a five-year moratorium of fish on the
8 Bering Sea pollock fishery will help to rebuild stock,
9 meet escapement goals, and provide for subsistence and
10 commercial users.

11

12 I believe that the commercial and
13 subsistence needs, the Federal Subsistence Management
14 Program is not meeting the subsistence mandates found
15 in Title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands
16 Conservation Act of 1980, ANILCA. I believe the
17 program is not serving the rural subsistence users as
18 they envisioned when their program was begun in the
19 early 1990s.

20

21 Let us not forget that all the fish
22 that is being intercepted on the high seas is not only
23 going to affect the Yukon, it is going to affect the
24 Norton Sound. And when I say Norton Sound I mean Nome,
25 Unalakleet, Stebbins, St. Michael, all those places up
26 there. And I'm glad there's people here from
27 Kuskokwim, like Kalskag and Eek, Tuntutuliak and Bethel
28 and Tuluksak, because it affects you, too. So we're
29 all in one big boat.

30

31 So I hope that we will use this moment
32 to go on an endeavor, go on a mission to write letters
33 to the North Pacific Fishery Board, the National Marine
34 Fisheries Service. So let's use our view points and
35 let's use our material we have in front of us as a tool
36 so that we can strong arm them if we have to and let
37 them know how we stand, how we feel. So if we keep
38 being stepped on and walked over on, do we have to
39 continually bend over backwards and have the noose
40 tightened on our necks? So we have to protect our
41 resource and we need to continue to make sure that our
42 people's needs are adequately met, have enough fish on
43 their racks, and enough fish to put away for them, and
44 we need to see good reports not only Fish and Game and
45 Fish and Wildlife, but National Marine Fisheries
46 Service and other groups like that. So let's go on an
47 endeavor to contact them and make our viewpoints known
48 and share with them, because this is our livelihood and
49 this fisheries resource is our backbone, and without
50 it, where will we be? So now is our opportunity to

1 stand and fight for our resources.

2

3

Thank you.

4

5

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
6 James. Next is Mr. Francis Hess.

7

8

MR. HESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I'd like to welcome all you folks that came for this
10 meeting. If you happen to fly on a nice day, if you
11 happen to take off, if you see that big mountain down
12 there, that's where I was born 64 years ago, but I was
13 raised here in Mountain Village.

14

15

You know, if I could take time to tell
16 a couple stories real quick, you know.....

17

18

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've got all the
19 time in the world.

20

21

MR. HESS: You know, when steamboats
22 first started coming up the Yukon River, that's the
23 first mountain hey hit on the Yukon River. And that
24 that one boat, he thought he counted between 12 and 15
25 houses on the Yukon River right there in our village.
26 So that's why they call it Mountain Village. And for
27 the benefit of our (In Yup'ik) that don't understand
28 how we live out here, every child that is born here has
29 an Eskimo name. I have probably four of them. My
30 youngest one I have is going on 26. He's got four
31 Eskimo names. He even has one from Unalakleet. That's
32 just how our tradition works.

33

34

I happened to be working for the school
35 district and there was an electrician, I think it was
36 his third year. I said, listen, if I told you your
37 English name to that old man, he'll forget it, but if I
38 told him your Eskimo name, he'll never forget it. So I
39 told him, I'm going to give you one so he won't forget
40 you. He kind of nod his head, and I said, I'm going to
41 give you, and you're (In Yup'ik). He looked at me and
42 said, what that mean? I told him, that means dog. He
43 said, no, he don't want it. I said, listen, it's bad
44 luck to refuse an Eskimo name.

45

46

(Laughter)

47

48

MR. HESS: But, anyway if you guys are
49 going to make proposals years to come, I think it
50 should get it strong enough so that when they put

1 restrictions in Y1, 2, and 3, they should do the whole
2 Yukon River, not just us down here. The reason is that
3 a lot of people think that Y1 and 2 catch all the fish.
4 No, we don't. There's a graphic, maybe you've seen it.
5 You were at the Federal Subsistence Board meeting, I
6 happened to be there, too. The average of Y1 and 2 in
7 the family is about 30, 35, 40 kings for the whole
8 year. That's our average for Y1 and 2. I'm not going
9 to pick on nobody, but in Y5 they're over 100, they
10 average over 100.

11
12 And when I got down to that -- when I
13 mentioned that bycatch out in the ocean during that
14 Federal Subsistence Board meeting, I hope somebody
15 writes this down. They told me it's a different story.
16 I looked at him and told him, but it's the same fish.
17 That's the fish that I depend on, the whole Yukon
18 depend on it. Your quota of 50, 60,000 kings a year
19 out there, I said, listen, that can feed the whole
20 Yukon River for one year on your quota. I'm sure if
21 somebody keep hearing about that bycatch, they'll do
22 something about it.

23
24 As you remember last summer they talked
25 about fish management. I called and talked to those
26 guys. I said, listen, you want to manage fish, you
27 manage from -- start from out there. I don't have to,
28 you know -- I'm not educated, I didn't go to college,
29 that bycatch is out there, that's where it starts
30 hurting our Yukon River. The fish we use for
31 subsistence mainly. You know, in our language fish
32 means (In Yup'ik). It means food. That's our food.

33
34 I remember going back years back when
35 fish come, that's when we go get it. I remember
36 helping Michael. In that one boat all he had is a gas
37 tank and what little net he got. No life preserver, no
38 nothing. Fish come, we go out there and get it and
39 start putting it away.

40
41 You know, that out here and maybe all
42 the way up, maybe it's the same in Kuskokwim, you know,
43 you've just got one season. When it comes, when the
44 fish come, we go to get it.

45
46 Those people who live out on the coast,
47 Kotlik, down river, they know where to go, which mouth
48 to go to get fish because of the wind. And I think
49 some years back, the fall chum, we had really ugly
50 southeast wind really bad for almost a week. And all

1 those fish didn't come to Yukon River. The whole bunch
2 packed up in Unalakleet River. I remember getting at
3 least seven fall chums that year. And, you know, we're
4 used to getting hundreds, you know, for subsistence.

5
6 And there's stories I don't believe
7 nowadays. I met a fisherman that subsistence fished
8 for king salmon. A whole year he said he got seven
9 fish. You know, it shouldn't be like that. He told me
10 he can't even feed his family for one year with those
11 fish. And this is true and this is happening right
12 now. And I hope you guys, when you guys put proposals,
13 all of you guys are subsistence, put words in there
14 that they'll hear and understand, and tell them we know
15 what we're talking about.

16
17 You know, I'm one of the fishermen
18 that's always getting after the Fish and Game about how
19 they count fish in Pilot Station. They showed it on
20 TV. They showed how the -- they saw all those fish in
21 that screen, and I was surprised when they told me that
22 they don't even know what they are, either chum fish or
23 pike or shee, whatever they are. And I'm one of the
24 fishermen that at this day and age, with all the
25 technology that anybody could have in this world,
26 they've got to get something better, hopefully get
27 something better to count our fish.

28
29 A friend of mine from Pilot said one
30 kid came out of college to Pilot Station counting fish,
31 already know about fish. I told him, I went up there
32 and throw that book away, he wouldn't know about
33 nothing. Not one thing about fish.

34
35 Lester, you know, all these older guys
36 know. We know fish. Weather. Everything about fish.
37 Like some people say, I know how to do things, and, you
38 know, all this stuff we do come naturally to us. Our
39 fishing, our subsistence, we know when to go out there
40 and get it. An elderly lady told us, we're like season
41 people. Every season we get ready for next season.
42 All summer we get ready for the long winter. You know,
43 back then it used to get cold, 40, 45, 50, 60 below was
44 normal then. You know, nowadays 10 below, we complain,
45 you know.

46 And I hope you guys put some -- keep
47 putting in resolutions concerning our bycatch, not just
48 United States, and let them find out how the Russians
49 do their bycatch up there, how regulate it, how they do
50 their regulation, how they -- you know, what their

1 limit are, how many season they have. You know,
2 Russia, I don't know how they do their fishing. I know
3 they're catching some of our fish that are coming to --
4 supposed to be Yukon bound.

5
6 I'm going to say this again, I said it
7 last time, you know, there's a joke about Sarah Palin
8 out States, she can see Russia from her bedroom window.
9 Out here you and I can hear the Russians catching our
10 fish that's Yukon bound. And it's true. The Yukon-
11 bound fish, they follow the season, the weather, the
12 warmth of the ocean, where the food are for them.
13 Almost every year fish we catch has a scar mark from
14 seals or whales. You know, years ago when there used
15 to be a lot of fish come up the Yukon River, whales
16 used to come and follow them and eat. You don't see
17 that no more. None. Absolutely none. They don't
18 come. It's not worth it for them to come swim against
19 the current. They don't do that no more. I grew up, I
20 saw it. Harry knows it. Lester. Those coast people
21 knows it. Whales used to come. Not just a few, too.

22
23 And I hope that you guys put in, you
24 know, good, strong resolutions, get some people
25 together, you know, to work together, and get this
26 thing done, co-manage the fish from the ocean all the
27 way to Canada.

28
29 We out here, what -- I fish in Y2, we
30 made big sacrifices last year. They cut our
31 subsistence in half. We went through that, and we
32 happened to subsistence full -- I shouldn't say full,
33 you know. Growing up back then, it used to be open
34 24/7. Now it's just -- you know, you can't go fish.
35 You can't do this. You've got to use this. You know,
36 there's more restrictions. Fish and Game or whoever
37 thinks that Y1 and Y2 is catching all the fish, and
38 they're not. I saw the graphic that it shows it, that
39 Y1, Y2 is not the one that's getting all the fish.

40
41 And I hope in the future sometime my kids and my
42 grandkids get to do what I did growing up. I
43 commercial fish. I subsistence, support -- you know, I
44 happened to get married to a big family. I've got 11
45 sister-in-laws, and we send them dry fish whenever we
46 can. And I average like 160 chums, that will take care
47 of us for the whole year, about 30 kings, and about 60,
48 70 fall chums, you know, that we call (In Yup'ik).
49 That guy from Kotlik, you know, we call those silvers,
50 gussuck call them different, but we know what we're

1 talking about when we talk about the (In Yup'ik) and,
2 you know, cohos.

3
4 You know, that nowadays everything
5 change so much in the last 50, 60 years. King salmon
6 used to come first years ago, Harry. Now there's chums
7 coming in first now. Now we're getting all kind of
8 fish from way out there that I never seen. There's
9 other fish that are coming in now. Last summer I went
10 out and drift for my subsistence to caught chums. I
11 catch silvers, would you believe. It's getting really
12 messed up somewhere. Maybe Pilot might have seen some.
13 If I caught some, I know Pilot got some. That's how
14 bad it changed.

15
16 You know, years ago there used to be
17 absolutely no sandbars on the Yukon. Now there's just
18 sandbars all over. Every year a channel changes.

19
20 And we all know what the weather does
21 to the fish, even during winter. We've got nets across
22 the river, and on the north side of the river. Every
23 wind -- you know, certain wind we catch more on the
24 other side, more on the north side some certain wind.
25 That's how much it affects the fish on the Yukon River.
26 And we're more than fortunate to have three, as far as
27 I know, or more mouths where the fish can come in
28 according to where the wind brings them in. We know
29 that.

30
31 A couple years back we had big north
32 wind, windy. Elder tell me right there, there's going
33 to be a lot of fish. He knew already when the wind was
34 pushing all the wind, fish this way.

35
36 I hope you guys sit down and keep
37 bringing that bycatch up. Eventually, hopefully will,
38 you know, somebody will sit down and actually listen.
39 You know, we've been hearing this bycatch for a while,
40 and maybe they'll do something about it. You need to
41 mention that every time, I don't care how many
42 meetings, to have mentioned every time. Maybe they'll
43 do something about it.

44
45 When I brought that up again during
46 that Federal Subsistence Board meeting, they told me
47 that's a different story. I told them, same fish. And
48 I hope someone writes that down.

49
50 Thank you. Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
2 Hess. You know, one thing that I might also suggest to
3 you, Francis, is that you have the ability to write
4 those proposals, and if you have problems with writing
5 them, we have Staff here that will help you write those
6 proposals also. So also if you would like to keep on
7 that subject, then you could also submit proposals as a
8 person.

9
10 Could somebody tell me, I know the
11 school -- the group eating at the school, they have a
12 certain time that we -- time limit that they'll feed
13 us, so could you let us know what time that's going to
14 be so I don't run it over so we don't be late for
15 lunch.

16
17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
18 Council and audience. When I was making arrangements
19 with the school, they wanted a specific number of
20 people who are planning to eat breakfast and lunch at
21 the school. Unfortunately I did not have specific
22 number of the school -- rather the number of people who
23 wish to each breakfast and lunch at the school today
24 and tomorrow. What I did was even though it was very
25 hard on the receiving side, I told them that we would
26 have approximately 15 to 20 people.

27
28 And as for the time, I could check on
29 that during -- you know, while you're having meeting.
30 I assume that they wanted the children to get it --
31 rather eat lunch first. I can check on that, Mr.
32 Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, would you do
35 that so we don't take that time up with the
36 testimonies, because we've got some more people that
37 need to testify.

38
39 But at this time we'll call on -- thank
40 you, Mr. Nick. We'll call on Mr. Alexie Walters.

41
42 MR. WALTERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
43 I know most of you here. My name is Alexie Walters. I
44 lived most of my life here in Yukon.

45
46 I got introduced to Lester a long time
47 ago when we were growing up in school, going to school
48 here from Unalakleet.

49
50 Harry Wilde has been a big influence in

1 my life. He's the one that got me interested in what I
2 do nowadays. So he's guidance and everything. And
3 I've seen him go through some rough times, especially
4 when he's got to go to a board meeting, because he was
5 good 20 years ago. He used to even ask for help from
6 his community, if he can someone go with him to any of
7 these meetings, but very few people were available back
8 then. And money was a big issue at that time.

9

10 John Hanson days and the old man from
11 St. Mary's and John, they used to be affiliated with
12 our parents with fish, subsistence.

13

14 When I first went to a testimony in
15 Anchorage a good 12 years ago maybe with North Pacific,
16 I really didn't know how to approach them, but with the
17 guidance of Harry, his way of approaching our very
18 lifestyle around here, I told North Pacific the word
19 subsistence is global. It's not only in Alaska, it's
20 all over the world. That very word subsistence, way of
21 life, is global.

22

23 And I believe in cycles. I don't know
24 if any of you believe in cycles, but we're in a cycle.
25 That's why we're having so much trouble with everything
26 we see. Game, food.

27

28 When Lester and I were growing up,
29 there were so many birds up there, and we didn't have
30 to worry about getting skunked. You went out hunting
31 and came home with something. Now you can't do that.

32

33 And more and more I'm getting regulated
34 with the way I live due to the way whoever sets these
35 regulations up that don't even live with me. They put
36 them there for me, to guide me through the problems
37 that we are facing today. They had reasons to insert
38 them there, although they don't live with us.

39

40 You know, I am always uncomfortable
41 with the word subsistence sales and subsistence. There
42 are people, a handful that I've always said in my
43 testimony that will make it difficult for everybody
44 else that's using subsistence sales. We in our
45 communities, in Mountain Village, I don't know in your
46 community, too, I believe, nobody makes millions or
47 thousands of dollars doing subsistence sales. Minimum
48 maybe is 3, 4, 500. That \$750 cap I see in our thing
49 here, when that issue came up some years ago, I forgot
50 what board that was, but I asked them. If we set these

1 sales, the cap on subsistence sales, who's going to
2 monitor it? You've got a river here that's almost
3 2,000 miles long. Kuskokwim is another one. And up
4 north. And that word subsistence sales all over State
5 of Alaska. Who's really going to control it?

6
7 I looked at it as bootlegging.
8 Nowadays you have bootleggers within your communities,
9 and that bootlegged booze could be bought legally
10 through a liquor store. Now our fish are in that area
11 where it's being bootlegged. It's legal to rig, it's
12 legal to own, but there's bootlegging going on. So if
13 we really care about our fish and the way our lifestyle
14 is with our subsistence trades, we, as leaders in our
15 community, should figure a way, because we live here
16 and we know who's doing right and wrong.

17
18 Everybody in the Yukon has either a
19 city council or tribal government running their
20 villages. Those entities should watch what's going on
21 with their subsistence lifestyle. That way to me is
22 the only way you're going to control subsistence-caught
23 fish being sold either illegally or with a cap. I
24 don't know what other thing that you could do.
25 Bootlegging right now is ongoing and never stops no
26 matter what we do, because we're all users to one point
27 or another. Our relative's doing it. Our friend's
28 doing it. And we don't want to be the bad guy at the
29 end of the stick. But how else are we going to work
30 together and kind of lighten that problem. We have to
31 come up with a solution.

32
33 And that's the only way I can think
34 about it, because you can't put something on the table
35 and make rules and laws to cover 2,000 miles. You have
36 to do it within communities. And with the state
37 troopers for a crutch or the law enforcements, I
38 believe it could be done.

39
40 And the very issue of the high seas, I
41 testified over 12 years ago on the very issue of
42 bycatch. Mother Nature has done something to our way
43 of life years ago, but we're too busy living. We're
44 too busy waking up in the morning and doing our daily
45 chores to see changes. There's been a change there
46 maybe 30, 40 years ago, but nobody's seen it. Like I
47 said, we're too busy taking care of our own problems,
48 our own selves. Now that it's right here and you and I
49 know the Yukon don't get five feet thick any more.
50 It's only two and a half feet, three feet out there

1 right now. When Lester and I used to punch holes out
2 there, you would be four or five feet thick. No more.
3 That's gone.

4
5 So from there to today there has been a
6 cycle of something. And it's been there, but we never
7 notice it.

8
9 I'm seeing a change in my people. This
10 generation's a lot different from mine. My own
11 grandkids are changing with the weather and what
12 they've been taught in our schools. Our way of life is
13 just turmoil in some areas, because we lost our people
14 that could voice and talk to us and lecture to us.
15 They're not there no more. We're losing our culture as
16 fish decline, too. So basically we're in some type of
17 cycle that's been there before, but we're letting
18 somebody else handle our troubles. We better start
19 waking up and deal with them right here in our
20 villages. Don't let the state troopers babysit our
21 families. Let's pay attention to them and tell them
22 what we've learned from our ancestors before we lose it
23 completely.

24
25 Everything has to be on paper nowadays.
26 Without that, you've got no document, no proof, no
27 nothing. When I was growing up, I used to even see
28 them shake their hands and leave each other. It's not
29 that way no more. You shake your hand first with a
30 bunch of other people, it's to go visit. We don't live
31 that whole life no more. We've got to advance.

32
33 I'm sorry to bring these up, but that's
34 my feeling. If nobody does it, I don't know who will.

35
36
37 But I thank Harry and I think the rest
38 of the elders that have said words to me that I
39 remember. My step father told me one time, you treat
40 people the way you want to be treated. You shouldn't
41 go around. Now, I don't know if you've heard those
42 words before from anybody, but if you treat somebody
43 like you want to be treated yourself, you should have a
44 lot of friends. They'll let you know if they can't
45 communicate with you. They stand right out in front of
46 you. You avoid those. You avoid those encounters.
47 You keep the one that they blend in with you. That's
48 working together. I've often told that to pilots that
49 were up river. We've done enough fighting.

50

1 Another elderly guy said, you fight
2 over fish too much, they're going to disappear. How
3 many times I've heard that over the years. And I'm
4 really grateful for people like Harry that have been
5 carrying on what you're doing right now. Those people
6 we cried to out there, they know all our problems. But
7 what are they going to do? It starts sounding like a
8 broken record, but we can't stop there. Maybe they'll
9 get tired of hearing us and finally do something about
10 what we want done.

11
12 There's a starting point to everything,
13 and there's an ending. Every book has a first page and
14 a last page. Let's not run out of pages. Let's make
15 new ones. Let's meet them one-on-one the way they
16 taught us to read and write. Use your tools and face
17 our problems. Nobody's going to do it for us but us.
18 Like Mr. Aloysius was saying earlier, the way I
19 understood him.

20
21 Our way of life. Nobody understands it
22 more than we do. We've been born and raised around
23 snow and ice where other people that are regulating us
24 haven't seen even a fish rack or how to fish in the
25 Yukon. Too many times we rely on somebody that hasn't
26 been living here. We cry for help on deaf ears.

27
28 I don't know. Money I guess, oil,
29 money, progress. And I'm seeing more and more
30 different nationalities in the Yukon, first in Bethel
31 and now in Yukon. But we can't do anything about it.
32 They're coming in to the Last Frontier, slow but sure.
33 Pretty soon you're going to have restaurants out in the
34 Bush more and more, but we've got to live with change
35 and we've got to try and do it right for our young
36 people ahead. They're all going to be sitting where
37 you are. These young people that are running around
38 town right now, they don't know where they're going to
39 be. You and I used to run around town. We used to do
40 a lot of things that we shouldn't do. But we're here,
41 and we've got to be a guidance to them, because we've
42 already been there.

43
44 With that, thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
47 Walters. As you know, those of us that are sitting on
48 this Council, we do live a subsistence way of life and
49 you do have a voice in regulating subsistence. That's
50 why we're here. If you have any concerns about the

1 subsistence regulations that are in this book, write
2 those proposals, and we'll do whatever we can to help
3 support, because we understand, like Alexie says, our
4 way of life and our need to protect our subsistence way
5 of life. So if you are concerned, write those
6 proposals to us and we'll do whatever we can to make
7 sure that they're heard and it's not always that we bat
8 100 percent. We're in the -- we don't get everything
9 we want in the regulation book, but we do present
10 whatever is presented to us by our people that are
11 concerned with subsistence.

12

13 With that, it's now 5 after 12. We
14 need to be at the school between 12 and 12:30 for
15 lunch, so let's break until 1:00 o'clock should be time
16 enough. At 1:00, Stanislaus, you'll be testifying.
17 Recess for lunch. You want 1:30? Okay. We'll recess
18 until 1:30.

19

20 (Off record)

21

22 (On record)

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are waiting for
25 a couple people who are supposed to be testifying, but
26 they're not here. I hear a snowmachine out there.
27 They might be walking in.

28

29 But somebody suggested while we're
30 waiting for those people, if they show up, that we
31 should have an alternate just in case that one of the
32 three subcommittee members don't make, so we'll be
33 appointing Evan, if it's okay with you? Would you like
34 to be an alternate for that customary trade workshop?

35

36 MR. POLTY: Yeah, that'll be fine.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So if one of you
39 guys can't make, make sure you get ahold of OSM or Evan
40 and let him know. Thank you.

41

42 At this time we'll call on Stanislaus
43 Sheppard.

44

45 MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
46 My name is Stanislaus Sheppard, born and raised here in
47 Mountain Village, and lived on the Yukon all my life.
48 Number one dependence is subsistence, harvest,
49 gathering, living a subsistence lifestyle.

50

1 I've been lucky enough to be involved
2 in the fisheries not too much since starting 1986 when
3 I first got on the tribal council. I've seen a lot of
4 changes. The one most, all the entities on the Yukon
5 River statewide, from what I see is that the Lower
6 Yukon is more targeted than the rest of the Yukon, all
7 the way up. I brought it up in Fairbanks that annual
8 historical harvest and the numbers, I haven't seen them
9 changed or there was no mention after that meeting
10 three years ago in Fairbanks. The annual historical
11 harvest, I did a little survey with the data that was
12 given to me from the Department of Fish and Game or the
13 Staff combining three districts: the coastal, Y1, Y2
14 -- or actually four, and Y3. It ain't a very large
15 district. Put together those four, it comes up to
16 equivalent to about three-quarters of District 5 alone.
17 And the annual historical harvest for those four
18 districts combined down here in the Lower Yukon was
19 about 14,000. And just alone at District 5 the annual
20 historical harvest was about 16,000. I brought that to
21 the attention of Fish and Game Department, and the only
22 answer I got was that's something we've got to look at.
23 And three years have gone by and nobody mentioned
24 anything about that issue.

25
26 What I was really want to stretch out
27 right here is that during the meeting, the State Board
28 of Fisheries up there in Fairbanks, one of the ladies
29 was trying to push for the Department to look at
30 regulating the fishwheels. If I'm wrong, somebody can
31 correct me. The fishwheels up there in District 5
32 alone, mainstem up to the Canadian border, run seven
33 days a week, or have I got that backwards? Twenty-four
34 hours a day, seven days a week and I haven't heard of
35 them being regulated or restricted when down here, the
36 Lower Yukon to Holy Cross was affected by the windows
37 from 36 hours, two 36 hours a week to cut down to two
38 18 hours a week, and agreeing not to fish the first
39 pulse two years ago.

40
41 It was mentioned in the meeting at the
42 Federal Subsistence Board in Anchorage last month that
43 District 5, given how big it is, it need to be broken
44 up instead of being one, because when it was agreed up
45 with the people and the working groups or the RACs, ACs
46 that were on the Yukon River agreed not to fish the
47 first pulse, they go up, they begin District 5, the
48 lower part of District 5 don't get a chance, don't fish
49 the first pulse. But when they open it, the upper part
50 of District 5 do get some of that first pulse.

1 And then the other thing was that
2 District -- the Lower Yukon -- I also sit on the Lower
3 Yukon Advisory Committee, and we only have one voice,
4 our chairman or who's appointed to give testimony to
5 the Federal Subsistence Board or the State Board of
6 Fisheries, and that's allowing only like 10, 15 minutes
7 maybe, and whereas upriver has so many representatives,
8 they're allowed up to like three hours to give
9 testimony.

10
11 We started a working group here in
12 Mountain Village, the three entities combined. We had
13 Azachorok Corporation, the City Council, and Mountain
14 Village Tribal Council, at least two volunteers with
15 some locals. And that came up to about 9 or 10. What
16 we're trying to do is get the State to recognize
17 Mountain Village Working Group as an AC so we could
18 have more than just one voice, the Lower Yukon Advisory
19 Committee, to give testimony, other than trying to not
20 have -- have them hear our concerns. To have them hear
21 more of our concerns on the subsistence issues that
22 really hit the homes and people on the Yukon River,
23 mainly from Holy Cross on down that are more affected
24 on the proposals and regulations that come out every
25 year.

26
27 And also the other thing that I brought
28 up was that the bycatch issue. I tell them they are
29 catching a whole lot of bycatch and brought up the
30 question of how big the salmon were and those salmon
31 they caught were either for the Kuskokwim, Yukon, or
32 Norton Sound. And they told me, all they was, oh,
33 they're small fish. You don't need to worry about
34 them.

35
36 Out there in the Bering Sea it was
37 always -- in the past Fish and Game stressed and we all
38 know as a hunter myself, we're not supposed to harass
39 or hunt when the animals are small. That's the same
40 thing that's happening out there. These big pollock
41 fisheries, they're harvesting that small fish that go
42 out there to grow to come back into the river. They
43 never gave me any answer to that, only that they're
44 small fish.

45
46 That's all I have. Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
49 Mr. Sheppard. Mr. Roczicka.
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Not a question, but just
2 something you mentioned regarding Mountain Village
3 creating its own advisory committee. And I don't know
4 if you've looked into that yet as far as the regulatory
5 process, but under the State that's done at a statewide
6 meeting, and taking up statewide regulations. And
7 there are so many statewide regulations that they
8 actually break them in half, and so you only deal with
9 them every four years rather than every two. And I
10 think you might be right on that cycle right now. I'd
11 have to go back and take a look. But also the Board of
12 Game, and this is something for everybody, you know, on
13 the State side, and I know this is a Federal meeting,
14 but all of us work, you know -- it's all interrelated.
15

16 The Board of Game has also gone to one
17 call per year now for proposals. You're not going to
18 get a call for proposals say for this fall when our
19 area comes up. It's not going to come out in August.
20 We have to have it in by the end of April. And it's
21 for all the Board of Game meetings for the following
22 regulatory cycle. So you can take a look at that. I
23 can help you find it if there was a board book here on
24 the State side, or even a State reg book, you can look
25 that up, but doublecheck that, because you might have
26 only until April to get it. And it might not be in
27 that set of regulations. You might have to wait for
28 three years to get an advisory committee status change
29 considered.
30

31 MR. SHEPPARD: Well, Mr. Chairman, Mr.
32 Roczicka. When we submitted the -- we got the required
33 signatures as told by one of the -- I forgot what
34 department that was. They said all we needed was 25
35 signatures and a resolution requesting that the State
36 and Federal recognize us as an AC. When I brought that
37 up to Sherry Wright, she had told -- gave me the
38 information that when the State Board and the Federal
39 Board have their annual meeting, that at that time will
40 be brought up.
41

42 MR. ROCZICKA: Sherry will usually
43 steer you right. She's not entirely right this time
44 though. But anyway a follow up on it is what I'm
45 encouraging you to do, and you might have just until
46 April to do it. Don't trust them to do it for you.
47 things fall through the cracks.
48

49 MR. SHEPPARD: Okay. Thank you very
50 much.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Stan.
2 Any further questions.
3
4 (No comments)
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Next on
7 the agenda is Mr. Raphael Jimmy. If you want to talk
8 in Yup'ik, we'll have somebody translate for you.
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. (In
11 Yup'ik)
12
13 (Laughter)
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's get back to
20 the point of order. Go ahead, Mr. Jimmie.
21
22 MR. JIMMY: Thank you very much. My
23 name is Raphael Jimmy, Mountain Village. Originally
24 from Unimak, or I born in Unimak 1924.
25
26 The first thing, thank you very much.
27 (In Yup'ik) Some times when we go some place we have --
28 sometimes we have trouble where we stay.
29
30 (In Yup'ik)
31
32 Quyana. Thank you very much. Okay.
33 (In Yup'ik)
34
35 The first thing, I used to watch my dad
36 when I was young. I think I was around four or five.
37 When they put net by the canoe, kayak, I used to watch
38 it. And they go up, I still watch them. While I'm
39 watching, sometimes he got a fish. And when he get
40 fish, he's just jumping around like that. Very tough,
41 strong. Strong like. Pretty soon he jump, break up
42 string or sometimes he got of the net, maybe about
43 maybe five feet or six feet, jump. And then when they
44 go on top, they go on top of it like really fast. I
45 know that one.
46
47 (In Yup'ik)
48
49 In 1998, somewhere in there, I quit
50 fishing from down there about -- down there 30 mile.

1 Last when I was fishing, when I put my net, my (In
2 Yup'ik). When I threw it away, that net, i was
3 drifting. Sometimes once in awhile one float move a
4 little bit. Just a little bit here and here. And after
5 that about maybe half hour when we check the net, all
6 of the king salmon died, just about half hour.

7

8 (In Yup'ik)

9

10 1950 I don't think the fish is going to
11 go way up there to way up there, because the fish is
12 getting weaker and weaker. And then they used to be
13 really fat when I was young. I'm 86. When I was
14 young, the fish used to be really strong, but today
15 weaker and weaker and weaker. And then some fish, he
16 got marks right in the body, and sometimes when you
17 would open it, the liver (In Yup'ik), half of them had
18 bled. That's why the fish is getting weak. How come
19 they getting weak? Why? Because the Yukon is trash
20 way up there, even the gas. If we were a fish, if I
21 was a fish and you, are we going to eat when the gas
22 was in the water? No, I don't think so. Yeah. That's
23 why the fish is getting weak.

24

25 (In Yup'ik)

26

27 When I was young, the first king
28 salmon, great big ones. After that dog salmon, big
29 one. I can't even lift it when I was young. But right
30 now the king salmon is getting smaller and smaller.
31 Why? Because I heard them fishing down on the coast,
32 in the middle of the coast, big net. The fish when
33 they go up on here in the Yukon, when they were --
34 before they fish big nets, they were putting it down in
35 the.....

36

37 (In Yup'ik)

38

39 The fish didn't grow up good. The same
40 way in the land here. They told us a long time ago,
41 our bread, they told us like respect the fish, (In
42 Yup'ik). And then another one.

43

44 (In Yup'ik)

45

46 Don't fight with the fish. Eat. Eat
47 together. Don't fight with it. They said some day
48 there's going to be something wrong. Now today the
49 fish is getting different, I know that. On the land,
50 too. (In Yup'ik) Like those salmon berries, it's like

1 when they grow, they're black. Sometimes they never
2 grow up, because the trash, propane going all over.

3
4 (In Yup'ik)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, go ahead, I'm
7 sorry. Alex says somebody back there, could you check
8 on them? Continue. I didn't mean to interrupt.

9
10 MR. JIMMIE: (In Yup'ik)

11
12 I'm going to say something again.
13 Okay. A long time ago, the plane land some place down
14 the mouth of Yukon. (In Yup'ik) Two white people. I
15 thought he's waiting for a plane. Another one, he go
16 down to house to house. They give it to my dad and my
17 uppa, too, maybe. They told them, make X, and my uppa
18 and my grandma, and both of them, they're old ones,
19 they just made an X. What's that mean? And then after
20 they left, he asked somebody, what did I go make X for?
21 What's that? They don't know. Still we don't know
22 today. How come those gussuck and white men, they come
23 from some place, those old, old, old people make an X.
24 Why? What's that mean? I know my mom, when she had to
25 first get money from the government, because she can't
26 write this name, she make an X.

27
28 That's good enough.

29
30 Quyana. Thank you.

31
32 (In Yup'ik)

33
34 If you don't understand, you guys,
35 those gussucks, ask somebody Yup'ik.

36
37 Quyana. Thank you very much.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ray. I
40 think most of what you said was understood by the
41 people that needed to understand it.

42
43 Quyana.

44
45 MR. JIMMIE: Okay. Thank you.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The last on the
48 list is Maria Koutchak.

49
50 As we stated before the meeting, if you

1 have anything that you think is important to say over
2 what we are talking about up here, please go to some
3 areas where you won't disturb the Council while they're
4 listening to the people up here.

5
6 Quyana.

7
8 MS. KOUTCHAK: Yeah. Maria Koutchak.

9
10 (In Yup'ik)

11
12 Teddy Landlord, Sr. (In Yup'ik)
13 Landlord. Maybe you saw his name on a paper some time
14 ago. He's a founder for Mountain Village. That old
15 man (In Yup'ik). He had a lot of children, but all of
16 them all moved. There's two are living. Teddy
17 Landlord, Sr. and Susie Landlord. So (In Yup'ik).
18 Teddy, so much telling him that she's all alone, no one
19 from brother or younger brother or older brother to
20 help him. He instructed him every thing. There's no
21 way show you or taught you anything. If you listen to
22 my instruction, even you're all alone standing in the
23 family, you'll be okay. If you listen and bury what
24 I've taught you in your mind, you'll be okay when
25 you're all alone.

26
27 So when he -- he had one son, Teddy
28 Landlord, Sr. We got married and we had so many
29 children. Eleven are living, four of them are passed
30 away. So their dad died, he was so much older than me.
31 And when he instruct our sons, he managed, this old
32 Cheguhak (ph) Landlord. Anything.

33
34 There were two reasons I want to talk
35 about fish from Cheguhak (ph) Landlord down to Teddy
36 Landlord, Sr. He was sick. He left us before our
37 younger children were grown up. But I had four that
38 were grown up. They were in school, high school, (In
39 Yup'ik). And I'm talking about what they're doing, the
40 oldest children. Those older children, three boys, our
41 older boys, and one daughter, they went down to (In
42 Yup'ik) for high school. There was no high school in
43 this area.

44
45 So when they graduated, two of them
46 became a weatherman and two of them went home. So when
47 they got home from -- maybe they resign from the
48 weather station, weatherman. When they come they were
49 getting ready to go fishing when their first summer
50 came. Subsistence fishing. They really didn't know

1 how to start, because they were out school for four
2 years, and how many years in the weatherman station.
3 What I used to hear from my husband, I remembered them,
4 what I remember, I instructed them. And then in
5 wintertime like this, he used to tell me you have to
6 pass down what I instruct, I can't instruct them in
7 person, because they're gone. They're out in school.
8 So what you remember when I'm gone you'll have to pass
9 my word to them. So when this -- in this time they
10 start talking about subsistence fishing.

11
12 At that time we didn't have commercial
13 fishing in Yukon, only their dad used to go over to the
14 Kuskokwim or in that area for cannery. They call it
15 cannery. We had no subsistence or commercial fishing
16 in Yukon. This commercial fishing is not very old.
17 How many years ago it started in Yukon, in my home.

18
19 So in wintertime like this, what Teddy,
20 Sr. used to tell me, instruct your sons, our sons, so
21 what I remember what he used to tell me. He used to
22 tell me there's four winds: north, south, west, east.
23 He tell me when there's mostly, maybe all of you know,
24 which direction the wind, how long it wind come from.
25 North wind, it's not mild, my learning. It's from
26 Teddy Landlord, Sr., from his old man, Cheguhak (ph)
27 Landlord. He used to instruct him, watch the winds in
28 winter. That causes fish or no fish. When he's telling
29 me, I used to say in my mind, I never answered him, how
30 did he know? He know, he was from old magical (ph).
31 The north wind -- I'm going to talk about four winds
32 now.

33
34 The north wind, maybe you people know
35 it, the Fish and Game or Fish and Wildlife, but
36 Cheguhak (ph) says north wind, most of the time north
37 wind during winter, it causes small king salmon, but
38 there are many. The south wind which causes big king
39 salmon, but there are not many. Maybe one of you know
40 that about already. He know what sizes to make a net
41 when they experience the wind during the winter. They
42 make their own net, their own king salmon net, that
43 salmon net, chum net. They make them how many long
44 they make.

45
46 But I used to be curious, how would he
47 know the winds causes big and small fish. And I
48 experience it when we had a lot of fish one summer.
49 Lots of little king salmon, but they're small. And I
50 never say anything to my husband. It was true, the old

1 man Cheguhak (ph) told him about the winds. I
2 experience it how many times. North wind causes small
3 king salmon; south causes big king salmon, but they're
4 not many. Maybe some of you know that it. Maybe your
5 friends even knows it.

6
7 And the west and the east, he used to
8 mention them, so I have to watch where the wind is
9 mostly coming in wintertime. When there's mostly wind
10 from west, there are not too many fish. No fish. East
11 wind causes not much fish, too. And then they say, (In
12 Yup'ik), from west and east caught long ago, we eat the
13 fish and our dogs eat it. How our family or how will
14 our dogs eat.

15
16 Even the blackfish area, even the king
17 salmon -- I mean, during the wintertime the men sit a
18 net in the river to look for any kind of fish.
19 Sheefish, pike fish. All those that's caught for dog
20 food wintertime.

21
22 So those winds, four winds I wanted to
23 talk about. Maybe one of you already know, understand
24 about those four winds.

25
26 And then even I talk about next is
27 grass. I don't know if it's all right to talk about,
28 but I experience it from my husband, Teddy Landlord,
29 Sr. He used to tell me, watch the snow wintertime, how
30 much we have snow, and how many inches. Sometime we
31 have lots of snow, sometime we don't have snow. In my
32 life there was only one year I experience, '90, I think
33 it was '92. No, no, no, it was earlier than that,
34 maybe in 80s. On Christmas day, the (In Yup'ik) Church
35 was going to have a children's program. I hold my
36 youngest boy, he was six years old, walking down from
37 my hillside house way, way down, go down to the road in
38 that corner road, there was no snow. We walk on the
39 rocks. We walked down and it was Christmas day. No
40 snow on the road.

41
42 Then about '92, 1992, I live across on
43 the hillside. When summertime, my grandma used to say
44 summertime's grasses grow really tall. Some summers.
45 And I want to experience it, what she used to tell me.
46 I was walking up my road to my house. On my left side
47 going up high I see these grasses so high. So I pull
48 one. I drag it up to the house, I took my inches, a
49 roll of -- what do you call this? No, that little --
50 it springs out. I took my that kind and I measured

1 that tall grass, 64 inch. And then when I go in the
2 house, I told my children, we're going to have a lot of
3 snow in wintertime. Why? How you know it. I said, I
4 measured that high grass, I drag it in. One time it
5 happened.

6
7 Then this summer, last summer there
8 were another high grasses, I was walking up. I brought
9 it in and I measured. It was a half-inch smaller than
10 in '92. So I have expected the -- on my road, what the
11 tractor clean it up, it's a little bit high again.
12 Even it was 63 inch. In '92 it was 64.

13
14 So lots of snow causes lots of water.
15 When we have lots of snow, I mean when it's springtime,
16 the fishing areas where the men set fish, they know
17 where to set the net where there's maybe current, by
18 the current. When we have a lot of snow, the current
19 changes in the Yukon where our men or sons set nets.
20 Where they used to catch most, they know where to put
21 it. When you have a lot of snow the currents change,
22 so they have to look for another distance to set their
23 net.

24
25 I want to talk about those four winds
26 and about the summertime grasses in sort. Those
27 summer, in the winter when I walk on the road, bare
28 road with no snow. I just didn't measure the shortest
29 grass we had in one summer. I experience it only once
30 in my life, short, short grasses. That was when I was
31 really busy with my little children.

32
33 Those are two that I want to report,
34 what I learned from my husband, I ought to pass it to
35 my children when they're paying attention to me. I
36 didn't do it, I didn't make myself. I heard it from
37 Cheguhak (ph) Landlord down to Teddy Landlord, Sr. So
38 I have those two that I want to report. Yeah.

39
40 Quayana.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Quayana, Maria.
43 Thank you.

44
45 We are down to item 12, salmon bycatch
46 in groundfish fisheries. Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands,
47 written OSM briefing.

48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's a written
50 briefing. We didn't plan on doing any kind of

1 presentation. If you would like me to just talk about
2 it, I can. It's up to you.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Whichever way
5 pleases you I'm sure.

6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, you're the Chair.
8 It was.....

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We have a lot of
11 time.

12
13 MS. ARMSTRONG: You have a lot of time.

14
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We don't have as
17 many subjects as we have time.

18
19 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. The briefing is
20 on Page 42 in your books. And it's Bering Sea pollock
21 fishery chum salmon bycatch update. And the North
22 Pacific Fishery Management Council is currently
23 evaluating measures to limit chum salmon bycatch in the
24 Bering Sea commercial pollock fishery. And during its
25 meeting in Seattle in early February 2011 the NPFMC is
26 scheduled to conduct a preliminary review of an impact
27 analysis written by Staff. And it will include several
28 management alternatives.

29
30 Their recent and upcoming actions are
31 listed there. In June of 2010, June to December, they
32 prepared a Staff analysis for review. In early
33 February in Seattle they had a preliminary review of
34 that. February to March they'll be attending four
35 Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meetings,
36 this is one of them, and giving presentations, which
37 you're going to hear shortly on the proposed chum
38 salmon bycatch management measures, and they'll be
39 soliciting public comments. So that will be coming up
40 in a moment. And then they'll have a revised analysis.
41 And then in June of 2011 in Nome they're scheduled to
42 select the preferred alternative, and that has to be in
43 the range of alternatives analyzed. And then October
44 or December in Anchorage in 2011 they'll have a final
45 action to select the final preferred alternative. And
46 then in January 2012, and that's tentative, they hope
47 to have the chum salmon management measures implemented
48 in the Bering Sea pollock fishery.

49
50 I think you're going to hear of this in

1 a minute from them as well.

2

3 And then I think probably the best
4 thing is to let the North Pacific Fishery Management
5 Council Staff do their presentation. I think they'll
6 cover some of this.

7

8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Helen,
11 very much.

12

13 Item B, North Pacific Fishery
14 Management Council Staff. And we want to thank you.
15 You know, we've tried for years and years and years to
16 try and get the North Pacific Management Council to
17 come over and attend one of our meetings. And it's
18 good to see you here to attend our meeting this time.

19

20 MR. FIELDS: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
21 It's great to be here. I want to thank Mountain
22 Village for their hospitality.

23

24 I also wanted to say at the outset that
25 I appreciated the comments of Mr. Mike James, Mr.
26 Francis Hess and Mr. Alexie Walker [sic] relative to
27 salmon bycatch. I took those comments to heart and
28 took notes as they were speaking with the Council.

29

30 My name is Duncan Fields. I've been on
31 the North Pacific Fishery Management Council for four
32 years. I come from Kodiak Island. I live about five
33 months of the year at a remote fish camp on the west
34 side of Kodiak Island. I've been a subsistence user
35 all my life, primarily salmon and deer, halibut, and
36 cod fish. Because we're a maritime island, most of the
37 subsistence there is ocean resources.

38

39 But professionally I work with Native
40 communities on Kodiak Island, specifically Old Harbor
41 and Ouzinkie, trying to preserve fishing opportunities
42 for residents of those communities, and also with a
43 coalition of about 42 communities across the Gulf of
44 Alaska again working on access to halibut and sable
45 fish resources for those communities.

46

47 So that's a little bit about my
48 background, Mr. Chairman, and my involvement with the
49 Council.

50

1 As you saw earlier our actual Council
2 Staff needed to catch a plane and went on up to St.
3 Mary's. So I'm going to be referencing several
4 documents here. And I'd like to maybe kind of go
5 through more and have a conversation with your Board,
6 Mr. Chairman, rather than strict presentation where I'm
7 doing all the talking and you're expected to listen.
8 So I just would welcome any comments or interruptions
9 as I go through some of the information.

10
11 I think in your actual packet I'm going
12 to be referencing some of the materials starting on
13 Page 42 through about Pages 53 or 54. I'm going to be
14 specifically tracking this document here which was a
15 PowerPoint presentation and not go slide-by-slide, but
16 kind of highlight for you as Council members the things
17 that I think are of some importance.

18
19 I believe some of you have come and
20 testified before the North Pacific Council. You know
21 it's a -- what do I want to say? It's a complicated
22 process. The Council is made up of 11 members. Six
23 are from the State of Alaska. Three -- or actually
24 three are from the State of Washington. There's an
25 Oregon representative and a National Marine Fisheries
26 Service representative. And so even on our best day at
27 the Council we have lots of voices, not necessarily
28 even an Alaska voice, that is the dominant voice at the
29 Council, Mr. Chairman.

30
31 Our Council meetings are five times a
32 year. We deal with the issues relative to the Federal
33 waters in Alaska, and, of course, our interface with
34 many of your concerns is the pollock fishery in the
35 Bering Sea and the chum and Chinook bycatch are
36 incidental catch that occurs in that fishery.

37
38 The council process frequently takes a
39 year and a half to two and a half years to work through
40 an issue. Your process is more efficient than ours.
41 You have a proposal, it's reviewed by the RAC
42 committees. It's also reviewed by the statewide
43 subsistence committee and then they sort of vote on it
44 up or down.

45
46 We have a proposal that comes in. It's
47 analyzed. It's brought back to the Council. It's
48 often analyzed again and brought back to the Council.
49 The Council will do a preliminary review process, and
50 after the preliminary review additional analysis is

1 often requested. And then after, as I say, a year and
2 a half or so, the Council will take final action on an
3 issue.

4

5 But when we take final action, it's
6 simply one step in a long process. And our action is a
7 recommendation to the Secretary of Commerce. The
8 National Marine Fisheries Service then takes our action
9 and creates regulatory language. The regulatory
10 language is reviewed by legal counsel first on the West
11 Coast and then legal counsel in Washington, D.C. It
12 then goes to the Secretary of Commerce for his
13 signature. Once signed, it's published in the Federal
14 Register and there's a public comment period.

15

16 So to get a regulation to the North
17 Pacific Council on the fast track is about two and a
18 half years. Sometimes it can take three and a half or
19 four years. And I say that as background to some of
20 your frustrations relative to the Chinook bycatch issue
21 that the Council's been wrestling with. The high
22 Chinook bycatch occurred in 2007, and now just this
23 year, beginning in 2011 we have the implementation of
24 new regulations relative to Chinook bycatch.

25

26 Let me stop there, Mr. Chairman, if
27 there's any questions.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions from
30 the Council.

31

32 (No comments)

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You must be doing a
35 good job.

36

37 MR. FIELDS: Well, I'm going to go move
38 ahead then. I'm going to start on.....

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Harry, do you have
41 a question? There's a question from Mr. Wilde there.

42

43 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
44 I've looking at these interception fishery we call
45 them, interception fishery out there. And looking at
46 salmon bycatch update, casement, 2011. It seems to me
47 they're killing off a lot of fish out there. These
48 fish that every year that Bering Sea BSAI and pollock
49 fishery intercept Chinook and chums bound for western
50 Alaska, Interior.

1 In 2010 9,735 king salmon and 13,306
2 chum salmon were caught by bycatch. After being
3 counted and sample it and they observe or count them
4 and sample it, this chum catch, they throw it overboard
5 in the river, that's after hours of net and save some,
6 say donation for the (In Yup'ik).

7
8 I sure would like to hear some things,
9 you know, we are having a hard time here in the Yukon
10 River. They're having hard -- we never used to do that
11 many hard times, but we're getting it because of a lot
12 of king salmon, like Chinook salmon bycatch hit the
13 record high in 2007, over 120,000 king salmon. That's
14 a lot of fish. That's a lot of fish that they're
15 getting more, more, more, even of fish, chum salmon.

16
17 And I hear that they would like to
18 trans -- in the Yukon River they want to transplant
19 king salmon. How in the world are they going to
20 transplant king salmon? About 100 boats out there and
21 every time when they go out, they just kill them off.

22
23 It's a very important thing for us,
24 like up river, all the way up to Canada. I was with
25 the negotiation people up there, and we get into some
26 of this fish and they don't want to get blamed for what
27 the shorting of fish down here. Down here in this
28 river, Yukon River, we are getting short of fish.
29 You know, that every year our people, fishermen here,
30 just like start from 1973 or around 70s, they slack
31 down and they hold back. We didn't buy no more fish.
32 We don't even go out there and commercial fish any
33 more. Since 1970. It's a long time. We're just using
34 and looking for chum salmon in the Yukon River. That's
35 what we've been doing since 2007. We've been started
36 doing that. We try to let the king salmon and the
37 chums going up river. And we're having a hard time.
38 Even our fishermen here, Mountain Village and Lower
39 Yukon area. They couldn't even buy no gas to go out
40 and subsist. That's the kind of problem we're getting
41 now. Something have to be done.

42
43 Even if we transplant the king salmon
44 in the Yukon River, it's not going to work. As long as
45 there's boats out there. There's a hundred of them out
46 there. Because something it have to be done. We need
47 -- people need help down here in the Lower Yukon and
48 even all the way to upriver, people all the way up. We
49 need some kind of help.

50

1 I hear that there's some Fish and Game
2 and Federal people, that those agency people, they work
3 with them, is what I hear. If there's any way that
4 they could help us before it's getting too far? Our
5 people. You know that I tell you the truth. I have
6 fished down here about two miles. Last year all I
7 catch is three king salmon. That's all. That's for my
8 family, just three king salmon, because we were not
9 allowed to get more than what we could take. Some of
10 us that we just sometimes that we turn around and even
11 our family want to have a little bit more. We try to
12 turn around and make sure that some of this king salmon
13 go up to where they lay eggs and get more fish. I know
14 if that's right or wrong, I don't know. But that's
15 what we're doing now. We need some kind of help here.

16
17 Instead of throw them overboard, like
18 (indiscernible, large bang), that in a few hours in a
19 net, when they couldn't -- they throw them overboard in
20 a river. I wish that they could throw overboard here
21 in the Yukon River.

22
23 I've been saying this, looking at the
24 salmon bycatch update, February 2011. It must be a lot
25 of fish out there. We try to keep quiet down here,
26 because every time when we get more king salmon that
27 we could put away for the winter, we get blamed from
28 upriver. I think Fish and Game and Fish and Wildlife,
29 they should have some kind of help, some people here in
30 the Lower Yukon area.

31
32 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
35 Wilde.

36
37 MR. UNOK: Question.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've got a
40 question?

41
42 MR. UNOK: Yes.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Go ahead.

45
46 MR. UNOK: Are they looking to the
47 other fisheries besides the pollock, like longlining
48 halibut? I know they catch bycatch, too. And I know
49 crab pots do catch, but not too many, but those still
50 count, too.

1 MR. FIELDS: Thank you. That's a good
2 question.

3
4 I wanted to just respond to Mr. Wilde a
5 little bit. I appreciate your comments, Mr. Wilde,
6 especially as an elder from this community. I fully
7 appreciate not being able to catch the subsistence fish
8 that you need for you and your family and for your
9 community. That's one of the reasons I'm engaged in
10 the North Pacific Council process to address salmon
11 bycatch specifically, but then transitioning to your
12 question, Mr. Unok, I may have pronounced your name,
13 bycatch includes all species that aren't the directed
14 catch. So, yes, the Council is focused on and
15 concerned about species caught in the longline
16 fisheries or species caught in the crab fisheries
17 relative to bycatch.

18
19 In the longline fisheries, there are
20 limitations on the amount of non-directed catch that
21 they can catch. So, for example, if you're fishing for
22 halibut, you can only catch a certain amount of black
23 cod. Or if you're fishing for halibut or black cod,
24 you can only discard a certain amount of rockfish. And
25 so those regulations are in place and frequently
26 reviewed.

27
28 In the crab fishery, bycatch of halibut
29 is limited. There's an estimation of the amount of
30 halibut that are caught in crab pots, and that's
31 figured into the total allocation of halibut to the
32 various fisheries for the non-directed catch.

33
34 In the Gulf of Alaska, a little bit
35 further from the Bering Sea, we're wrestling now with
36 both questions about salmon bycatch in the Gulf of
37 Alaska as well as halibut bycatch and a number of other
38 species for each of the gear types that you mentioned.

39
40 I don't know if I directly answered
41 your question, other than to say that bycatch
42 regardless of the gear type is something that the
43 Council focuses on and is serious about reducing. In
44 fact, in the new Magnuson-Stevens Act, which is the
45 Federal law that governs our Council, one of the
46 national standards, one of the goals that is set for
47 the Council is the reduction of bycatch, and the North
48 Pacific Council has taken that goal seriously.

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Continue on.

1 MR. FIELDS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2

3 I'm going to jump back to this
4 PowerPoint for amplifying a couple of things. One of
5 the things to remember, I'm looking on Page 6 now, is
6 that much of the pollock fishing occurs a long distance
7 from both the Yukon and the Kuskokwim Rivers. And when
8 we think about bycatch, we have to think about rivers
9 of origin or stock of origin. And we have fairly
10 accurate information with regard to Chinook salmon,
11 some more generalized information with regard to chum
12 salmon. But in general, Mr. Chairman, approximately 20
13 to 25 percent of the Chinook salmon caught are from
14 Western Alaska origin and approximately 20 percent of
15 the chum salmon are from Western Alaska origin. So if
16 you look at a bycatch number of 20,000 fish, probably
17 about 4 or 5,000 fish are from Western Alaska origin.

18

19 With Chinook salmon, with the genetic
20 identifications on Chinook salmon, we break that down
21 even further in terms of Lower Yukon, Mid Yukon, or
22 Upper Yukon Chinook salmon, and I don't have that data
23 in front of me. But suffice it to say that all of the
24 bycatch in the Bering Sea is not Western Alaska origin
25 stocks.

26

27 And specific to the topic of the day,
28 I'm going to jump ahead here to about Page 17. We see
29 in general about 60 percent of the chum is of Asian
30 origin, either Russia or primarily Japanese hatchery
31 stock. So that's the first thing to understand when we
32 look at Bering Sea bycatch is that the fishery occurs a
33 long ways away, and while there's a component of
34 Western Alaska stocks, not all those fish are headed
35 for Western Alaska.

36

37 Mr. Chairman.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We've got a
40 question here.

41

42 MR. FIELDS: Sure. Yes.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Since you've got to Page
47 17, that was one where I had a note on it, and it's
48 actually going to run you off on a tangent perhaps that
49 you're maybe not able to go.

50

1 But actually what have here showing is
2 classifications and such to a huge part of the Asian
3 fish, and it's something that's really been always
4 nagging at my mind, and I know a lot of other
5 professionals in the field on that whole component of
6 the Asian stocks being hatchery fish. And putting 5 to
7 10 billion fry out there a year, competing with the
8 wild stocks, and doing that for the last 20 years how.
9 They started in the late 80s I believe is when they
10 really started ramping up there when they got kicked
11 out of the 110th parallel and the 200-mile zone really
12 went into effect. That whole history. But anyway,
13 just the accumulative effects of that over time, and
14 now that --- well, with the warming trends that we're
15 seeing in the Bering Sea waters, and we're not getting
16 the upwellings perhaps that we used to, stirring up the
17 nutrient levels, is there anything that the North
18 Pacific is looking for urging NMFS, who would be the
19 ones involve through Law of the Sea Conferences,
20 Pacific Salmon Treaty with those Asian nations that
21 could perhaps start to curtail and limit those?
22

23 MR. FIELDS: I appreciate the question.
24 I'm not sure that I have an answer. I can talk to it a
25 little bit. It's a complex question and it's a multi-
26 layered question.
27

28 I think in terms of the Staff and
29 scientists relative to the Council, your question is,
30 what's the ocean-rearing capacity in the Bering Sea for
31 Chinook salmon? And then the subquestion would be, is
32 the amount of Chinook salmon released in Japan
33 competing in some way with the Western Alaska stocks
34 that are feeding in the Bering Sea, and in some way
35 inhibiting or reducing the survivability of the Western
36 Alaska chum stocks. I don't know that that's an answer
37 -- or a question anybody can answer. It's not
38 something the North Pacific Council is pursuing. We
39 don't have a scientific per se to do research. But I
40 do believe it's a question that the North Pacific
41 Research Board has talked about and there may be some
42 ongoing projects that they're working on for ocean-
43 rearing capacity.
44

45 I know from my experience in fish
46 politics this was a question that John White out of
47 Bethel raised some 20 years ago relative to the
48 increase in hatchery-released chum salmon in Southeast
49 Alaska, but I don't believe that we have much more
50 information or a better answer now than we did 20 years

1 ago when Dr. White was asking those same questions.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: I wasn't really
4 expecting an answer, but actually I was hoping that if
5 there -- if you could as a member of the Council do
6 what you can for the Council to do some prodding and
7 start to try to get some of these questions answered
8 and have them addressed at the national and
9 international level is where the only place it's going
10 to happen. So getting the National Marine Fisheries
11 Service involved and pushing their people to start to
12 work towards making some determinations along these
13 lines.

14

15 MR. FIELDS: Thank you. Not seeing
16 other questions, Mr. Chairman, I'll just continue again
17 and try to hit some of the highlights.

18

19 I think what I'd like to do now is talk
20 just a little bit about the Chinook salmon bycatch
21 motion and the current regulations that were
22 implemented at the beginning of the year. And perhaps
23 entertain some questions.

24

25 There's been some criticism of the
26 Council's motion and perhaps some misinformation of the
27 motion. Currently, Mr. Chairman, the Council imposed a
28 hard cap of 60,000 Chinook salmon on the pollock fleet.
29 In other words, if the pollock fleet hits 60,000, the
30 entire fishery closes down.

31

32 In addition we hit -- we created a
33 target cap of 47,591. And we have said over a seven-
34 year period of time that if any sector within the
35 larger fleet exceeds that lower cap three times, that
36 they will be held to the lower cap in the future.

37

38 And if I were a fisherman on the Yukon
39 River and i saw that the Council had imposed a 60,000
40 Chinook cap, my immediate reaction would be that's way
41 too high. But wearing my Council hat, one of the
42 concerns about creating a hard cap is that you often
43 create incentives for some part of the fleet or subpart
44 of the fleet to race to reach that cap. And in some
45 ways when you set a hard cap, you kind of guarantee or
46 you provide incentives to ensure that the fleet's going
47 to catch up to that cap.

48

49 The Council wanted to work with the
50 pollock fleet to provide disincentives to catch the

1 cap. Disincentives to race for fish, to get as many
2 Chinook as you could as quickly as possible to get your
3 market share of the pollock.

4
5 And so that's why the Council moved
6 away from the hard cap, and in doing so, we set this
7 lower target, and we said, if you want this higher hard
8 cap, if we have this anomalous year or this unexpected
9 year where there just seems to be fish everywhere, if
10 you want some flexibility in terms of the Council
11 working with the fleet for the unusual circumstance,
12 then we want you to develop a sharing agreement within
13 your fleet. We want you to provide incentives for your
14 skippers to avoid Chinook bycatch.

15
16 And so we created the higher cap to
17 provide some flexibility in an unusual year, but we
18 also said our target is lower, and even that 47,000 is
19 not something we want you to reach very often.

20
21 The pollock fleet, to their credit, has
22 responded with inter-cooperative agreements. And
23 they've created disincentives for their skippers to
24 catch Chinook salmon. It actually costs those skippers
25 money. In addition, the near-shore fleet has allocated
26 relatively low amounts of Chinook on a per vessel
27 basis. So it's not even something that they're
28 assessing over the fleet as a whole. Every skipper has
29 a specific amount of Chinook which is very limiting on
30 those fleets. And we've seen fleet behavior change
31 remarkably in the last three years. So for example,
32 and as Mr. Wilde pointed out very clearly, in the years
33 since 2007 for Chinook bycatch, in the years since we
34 had this very large run, you will see substantial
35 reductions on an annual basis of Chinook bycatch in the
36 Bering Sea, from 20,000 to 12,000 and 9,000 in 2010.
37 2011, we're just in the first quarter.

38
39 Now, this seems to be a trend. It's a
40 trend the Council hopes will continue. We believe that
41 just the pressure of having these caps, even though in
42 one sense they may be too high, but just the pressure
43 of having those caps in place, has created the
44 incentives for the fleet to develop these inter-
45 cooperative agreements and in fact police themselves
46 down to much lower levels of Chinook bycatch.

47
48 To us, from a Council perspective, it's
49 been a success, because we're not pushing up to 47.5 or
50 we're not pushing up on the 60,000 cap. We haven't

1 provided incentives for the fishery to continue trying
2 to reach their cap every year.

3

4 So I'm trying to give you information
5 from two perspectives. I think if I was in your chair,
6 I would look at 60,000 and believe that's much too
7 high, but I also wanted to explain why as a Council
8 member I supported this initiative, because we were
9 trying to provide incentives for the fleet to police
10 themselves. And thus far it seems as though they've
11 worked.

12

13 If in 2011 they've exceeded 60,000
14 fish, I'm going to be the first Council member to say,
15 we've got to go back into this program. We've got to
16 find out what's wrong, and we've got to fix it. As you
17 know, Eric Olson from Dillingham, the Chairman of the
18 Council, is going to be right with me. Sam Cotton who
19 represents the communities out in the Western -- or
20 Alaska Peninsula, we're all focused on whether or not
21 our Chinook bycatch reduction measures are going to
22 work. Three years does not a trend make. Four or five
23 years, we'll be breathing a little easier.

24

25 Let me stop there and entertain any
26 questions from you relative to the Council's Chinook
27 savings program that's currently in place.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

30

31 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. It always amazes
32 me to hear numbers going down from 2007 to almost
33 negligible numbers, but how do you know those numbers
34 are real? You know, it just doesn't make sense to me.
35 Your number of bycatch is going down, yet the salmon in
36 the Kuskokwim River and the Yukon are still going down.

37

38 MR. FIELDS: Excellent question. Those
39 are questions that I ask myself. On the boats that
40 we're talking about, there's 100 and 200 percent
41 observer coverage. In other words, if you're a large
42 factory trawler, you have two observers, they're
43 observing 24 hours a day. If you're a small shore-
44 delivery vessel, you'll have 100 percent observer
45 coverage. So we believe that the Chinook salmon
46 numbers are very accurate. The chum numbers as well
47 are very accurate based on having a person aboard each
48 vessel while they're fishing to monitor Chinook salmon
49 bycatch. Chum or Chinook, just salmon bycatch
50 generally.

1 Those numbers in the past, however,
2 with less observer coverage were less accurate. And in
3 years prior to 2007 or 2005 for chum, we did not have
4 the observer coverage that we currently have in place
5 in the North Pacific pollock fishery.

6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: You're always talking
8 about recorded numbers. And we know there's more fish
9 that are thrown overboard, thrown overboard than the
10 ones that are counted. We know that for sure. And it
11 just -- these numbers are going down and bycatch are
12 not real. They're not real. It shows on the Kuskokwim
13 and the Yukon River that those numbers out there are
14 not real.

15
16 MR. FIELDS: You know, Robert, I think
17 that three years I would have felt just the way you do.
18 As I came on the Council I suspected that virtually all
19 of the bycatch numbers were not necessarily accurate.
20 And I began to question and pry and investigate exactly
21 what's going on on those vessels. I would talk with
22 observers. I would talk with managers. I would talk
23 with vessel skippers, the guys on board. And there are
24 many places where bycatch numbers are inaccurate.

25
26 In my front yard, in the Gulf of
27 Alaska, we have bycatch issues, accounting issues that
28 would puzzle a genius. But with regard to the pollock
29 fishery in the Bering Sea, we have perhaps the best
30 observer coverage of any fisheries in the entire United
31 States. It's not perfect, but none of those fish are
32 actually thrown away. It's illegal to throw fish away,
33 so discarding salmon at sea is something in the past.

34
35 And prior to having observer coverages,
36 the kinds of comments that you make were actually
37 absolutely accurate. But I think I can tell you today,
38 sitting before you today, and say I've changed my view
39 of the accuracy of the counting, and I believe the
40 numbers we have today are substantially more accurate
41 than the numbers we've had in the past, because of
42 changes in observer coverage, but I understand our
43 skepticism about that.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: The other question is,
46 who pays the salaries for the observers?

47
48 MR. FIELDS: A great question. The
49 observers are paid on a pay as you go system. A
50 company or a vessel will contract with an observer

1 provider, a third-party provider that trains the
2 observer and then places the observer on the vessel.
3 The observer himself or herself is not contractually
4 related to the company that hires him. They're paid
5 for and contracted to an observer provider. The
6 observer provider then has a contract with the company
7 or the vessel on which the observers are placed.

8
9 In the future -- the Council is
10 changing much of the way observers are paid for. In
11 the future the National Marine Fisheries Service is
12 going to assess a fee from many of the fishers. Not
13 the factory trawlers in the Bering, their system's
14 going to be slightly different, but from all of the
15 vessels that deliver shore side in the Bering Sea,
16 within I think probably two years when it's
17 implemented, the National Marine Fisheries will assess
18 a fee and they will manage an observer program based on
19 the fees that are assessed. And they will then
20 contract with observer providers and deploy observers
21 based on a randomization of who takes an observer when
22 and where. But that's a system that's yet to be
23 implemented and it'll probably come on line in a couple
24 of years.

25
26 Why don't you pursue me. I see you're
27 puzzled in terms of my answer. Okay.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: It only strikes me that
30 whoever pays your salary, you're going to be loyal to
31 them.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are you done?

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Continue.

38
39 MR. FIELDS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 So I think that kind of outlined the Chinook system
41 that we have in place.

42
43 In your materials, starting on Page 43,
44 you see the Council's motion relative to the chum
45 salmon bycatch. As we previously said, we're in a
46 review process of this motion. We're going to take
47 this issue up in Nome in June. We'll review these
48 alternatives, perhaps refine some of the options, and
49 then hope to final action on Bering Sea chum salmon
50 bycatch at our December meeting back in Anchorage.

1 Mr. Chairman. Without going into
2 detail, as you look at that, you'll see an array of
3 options for the Council to consider. There's the hard
4 cap option. There's a sector allocation between the
5 various sectors in the Bering Sea. We have area-
6 specific trigger closures under alternative three.
7 This would be to identify time and area, and perhaps
8 close certain areas for certain periods of time. And
9 then, Mr. Chairman, we also have options relative to
10 the incentives for the fleet to develop
11 inter-cooperative agreements or other kinds of
12 contracts that would encourage individual vessels or
13 individual skippers to avoid bycatch.

14
15 So without foreshadowing or giving any,
16 you know, guarantee of what the Council would do, I
17 would expect that the Council will look at the chum
18 salmon bycatch issue in a way similar to what we did
19 with Chinook. We'll look at a hard cap as what we call
20 a backstop in case you have a very unusual year. I
21 think in 2005 we had 700,000 plus -- yeah, 2005,
22 700,000 plus chum salmon bycatch. I think everybody in
23 the Council recognizes that that's far too many fish to
24 be caught in the fishery.

25
26 And in addition to the hard cap, I
27 would expect some other kinds of regulatory measures
28 that would provide incentives for the pollock fleet to
29 avoid chum salmon, Mr. Chairman.

30
31 So I think we've talked about Chinook
32 salmon, I just summarized where we are with chum
33 salmon, what our time frame is.

34
35 Perhaps in closing, Mr. Chairman, I
36 would reiterate what one of the testifiers earlier said
37 is keep the resolutions coming, keep the pressure on
38 the Council to the degree that you can. Have people
39 come and testify before the Council. You're, as you
40 know, in a battle for your subsistence resource. There
41 are a number of fisheries and fisheries groups that are
42 engaged in the same battle to protect their interests.
43 And it's important that you appreciate I think the
44 kinds of advocacy that the Council hears. And I
45 welcome you at the Council table advocating for your
46 villages, for your communities, and for your lifestyle
47 here on the Yukon and Kuskokwim River.

48
49 I'll conclude with that, Mr. Chairman.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. I have
2 one question over there, Mr. Alexie Walters.
3
4 MR. WALTERS: You were talking about
5 the bycatch numbers earlier.
6
7 MR. FIELDS: Yes.
8
9 MR. WALTERS: Well (indiscernible, away
10 from microphone)
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would you come up
13 to the mic.
14
15 MR. WALTERS: You know, I always have a
16 problem when I testify, too, on numbers. When you
17 indicate that there's bycatch out there, and you give a
18 certain lump sum numbers. And I asked at one point in
19 one of the meetings, how much of that bycatch was
20 donated to food bank. I didn't get a number, exact
21 number. But I was told that some of the bycatch was too
22 slushy or they got soft, and they also didn't give a
23 number of how much they throw overboard. So where I am
24 with my question? How much of that was saved for food
25 bank and how much effort are they doing? When they
26 catch that bycatch, it should be in pretty good shape
27 while they're handling along with their product they're
28 receiving to make money with.
29
30 MR. FIELDS: Excellent question.
31
32 MR. WALTERS: Nothing spoils in a few
33 minutes.
34
35 MR. FIELDS: Excellent questions. It's
36 my understanding, and I'll check once more, but it's my
37 understanding that no salmon is thrown overboard. So
38 there are no discards at sea for salmon. That's my
39 understanding.
40
41 What's done with it, as you said, is it
42 processed into fishmeal or is it processed for human
43 consumption. I believe that it's somewhere between 10
44 and 20 percent of the salmon caught as bycatch is
45 processed for human consumption and donated to a food
46 bank. I know that one company, Trident Seafoods, has
47 been very proactive relative to their participation in
48 a food bank.
49
50 I also know that as a Council member I

1 made a motion during the Chinook bycatch discussions to
2 mandate that 100 percent of the Chinook salmon be kept
3 and to the degree practicable used for food. That
4 motion was defeated at the Council. So I share your
5 concerns about utilization of the Chinook.

6

7 At this point, however, it's a
8 voluntary program, and I would say approximately 20
9 percent of the Chinook salmon are processed for human
10 consumption and donated to the food bank. I wish it
11 were more.

12

13 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. Because somebody
14 had told me at one point somewhere along the line that
15 the reason why a lot of that bycatch is never delivered
16 to Dutch Harbor or nowhere else, they need to save
17 money for their product to make money with. The
18 bycatch has no room, because nobody is making money
19 handling -- or they don't make money with bycatch, that
20 they have to throw it overboard so that they can have
21 more room for something they're going to make money
22 with. Now who's telling me the true facts of how
23 bycatch is handled.

24

25 MR. FIELDS: Again an excellent
26 question. I think there are a variety of factors
27 considered as you approach this issue. One of the
28 factors is a lot of these fish are very, very small,
29 less than two pounds. So you're not dealing with
30 mature salmon that we're used to dealing with in the
31 river. Secondly, the size of the cod ends or the
32 size of the trawls, the amount in poundage of fish
33 that's brought on board, frequently the salmon are just
34 crushed. A lot of these salmon aren't in the kinds of
35 conditions used to seeing salmon in simply because of
36 the weight that's brought up in the trawls.

37

38 Having said that, I still think the
39 fleet would do much better. And I do think that you're
40 right in that sometimes they make an economic decision
41 relative to the kinds of fish they want to keep and the
42 hold capacity that they have. But I would say that's
43 probably not the only factor that they weigh in terms
44 of their resistance to saving -- or to processing more
45 salmon bycatch for human consumption.

46

47 MR. WALTERS: Another meeting, too, I
48 was told that they would bring more fish into docks,
49 but there's nobody there to receive it or handle it
50 because it's a donated item. I don't know. That came

1 around at one meeting.

2

3 MR. FIELDS: And I that's a fair
4 comment. I'm not prepared to give any additional
5 information to the Board at this time relative to
6 processing capacity or availability of processing shore
7 side. It's my understanding that in general there's a
8 willingness to participate in the food bank program,
9 but also that there's some impediments, particularly at
10 sea with the actual catching of the fish relative to
11 participation. But I don't have any more information
12 than what you have today.

13

14 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. I realize their
15 doing their best to address this issue. It comes up
16 just about every year or every other year in certain
17 testimonies I've heard. I have never had a clear
18 number shown to me when I talk about food bank numbers
19 that were received, or what was overboard. That's why
20 I'm always uncomfortable with that issue.

21

22 MR. FIELDS: So what I'm going to do is
23 I'll get your name and contact information, and within
24 a week I'll get you a firm number. I think we can do
25 that.

26

27 MR. WALTERS: That would be real good.
28 Thank you.

29

30 MR. FIELDS: Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
33 questions for Duncan. Go ahead, Mr. Unok.

34

35 MR. UNOK: Yeah, I have a question.
36 How long are you going to be here?

37

38 MR. FIELDS: I'll be staying through
39 tomorrow afternoon or until the weather breaks.

40

41 MR. UNOK: I hope you'll stay here for
42 the Federal -- Fred's report on fish and wildlife.

43

44 MR. FIELDS: I'm interested in that. I
45 read that in the.....

46

47 MR. UNOK: Yeah, it's a report from
48 2000 to 2009, our fish dropped. Chinooks. And that's
49 when Mr. Wilde said he got only three and some people
50 downriver didn't catch anything at that time. Putting

1 a cap on these, I don't think 60,000 will do any good,
2 because the numbers are dropping every year. If you
3 stay, and you'll see the report.

4

5 MR. FIELDS: And I appreciate that.
6 And I think if we were looking at an annual catch of
7 60,000 a year I'd have great concerns. I think that
8 the mechanism is in place to provide incentives that
9 the bycatch will remain under 20,000 as we've seen in
10 the last three years.

11

12 I think what we're seeing on the Yukon
13 is while Chinook or chum salmon bycatch in the Bering
14 Sea fishery is an important part of what may be
15 happening on the Yukon and the Kuskokwim, it may not be
16 the only factor. It may be a contributory factor, but
17 there may be other issues associated with what's going
18 on in-river. And so while I want to do everything I
19 can as a Council member to focus on this issue, I can
20 appreciate that there may not be a one-to-one
21 correlation between reducing Chinook bycatch and more
22 Chinook in your river.

23

24 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Who is this on the
27 phone? Just a minute. I have a couple more questions
28 that hands were raised, then we'll get to you on the
29 phone.

30

31 Mr. James, you have a question.

32

33 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Yeah, this is
34 Tim. I'll wait. Thanks.

35

36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

37

38 MR. JAMES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 For the record, what's your name again?

40

41 MR. FIELDS: Duncan Fields.

42

43 MR. JAMES: Duncan Fields. And who are
44 you, Mr. Duncan Fields?

45

46 MR. FIELDS: I'm a Council member.

47

48 MR. JAMES: Council member.

49

50 MR. FIELDS: And I come from Kodiak.

1 I've been on the North Pacific Council for four years.
2 I represent or I work with Native communities in the
3 Gulf of Alaska.

4
5 MR. JAMES: Okay. Thank you. Nice to
6 meet.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If I may, if you
9 have any personal questions that you need to ask, ask
10 them. He's going to be here for a couple days, so if
11 you have any questions, personal that you need to ask
12 him, could you wait and ask him after the meeting?

13
14 MR. JAMES: Yes.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If it affects this
17 area and this Council, then speak on that subject.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 MR. JAMES: Yes. So I have a statement
22 to speak to. The North Pacific Fishery Management
23 Council should impose a five-year moratorium to
24 immediately act as a rigid measure to severely limit
25 the Chinook and chum salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea
26 pollock fishery. A very long-term amendment package
27 should expeditiously address a comprehensive salmon
28 bycatch management in the Gulf of Alaska trawl
29 fisheries.

30
31 The subsistence and commercial Chinook
32 and chum salmon fishery produces a very significant
33 impoverished, very low revenue to no revenue for all
34 the users of the Norton Sound, Kuskokwim River and the
35 Yukon River.

36
37 The Wade Hampton area is the most
38 depressed.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: May we have your
41 attention just minute. If you people back there would
42 like to speak, go speak somewhere else. We're trying
43 to listen to the man here.

44
45 Thank you.

46
47 Go ahead, continue.

48
49 MR. JAMES: The Wade Hampton area is
50 the most depressed, significantly poor in all of Alaska

1 and the Lower 48 combined.

2

3 Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

6

7 MR. JAMES: Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
10 questions or statements. Did you get that.

11

12 MR. JAMES: Yeah, I'll give a copy.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was one more
15 question from back there. Didn't somebody have their
16 hand raised? Besides you, there was somebody back
17 here. But I guess -- go ahead, Mr. Andrew.

18

19 MR. J. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. Thank
20 you.

21

22 I've just got a couple of questions.
23 On the years where there is a real high byproduct or
24 salmon bycatch, like you said in 2005 there was better
25 than 700,000 bycatch of chums. And also in 2007 you
26 had -- someone in Fish and Game some years back gave us
27 a report there was 127,000 Chinook that was caught as
28 bycatch that year, not 120. They may have been wrong.
29 But can the North Pacific Council impose an emergency
30 closures on the years they know they're catching too
31 much? Because I know on the Yukon and the Kuskokwim,
32 when they said it got too many, it will close the
33 fishery down, or if it's too low. And here the poor
34 people of the Yukon and the Kuskokwim just try to feed
35 their family. If they catch with the wrong gear or at
36 the wrong time, they'll impose a fine on them. And
37 it's very discriminating.

38

39 Thank you.

40

41 MR. FIELDS: Thanks, John. I was
42 surprised to learn when I met John yesterday that as a
43 young man he fished very close to our family setnet
44 site on Kodiak Island, so Alaska is a small place.

45

46 The Federal managers of the pollock
47 don't have the latitude or the flexibility that the
48 State does in managing fisheries in-season. So
49 consequently the direct answer to your question is, can
50 they close the fishery down? The answer is no. That's

1 one of the reasons we've created these regulatory
2 structures like the Chinook salmon bycatch savings
3 measure, and the chum salmon measures, to provide
4 independent indices for regulatory action should
5 something occur.

6

7 So once the chum salmon savings package
8 is passed by the Council and implemented in regulation,
9 there will be the kind of cap that will close the
10 fishery down. That's why in the Chinook savings
11 regulatory package we have the 60,000 cap so that in an
12 anomalous year like 2007 there's already in place a
13 regulatory structure that allows the Federal managers
14 to close the fishery.

15

16 Currently with chum salmon we don't
17 have that in place.

18

19 MR. J. ANDREW: Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
22 questions for Mr. Fields.

23

24 MR. FIELDS: There's somebody on line.

25

26 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead. Michael
29 I believe on the phone?

30

31 MR. T. ANDREW: No, this is Tim Andrew
32 with AVCP, and my apologies for not being there in
33 Mountain Village for this very important meeting.

34

35 In any case, thank you, Mr. Duncan
36 Fields, for candor and your thoroughness in explaining
37 to the Regional Advisory Council about the bycatch in
38 the Bering Sea.

39

40 Earlier you had mentioned that the
41 harvest was only 9,000 for this past year, 2010. And I
42 was just wondering in your opinion whether you think
43 that this is a function of abundance or is it true
44 attempts by the trawl fishermen to decrease bycatch,
45 because over the last several years we've had decreased
46 abundance, the returns on the Yukon River, Unalakleet,
47 Nushagak to some extent, and now this year the
48 Kuskokwim River.

49

50 MR. FIELDS: Thanks, Tim. As you're

1 saying my candor, I'm realizing my candor may get me
2 into trouble. But having said that, I don't know that
3 I have the expertise, nor do I believe the Council or
4 the scientists that are studying Chinook salmon
5 currently have the expertise to definitively say (A)
6 the bycatch is lower because the fleet has changed its
7 behavior patterns; (B) there's less fish available,
8 that is, there's reduced abundance; or (C) regulatory
9 patterns by season or time and place have changed.

10

11 I know for sure that the fleet is doing
12 a number of things to reduce bycatch, and I think
13 that's been successful. It may well be that there's
14 just less fish out there, and so consequently their
15 success has been due to environmental factors as well.

16

17

18 I do think, however, Tim, that when the
19 fish come back, and I certainly hope they will, that
20 changes in fleet behavior will substantially reduce the
21 amount of fish that would otherwise have been caught
22 even at high abundance years. That's one of the
23 reasons that we have this flexibility in our plan, and
24 the 60,000 fish number.

25

26 We don't know that a year might occur
27 where you have very large abundance of fish even if
28 they're non-Western Alaska stocks. You could have a
29 year where you have some sort of recruitment event so to
30 speak, and you have large amounts of Chinook salmon
31 that are West Coast origin or Asian origin stocks. In
32 that circumstance, we were concerned as a Council about
33 closing the entire Bering Sea pollock fishery down in
34 circumstances that might not really save very many
35 Western Alaska Chinook. So I do think abundance is
36 part of the current equation, but I know for sure that
37 behavior patterns, the fishing patterns as a fleet has
38 substantially changed.

39

40 And I have a codicil under that. Let
41 me stop and have you pursue me, and then I wanted to
42 talk a little bit about some additional information.

43

44 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you. Mr.
45 Chairman, if I may continue with the follow up.

46

47 Did the decreased harvest of Chinook
48 salmon bycatch affect the fleets ability to harvest the
49 pollock?

50

1 MR. FIELDS: That's kind of where I was
2 going. It seems to have impacted the fleet in terms of
3 geographic distribution. There's less fishing close to
4 the Aleutian Islands and there's less fishing east of
5 the 170 parallel line, which is a line dividing a
6 number of the statistical areas that National Marine
7 Fisheries has in the Bering Sea. So there's less
8 fishing closer to Western Alaska, and there's less
9 fishing closer to the Aleutian Islands.

10
11 As of 2010 the change in where the
12 pollock fish fleet hadn't impacted their ability to
13 catch the full pollock quota. However, in 2011 the
14 pollock quota was increased by more -- I believe by
15 more than 50 percent. There was an increase from 700
16 and some thousand metric tons to approximately
17 1,200,000 metric tons for 2011.

18
19 As a Council member, I'm very diligent
20 in terms of seeing bycatch rates as well as absolute
21 numbers. As the pollock quota increases, it's not just
22 the amount of fish we need to look at, but its actual
23 fish per ton of pollock that comes into play. So I
24 think we don't know yet in 2011 whether or not the
25 current restrictions on Chinook bycatch will inhibit or
26 limit the fleet from catching the full pollock quota.

27
28 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay Thank you, Mr.
29 Chairman and Mr. Fields, for answering my question.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Tim.
32 Any further questions for Mr. Fields.

33
34 (No comments)

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, I think you
37 might have done a good job here. And then we'll go on
38 down to Gulf of Alaska with Office of Subsistence
39 Management. After this we'll have a break.

40
41 MR. FIELDS: Mr. Chairman, if I might,
42 I wanted to thank you personally and to thank the RAC,
43 the Board for inviting the North Pacific Council. On
44 behalf of the Council I'd like to express a willingness
45 to come and visit with you at any time, and I would
46 encourage your membership as well as representatives
47 from our communities to come to Council meetings and to
48 let our views be known.

49
50 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. I was
2 going to go ahead and have a break, but I wanted to get
3 over this subject before we have a break. Then we'll
4 go into another subject directly after.

5
6 Go ahead, ma'am.

7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Helen
9 Armstrong with the Office of Subsistence Management.

10
11 On this subject I did want to read to
12 you what the Seward Peninsula Regional Advisory Council
13 did, because they asked that their position be shared
14 with all the Councils that are concerned with this
15 issue.

16
17 They said that the Seward Peninsula
18 Council understands that the North Pacific Fishery
19 Management Council is tentatively scheduled to meet in
20 Nome this June to select a preferred alternative for
21 chum salmon bycatch. The Council voted to request that
22 the Federal Subsistence Board recommend that the NPFMC
23 establish a bycatch limit of 30,000 chum salmon for the
24 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands pollock fishery. They
25 asked that this recommendation be shared, and they
26 requested that the Federal Subsistence Board address
27 this issue before the National Pacific -- I mean, North
28 Pacific, sorry, Fisheries Management Council meets in
29 Nome in June, tentatively for June.

30
31 They also voted to send a letter of
32 their position to the Norton Sound Economic Development
33 Corporation requesting that the Norton Sound Economic
34 Development Corporation clarify their position on chum
35 salmon bycatch before the meeting in Nome.

36
37 And then the Seward Peninsula Council
38 then has a document that they sent on to the Federal
39 Board.

40
41 So they wanted to share that with you
42 and so I've done that.

43
44 Thank you.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. We have
47 one more item on the subject, and that's the Gulf of
48 Alaska. It was written by Office of Subsistence
49 Management briefing. Is somebody here to go over that?

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's a written
2 briefing. If you'd like me to do it verbally you can.
3 The plan was to just let you look at it.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. In that
6 case, it's in the book and if you want to read it, go
7 ahead. And at this at this time we'll have a 10, 15-
8 minute break.

9
10 (Off record)

11
12 (On record)

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Our meeting is
15 called back to order. Will you have a little bit of
16 consideration for those of us. We listened to you when
17 you wanted us, to listen to us. It's our turn now.

18
19 Thank you.

20
21 We are down to Item 13. Call for
22 proposal to change Federal subsistence wildlife
23 regulations. Pardon me. If any of you would like to
24 have write up wildlife proposals to change Federal
25 wildlife regulations in this book, you're welcome to do
26 so. The deadline is March 24th, 2011. If you need any
27 help with writing proposals, our Staff, Pippa is right
28 there. She'll be more than willing to help you.

29
30 Thank you.

31
32 And now we are down to Item 14,
33 wildlife closure review. Did I do something wrong
34 here?

35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: We did the change first,
37 and then we went back to it. It's okay.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. All right.
40 I think I'm okay then.

41
42 Wildlife closure review and Council
43 recommendations. Item 33, closure review briefing.

44
45 MR. REARDEN: Mr. Chair. Members of
46 the Council. My name is Spencer Rearden with the
47 Office of Subsistence Management.

48
49 We review these closures about every
50 three years to determine if there's justification for

1 the closure, is still consistent with the Federal
2 Subsistence Board's closure policy.

3

4 And Section .15(3) of ANILCA allows
5 closure when necessary for the conservation of a
6 healthy population of fish and wildlife or to continue
7 subsistence uses of such populations. And as we all
8 know, distributions and abundance of fish and wildlife
9 change and fluctuate along with subsistence use
10 patterns.

11

12 And Councils are asked to consider the
13 OSM preliminary recommendation and share their views on
14 the issue.

15

16 We only have one closure to go over,
17 and I'll be pretty brief. The analysis for the closure
18 review begins on Page 38 of your Council book.

19

20 The eastern portion of Unit 19A has
21 been closed to moose hunting since 2007 due to low
22 population. The most current survey was conducted in
23 2008, and the population is estimated at 1,225 to
24 2,181, or about 0.44 moose per square mile if you
25 wanted a density. And these estimates are considered
26 low and do not meet management objectives. However,
27 the population appears to have increased as densities
28 have increased from .28 in 2005 to .44 moose per square
29 mile in 2008.

30

31 In addition twinning rates were near 64
32 percent, and the calf/cow ratio was near 45 calves per
33 100 cows as interpreted from composition counts in
34 2007. So it's looking like moose populations might be
35 increasing.

36

37 However, it's still low, so the OSM
38 preliminary conclusion is to maintain the closure.
39 Although there may have been an increase in moose
40 numbers, the population is still considered low and has
41 not rebounded to reach management objectives.

42

43 And thank you, I'd be happy to take any
44 questions.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Unok.

47

48 MR. UNOK: When you mentioned about .44
49 moose a mile, you mean square mile? You mentioned
50 square mile some place. I didn't catch.

1 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Through the
2 Chair.....
3
4 MR. UNOK: What do you mean miles?
5 You're talking about in the area, in a mile you count
6 moose?
7
8 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. Sometimes when the
9 surveys are conducted, they can't -- sometimes they
10 don't finish their surveys or weather pattern, if
11 there's not enough snow and they can't see all the
12 moose, sometimes that gets interrupted. So they try to
13 get a density, get an idea of how many moose per square
14 mile. So when the surveys are done, they break it up.
15 So it just gives you an idea of how many moose are in
16 there, because sometimes they can't give you a total
17 number. Sometimes the population number is hard to
18 get. So it's just the way biologists try to figure out
19 how many moose, or what the moose are doing. If
20 they're increasing or decreasing in population.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did that answer
23 your question?
24
25 MR. UNOK: (Nods affirmatively)
26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
28 questions on the closure review briefing.
29
30 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, Tim
31 Andrew.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: On the phone, go
34 ahead.
35
36 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Spencer, this is
37 Tim Andrew with AVCP. I see the OSM and the State of
38 Alaska are continuing to support the continued closure.
39 And I was just wondering if there is anything within
40 the moose management plan which would allow the
41 reopening of a season up there to a limited scale, even
42 though it was for the limited season only in 19?
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You heard the
45 question, you have an answer?
46
47 MR. REARDEN: Yep. I am not aware of
48 that. I suppose when -- I mean, the last survey was
49 done in 2008, so that's -- we need more data, more
50 current data. So I suppose once they come out with

1 that more data that people will look at the number and
2 submit proposals to open the season again. But as far
3 as meeting a certain criteria, I'm not aware of any.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything further.

6
7 MR. T. ANDREW: So just, yeah, if I
8 could follow up, please.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Tim.

11
12 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
13 Chair.

14
15 So essentially this closure can remain
16 in effect until -- for an indefinite period of time
17 then with no objective?

18
19 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. As far as an
20 objective, the moose management objectives is hire than
21 what we're currently at. I think it's .7 something or
22 other per square mile. And that's an ADF&G management
23 objective. So that's the only criteria that I see that
24 they would -- that we may gauge against. But, you're
25 right. I mean, I don't think there's anything to say,
26 let's open it when we meet a certain criteria. I think
27 that's kind of up to the public, Councils to submit
28 proposals when that moose population -- when they feel
29 the moose population has rebounded so that we could
30 analyze and go forward.

31
32 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Tim.

36
37 Anything further? Okay. Mr. Roczicka.

38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

40
41 And he's not here, and I guess not a
42 question for Spencer, but herein lies one of those
43 areas that I've touched on in a couple of soapboxes
44 speeches over time. But what needs to happen here, and
45 I believe should be incorporated into our annual report
46 and reflected by many other of the Regional Councils,
47 is when we have a closure or when a hunt is curtailed
48 and the subsistence users when you end up in
49 essentially a Federal Tier II situation, the area
50 manager, being the Refuge, what ever it may be, should

1 at that time come up with a plan on how they plan to
2 rebuild that population and get it back so they can
3 provide for subsistence needs. And that's what we have
4 asked to do. And the last response that we got from
5 our annual report, the question was totally avoided.
6 So we need to pressed it here that something should be
7 contained within this closure policy on the Federal
8 management agency, not the Federal Subsistence Board,
9 but the management entity, in this case the Fish and
10 Wildlife Service, should have a plan together on
11 rebuilding these populations and establish those
12 trigger points. So that's -- I'd like to have that
13 incorporated into the annual report.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. All right.
16 Spencer.

17

18 MR. REARDEN: Yeah, that's duly noted.
19 I do know that there was some -- although the --
20 through closure of the hunt, of course, trying to
21 rebuild that population, and I believe there was some
22 predator control within the 19A area, that they believe
23 may have attributed to some of this recent data showing
24 there may have been an increase. So that was in -- for
25 the Fish and Game side of things. But as far as
26 Federal side of things, that's duly noted, to provide
27 you more details as far as what the plan may or may not
28 be.

29

30 However, sometimes there isn't much of
31 a plan. Sometimes people come together and look at the
32 data and say, yeah, the moose populations are way low,
33 and the habitat could likely support more. Let's close
34 it. And then that's done, and there's no further
35 discussion on what the plan is. So sometimes there is
36 none. But if there is, I agree with you in reiterating
37 or coming up with something. But from the OSM side of
38 things that may be difficult, but coming up with plans
39 as ar as what we're targeting is important.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

42

43 MR. ALOYSIUS: A question.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius,
46 you've got a question.

47

48 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm just a little bit
49 confused here. Why are we treading on Western
50 Interior's turf?

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, because it's
2 on the approved agenda. That's why.

3
4 Anything else on that 19A closure.

5
6 MR. REARDEN: Just one more point to
7 note. In this area there is no Refuge lands. This is
8 BLM lands for the checkerboarding part of it. And much
9 of it's State or private lands, so it's not necessarily
10 a Fish and Wildlife issue altogether.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
13 questions or statements. Mr. Pappas.

14
15 MR. PAPPAS: Thank you, sir. George
16 Pappas, Department of Fish and Game.

17
18 And we would like to insert our
19 position on this. Our current position does support
20 the conclusion of OSM, and that is to maintain the
21 status quo until the moose population does rebound.

22
23 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
26 Chairman [sic]. I don't think that discussion will be
27 forthwith shortly. Thank you.

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I'd like
30 to get an answer.

31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: I've got one.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. There's an
35 answer for you. Go ahead.

36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: The area in question,
38 19A, the residents of Unit 18 down to the Johnson River
39 do have customary and traditional use.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's some things
42 that we discuss that we don't all agree with, but then
43 there are things that we need to touch on, so whether
44 -- no matter what our feelings are concerning that
45 topic, it's got to be stated anyway.

46
47 We are down to Item B, closure policy.

48
49
50 MR. REARDEN: Yeah, I reviewed the

1 closure policy where we review these closures every
2 three years just before, so it's -- I did it pretty
3 briefly though.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I apologize I must
6 have been sleeping while you said it.

7
8 We are down to on Item C -- thank you,
9 Spencer. Down to Item C, WCR10-39, Unit -- no, that's
10 it.

11
12 Item D is SWC, Lower Yukon subsistence
13 harvest survey. And I guess he's got a PowerPoint
14 presentation.

15
16 (Setting PowerPoint presentation)

17
18 MR. WEEKLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
19 Thank you, Council, for giving the opportunity for me
20 to present this data in front of the Council.

21
22 And so last year I attended the winter
23 RAC meeting, some of you may recall, and talked about
24 this upcoming project that we had been contracted with
25 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence
26 Management, to look at large land mammal harvest along
27 communities along the Lower Yukon River. And so we
28 were contracted with OSM to look at harvest of large
29 land mammals in Kotlik, Alakanuk, Nunam Iqua, Scammon
30 Bay, Chevak, Mountain Village, St. Mary's, Marshall and
31 Russian Mission.

32
33 The species that we looked at were
34 moose, caribou, black bear, brown bear, muskox,
35 wolverine and wolf. Much of the research was focused
36 on moose harvest, however -- and so there's a lot of
37 information on moose; however, we also tried to collect
38 some information on those other species.

39
40 From the beginning we conducted
41 household interviews between February and May of 2010
42 looking at a study year of February 2009 to January
43 2010. Of the household -- there were 401 households
44 out of the nine communities that were interviewed out
45 of an estimated 896 households. That produces about a
46 sampled population of almost 2,000 residents in those
47 nine communities. And we had 89 households that
48 declined to participate in the study.

49
50 So some of the study results for moose,

1 between February 2009 and January 2010, in those nine
2 communities an estimated 549 moose were harvested.
3 Households in the communities that used moose primarily
4 for consumption ranged between 28 percent in Chevak to
5 100 percent, and I believe that was in Nunam Iqua.
6 Households hunting moose ranged also from 28 percent to
7 89 percent. And the pounds of moose harvested per
8 capita ranged from 24 pounds to 128 pounds. And I
9 believe the 128 was here in Mountain Village.

10

Any questions so far.

11

12

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CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I've got one

question.

MR. WEEKLEY: Sure.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One of the things

that was -- that used moose, the strategies, Hooper

Bay, why was that left out?

MR. WEEKLEY: What? I.....

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Hooper Bay, the

Village of Hooper Bay, why was it left out?

MR. WEEKLEY: You know, it was not in

the contract, and I'm not sure exactly why that

community was left out, as well as Emmonak and Pilot

Station.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And may I ask, is

this survey done for an ANS number?

REPORTER: Lester. Lester.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry.

REPORTER: Turn your mic on.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Was this survey

done to gather ANS numbers or is that -- does this

survey have anything to do with -- I don't know what

the Feds call it, but the State calls it amount

necessary for subsistence. Large mammals. Is that

part of the survey, the reason why this is done?

MR. WEEKLEY: I think this information

is going to be used for that, but I think Helen would

probably be the better one to speak to that.

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: The Federal program
2 actually doesn't use amounts necessary. We don't talk
3 about need; we talk about uses. It's a State term.
4 But I mean certainly the State will use this
5 information I'm sure, because it's there. It doesn't
6 matter who paid for the research.

7
8 And your question about Hooper Bay,
9 there are just so many -- only so many communities, but
10 I think it's certainly okay for you to say that you
11 would like to have this study done. And, you know, if
12 we get funding in the future to do some more of this,
13 which, you know, it would be nice to do some more, to
14 gather more information, that you want Hooper Bay to be
15 included.

16
17 I don't really know much more about why
18 it was included or not included other than it just
19 wasn't there.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, my concern is
22 that if this is going to be used for ANS numbers for
23 the State, then those other communities should be
24 included also, because they have taken a number of
25 moose also. And there are more and more uses of moose
26 because of the economy that we're living in now, so if
27 their numbers are going to be taken for the amounts
28 necessary for subsistence, we'd like to make sure that
29 all the villages are included.

30
31 Thank you.

32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: Duly noted.

34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

38
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. And just to
40 clarify that, I wanted to ask the same question, but
41 just to make it very clear that those 549 moose you
42 have there are only from these villages that you
43 surveyed?

44
45 MR. WEEKLEY: That's correct.

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. And how does that
48 measure up, or have you gotten there yet -- I imagine
49 we'll hear from the State later, but as far as what was
50 the reported harvest?

1 MR. WEEKLEY: You know, I have talked
2 to Phil Perry, the area biologist about the numbers,
3 and they're anywhere between 20 to 50 -- the numbers we
4 have are about 20 to 50 percent higher than the harvest
5 ticket numbers.

6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.

8
9 MR. WEEKLEY: Any other questions so
10 far.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I just have one
13 statement. You know, there was a study done and there
14 was some harvest reports done for Unit 18, and the
15 numbers that the State was using was 100 for the whole
16 Unit 18 of caught moose. And I'm glad that somebody's
17 coming up with the numbers that are needed to get the
18 real numbers of subsistence needs in this area.

19
20 Thank you.

21
22 MR. WEEKLEY: This is a chart looking
23 at when moose harvest was generally occurring. As you
24 can see, most of the harvest was occurring in August
25 and September with some occurring during the winter
26 months of December and January. And by far the largest
27 amount of harvest was bulls.

28
29 In terms of hunters for moose, there
30 were an estimated 1,047 moose hunters. Of those, 540
31 were successful, which produces an average success rate
32 across all the communities of 52 percent. Hunter
33 success rates between the communities averages at least
34 40 percent and some were as high as 60 percent. Those
35 are some of the highest numbers anyone has ever seen in
36 the State. So the hunters have great success in this
37 area.

38
39 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair. I have a
40 question. If they leave out Emmonak.....

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Will you get in
43 front of a mic so your question can be.....

44
45 MR. POLTY: Yeah. Excuse me. If they
46 leave out Emmonak and Pilot Station, that average
47 success of all communities, does that delete Emmonak
48 and Pilot percentage?

49
50 MR. WEEKLEY: Can you say that again?

1 I'm sorry.

2

3 MR. POLTY: If you're surveying for
4 Pilot and Emmo, and leaving them out, it says on the
5 last sentence there average success rate across all
6 communities was 52 percent. So is that not including
7 Pilot and Emmo percentage on that?

8

9 MR. WEEKLEY: That's correct. It's
10 only for -- across all nine communities that were
11 surveyed.

12

13 MR. POLTY: So otherwise if you had
14 that Pilot and Emmo included the average might have
15 been higher on that, right?

16

17 MR. WEEKLEY: It possibly could, it
18 could also be lower, depending on what the numbers came
19 out to.

20

21 MR. POLTY: Okay. Thank you. Thank
22 you, Chair.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I just wanted to
25 make a comment on this, too, but the numbers show that
26 -- you know, you think that's high, but, you know,
27 right now with the economy as it is, the dependence on
28 moose for protein has gone up quite a bit, and I think
29 it's going to get higher than lower.

30

31 MR. WEEKLEY: The next series of slides
32 were an effort where we looked at moose hunting effort
33 in the areas and asked people to identify where, what
34 locations they went moose hunting in 2000, the year
35 2000, and during the study year of 2009 to 2010. And
36 then the third slide looks at the differences between
37 those two time periods.

38

39 And so in this first slide is the
40 hunting effort during the year 2000. And you can see a
41 lot of the effort is focused along the Yukon River,
42 particularly getting into Unit 21E and kind of the more
43 north side of the river.

44

45 If we look at the changes or the
46 hunting effort in the year 2010, You can see that there
47 was less hunting occurring in Unit 21E and more effort
48 down along the lower river.

49

50 And then the third slide looks at the

1 changes, and you can see that the areas on the western
2 side of Unit 18 experienced the most increase in hunter
3 effort, and the areas closer to 21E experienced the
4 most decline in the number of hunters from those
5 communities using those areas.

6

7 So I guess the key take-away point from
8 this is that residents generally are able to hunt
9 closer to home.

10

11 I'm going to briefly talk about the
12 rest of the resources. For caribou, looking at
13 caribou, the estimated harvest of caribou across all
14 nine communities was 25 caribou. The Community of
15 Marshall had the highest percentage of households that
16 were both using caribou, hunting caribou, and actually
17 harvesting caribou. Of the hunters, there were 19
18 estimated hunters, with 12 of those hunters successful.
19 And most of the caribou were harvested during the
20 wintertime, March being the highest number of -- the
21 month where the highest number of moose [sic] harvest
22 occurred, January was next, and then February.

23

24 Black bear, there was an estimated
25 harvest across the nine communities of 28 black bear.
26 Russian Mission had the highest percentage of
27 households using and hunting black bear. With black
28 bear there were an estimated 77 hunters and 20 of those
29 hunters were successful. And most of the black bear
30 were harvested in August and September.

31

32 Brown bear harvest. Based on the
33 results of this study, there was no documented brown
34 bear harvest in any of the study communities; however,
35 households in Russian Mission, Marshall and Mountain
36 Village all hunted brown bear. And of those, there
37 were 14 estimated hunters in those three communities,
38 and none were successful.

39

40 MuskoX. We encountered an estimated
41 harvest of two muskoX in Marshall. And basically two
42 hunters hunted for muskoX and they were both
43 successful.

44

45 Wolverine was another resource where
46 there was only two harvested, and Marshall again was
47 the only community where there was a reported harvest
48 of wolverine. Fifteen residents stated that they had
49 either hunted wolverines or trapped wolverines, and
50 obviously two were successful.

1 And then finally wolf. Our study found
2 that there was about 35 wolves harvested amongst the
3 nine communities. Russian Mission had the highest
4 percentage of households either using wolf or hunting
5 and trapping wolves. And Mountain Village had the
6 highest harvest of wolves. There were 44 estimated
7 hunters or trappers going after wolf, and 19 were
8 successful. And most of the harvest was in late fall
9 through late winter.

10

11 And that's it. Any questions.

12

13 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Noah.

16

17 MR. N. ANDREW: I wanted to know,
18 because you said moose was declining. What areas there
19 were they declining and how often do you count these
20 moose?

21

22 MR. WEEKLEY: What's that?

23

24 MR. N. ANDREW: You said the moose were
25 declining at certain time over the year here. Because
26 I have some people that own land and there are places
27 that reported to the community that these moose may
28 have migrated from area or moved across to the
29 Kuskokwim, because this year, sometime around fall, a
30 little before fall, they saw some moose traveling over.
31 I guess through the result of that, we have abundant
32 moose into our flat.

33

34 Not only that, we have wolves now in
35 the village. We have moose walking around Tuluksak.
36 In fact, we've got moose about a month ago behind my
37 house and three wolves around my house. So these are
38 some of the things that we've been trying to get ahold
39 of your department or you guys to communicate with our
40 traditional council, and we have not yet been
41 successful in that process. And maybe we need to get
42 together for further consideration here, if this
43 Council want to discuss this further. Maybe you and I
44 can sit down and.....

45

46 Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Noah, your
49 mic. Mr. Andrew.

50

1 MR. J. ANDREW: I've got a question on
2 their accuracy of this brown bear harvest. I know they
3 do some spring hunts, but you show only fall hunt. On
4 the caribou hunters, I've seen people from the Yukon
5 side go across to the Kuskokwim and harvest on the
6 south side of the Kuskokwim and come back with them.

7
8 MR. WEEKLEY: Right.

9
10 MR. J. ANDREW: They're not recorded.

11
12 MR. WEEKLEY: You know, the accuracy of
13 the data depends on the sampling that we did, and we
14 tried to get to a level that we felt pretty confident
15 with the data. Some communities, we weren't -- we
16 didn't get the sampling that we would have liked. And
17 so in those communities we're not as confident with the
18 numbers that we came up with as we are in some of the
19 others. So there's a possibility that we did miss
20 brown bear harvest. We can't say for certain that no
21 brown bear harvest occurred. We can just say that we
22 didn't record any in this study. And so if there was
23 somebody in the communities that actually did harvest
24 brown bear that we missed, we wouldn't have captured
25 that information.

26
27 Does that answer your question?

28
29 MR. J. ANDREW: I said black bear
30 harvest.

31
32 MR. WEEKLEY: Oh, black bear?

33
34 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah.

35
36 MR. WEEKLEY: It would be the same
37 situation.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
40 question.

41
42 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew, go
45 ahead.

46
47 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
48 Chairman. Tim Andrew with AVCP.

49
50 And, George, I would like to thank you

1 for the work that you did and with the results that you
2 have arrived at. And I was just wondering if the
3 results of the survey can be statistically expanded to
4 cover communities not surveyed. That would be like the
5 Lower Yukon communities of Pilot Station and Emmonak.

6

7 MS. KENNER: Through the Chair. Thank
8 you, George. Tim, this is Pippa Kenner with OSM.

9

10 One of the reasons why Emmonak wasn't
11 surveyed during this effort -- one of the reasons why
12 Emmonak wasn't included in George's efforts was that
13 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Subsistence
14 Division was doing a survey in Emmonak covering the
15 same survey period. And they haven't published the
16 results of that yet. But I imagine that within a
17 couple of months we're going to have similar
18 information coming from that Emmonak survey.

19

20 But as far as extrapolating it to Pilot
21 Station, is that what you said?

22

23 MR. T. ANDREW: Yes.

24

25 MS. KENNER: One of the problems with
26 that is that there's never been one of these
27 comprehensive based, one of these types of surveys done
28 with the residents of Pilot Station. And generally
29 it's very difficult to extrapolate these data to a
30 community for which we have no estimates.

31

32 But realistically only a certain number
33 of communities -- any one project can only handle doing
34 a survey with only four, five, six, seven -- I think in
35 this one the effort was with nine communities. And the
36 survey year was from February 2009, February 5th, 2009
37 to January 31st, 2010, and so the entire survey effort
38 has to happen at the same time right after the end of
39 the survey year. And we felt we could only handle nine
40 communities. But we look forward to future funding to
41 continue this effort.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Tim.

44

45 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you,
46 Pippa.

47

48 Mr. Chair, if I can ask a follow up,
49 please.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

2

3 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
4 Chair.

5

6 Would the results of Emmonak survey be
7 incorporated into this, into the results of these
8 results? Or is that something that we'll have to come
9 up with on our own, because looking after the State
10 Board of Game to revise the amounts necessary for
11 subsistence, but nobody wants to come up with the money
12 or nobody wants to come up and do the survey.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Pippa, have you got
15 an answer to that?

16

17 MS. KENNER: Yes. Tim, through the
18 Chair. Yeah, thanks for that question. To answer it,
19 the data is comparable. That is, it will be reported
20 using the same way of reporting and the numbers will
21 mean the same thing, so they will be estimated from the
22 households that were interviewed to the entire
23 community and they will be reported exactly the same.
24 Whether they're published together, probably not.

25

26 MR. WEEKLEY: They won't be.

27

28 MS. KENNER: They won't be. They
29 probably won't be. There may be a Board report that
30 comes out by the Division of Subsistence that discusses
31 all of the harvest numbers together, but as far as in a
32 formal report we haven't planned one yet.

33

34 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. That's all my
35 questions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
38 questions for Pippa or one of the -- do you have a
39 statement there? Mr. Aloysius.

40

41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I don't know
42 if I'm nitpicking or not, but, you know, it kind of
43 disturbed me that all of those slides show estimated
44 this, estimated and that's kind of a wishy-washy
45 number. But yet you have solid numbers to answer those
46 estimated questions. So what's going on? I mean, you
47 don't know how many people are out there, and you
48 estimate, oh, maybe there's 1,047. And yet you have
49 hard numbers for people who hunt. So, you know, it's
50 kind of very confusing for me.

1 MR. WEEKLEY: Okay.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: That you have
4 wishy-washy numbers and then you have solid numbers.

5

6 MR. WEEKLEY: So the way that took the
7 information was that we sampled communities and the
8 households so -- the households in the communities. So
9 when we hired people in the communities to go and
10 collect the information, each household was given a
11 random number, and they had -- they were randomly
12 picked which households would be surveyed. And so not
13 all of the households in the communities were surveyed,
14 and so the information in terms of the percentages,
15 such as, you know, 28 percent of the households were --
16 say they used moose or they harvested moose. Those are
17 numbers that represent the sampled population. And
18 then the other numbers, the 1,047 estimated hunters,
19 that was information where we took the -- where we took
20 the sample data and then extrapolated that information
21 out across the entire community population. And then
22 summarized all of that information.

23

24 Does that make sense? So we basically
25 expanded it to the whole community.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, you know, if you
28 have 500 families and you survived -- I mean you
29 surveyed 500, why don't you just use that number, and,
30 you know, that way you know how many you surveyed and
31 how many were successful, or how many went out and how
32 many were successful instead of, oh, we don't know for
33 sure, but there's -- you know, it doesn't make sense.
34 You know, if you want to get something across, you use
35 solid numbers, you know.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, ma'am.

38

39 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Helen
40 Armstrong.

41

42 If I can just add, you know, in a
43 perfect world where you had a lot of money and time,
44 you could go and interview every single household, and
45 then you would have your solid number. But we don't do
46 that, because -- I mean, some of it's money. A lot of
47 it's money, but you also don't really have to do it,
48 because if you have enough households interviewed, then
49 you can say, well, if this many people did it, we can
50 be pretty sure that there were, you know -- we're

1 pretty sure that probably, you know, 50 moose taken.
2 But we can't be positive, because we didn't interview
3 everybody. So to be honest we say it's an estimate.
4 We're just being honest really, because we didn't
5 interview every single household. And you don't have
6 to do that. It's part of social science research, it's
7 a way you can do it if you do it randomly. It's sort
8 of if you do this randomly, then you can be pretty sure
9 that you're going to have that number.

10

11 Where it becomes a little bit of a
12 problem, and when John was asking, when you're not
13 harvesting very much, and so if you don't have very
14 many people who are harvesting brown bears or hunting
15 brown bears, you could miss those people, and so then
16 it becomes a little bit difficult to be -- you know,
17 there might not -- you might have missed them. You
18 just might have missed them.....

19

20 MR. WEEKLEY: Right.

21

22 MS. ARMSTRONG:which George said.
23 So does that make sense?

24

25 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.

26

27 MS. ARMSTRONG: No. Well, okay. We
28 tried. We're doing the best we can.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Brown.

31

32 MR. BROWN: What part of the area did
33 you guys survey? What part of the area did you guys
34 survey?

35

36 MR. WEEKLEY: We surveyed the Lower
37 Yukon area, so from Russian Mission down to Alakanuk
38 and Chevak.

39

40 MR. BROWN: My question is what month?

41

42 MR. WEEKLEY: Oh, what month? The
43 surveys were from generally February through May of
44 last year.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Brown?
47 Does that answer your question?

48

49 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmatively)

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
2 questions. Mr. Walters.

3
4 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. Thank you. You
5 know, since we're talking about moose, I've always
6 wondered, Fish and Game or whoever observes out moose,
7 do they ever wonder why moose are starting to swim in
8 the ocean out there? There's moose being sighted way
9 out three, four miles out where there's no land. And
10 do you have an idea of why they're doing it?

11
12 MR. ROCZICKA: Just having fun.

13
14 (Laughter)

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anybody here,
17 biologist? I guess there isn't anybody here. Bob, do
18 you have.....

19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'm not a biologist, but
21 I'm sure that they figure it's a big lake they have to
22 go swimming on the other side.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 MR. WALTERS: Yeah. The reason I ask
27 is, you know, where we've got this fish problem, I've
28 stated in my testimony quite a few years ago, we
29 wouldn't be only talking about our fish, we'll be
30 starting to talk about animals right on land, too, so
31 it's here. And Lester and I never knew there were
32 beaver. They're all over the tundra now. There never
33 used to be any wolves around here. They're all over.
34 Squirrels. Marten that belong in the timber are all
35 over the country downriver. So why are these animals
36 moving towards the coast?

37
38 I used to hear stories that when
39 something is going to go extinct or disappear, they
40 have tendency of going towards the ocean. So our fish
41 problems that we've been having problem with started
42 before we saw the moose downriver. I don't know how
43 far Fish and Game got records of where we used to only
44 harvest our moose either South Fork Andreafsky or
45 Devil's Elbow, never down below Mountain. When Lester
46 and I hunt moose with his brother, we headed upriver
47 not downriver, so if you have any records on that with
48 Fish and Game studies of some type on game?

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Can you answer

1 that?

2

3 MR. WEEKLEY: No, I can't. You know, I
4 mean, as the Refuge and Fish and Game have documented,
5 the moose populations on the Lower Yukon are clearly
6 growing and it's clear -- it's definitely reflected in
7 this data is that people are able to get moose closer
8 to home. As for the reasons why, I'm not a biologist,
9 so I couldn't say, but it would be interesting to find
10 out why.

11

12 MR. WALTERS: I mean, that's a very
13 important topic I just mentioned. And we're wondering
14 why things are happening. It's happening right under
15 our nose, and we wonder why. And yet there's studies
16 going on on certain species of any animal that we
17 encounter on the face of the earth, and he has no
18 answer for me at the present time with all the modern
19 technology we're into nowadays.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I appreciate your
22 observation there, Mr. Walters.

23

24 Any further discussion on this, on the
25 Yukon subsistence harvest survey.

26

27 (No comments)

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
30 thank you very much for your report.

31

32 MR. WEEKLEY: Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to Item
35 15.

36

37 There was one answer I was going to
38 give Mr. Walters about why the animals are coming to
39 this area. An old man told me the Lord always knows
40 when anything happens, and he knows that you're hungry.
41 That's why he's sending them down here. That was his
42 answer.

43

44 Down to review and finalize draft 2010
45 annual report. Mr. Nick.

46

47 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
48 Before I go into your draft annual report, I would like
49 to remind the Council that this Council has interest in
50 19A, Unit 19A, because you have two representatives

1 that represents two villages within the boundary of
2 Unit 18 and also within Unit 18. Mr. Andrew, Noah
3 Andrew, the newly appointed member, he is representing
4 Tuluksak area, and Mr. Bob Aloysius represents Kalskag
5 Villages. As you know, that you have supported Unit
6 19A proposals and issues that affects the three
7 villages. The Village of Tuluksak, Village of Lower
8 Kalskag and Kalskag in the past. And as a result of
9 that, there's been some Federal permits issued to these
10 three villages when there's moose hunting.

11
12 So you might want to take action on the
13 -- what was that, excuse me. Let me go back. Just a
14 moment. That WCR that I pointed out to you earlier.

15
16 It's up to you if you want to take
17 action on WCR10-39, Unit 19A moose. You haven't taken
18 action on that yet.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. It's Unit 10
21 -- WCR, could you go into that? Is anybody here is
22 going to cover WCR10. Mr. Aloysius.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. We went
25 through that already. But that being on the side. I
26 move that we maintain the status quo on Unit 19A for
27 moose harvest.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
30 made by Mr. Aloysius to remain status quo on Unit 19A
31 moose. Do I hear a second. That's to keep the area
32 closed for moose until such time that we have a
33 population. Do I hear a second to the motion.

34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
38 Roczicka. Any further discussion.

39
40 MR. UNOK: Question. I've got a
41 question.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr.
44 Aloysius Unok, go ahead.

45
46 MR. UNOK: What is the motion for?

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's to keep the
49 closure in Unit 19A for moose.

50

1 MR. UNOK: Not opening for a while?
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Do you
4 understand that now?
5
6 MR. UNOK: (Nods affirmative)
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
9 discussion.
10
11 (No comments)
12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, all in
14 favor say aye.
15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
19
20 (No opposing votes)
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
23
24 Go ahead, Mr. Nick.
25
26 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. As
27 directed by the Council last fall I've drafted your
28 2010 annual report. And you'll notice that I've put a
29 tentative date of February 24, 2011, assuming that you
30 would be adopting or approving your annual report by
31 tomorrow. I've worked with Greg Roczicka, well,
32 communicated Greg Roczicka on issue number -- excuse
33 me.
34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: No. 1.
36
37 MR. NICK: Issue No. 1. And I
38 think.....
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could we go over
41 the whole thing so we could.....
42
43 MR. NICK: Okay. Your annual report
44 states, the letter is addressed to Mr. Towarak, the new
45 Federal Board Chair.
46
47 Dear Mr. Towarak. The Yukon-Kuskokwim
48 Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council hereby
49 submits its FY 2010 annual report as requested under
50 Section .805(a)(3)(D) of the Alaska National Interest

1 Lands Conservation Act of December 2, 2000 -- I'm
2 sorry, 1980 as amended. The Council understands and
3 supports the importance of addressing fish and wildlife
4 resource topics annually, expressing its concerns and
5 addressing long-term planning needs that are not
6 addressed through the regulatory cycles throughout the
7 year. The Council looks forward to your continued
8 guidance and support on the topics listed below.

9
10 The harvest of fish and wildlife
11 resources continues to be single and most important
12 need for all rural residents of the Yukon-Kuskokwim
13 Delta for survival and economic dependence. With the
14 continuing drastic governmental budget cuts rural
15 Alaska areas are facing currently, resulting in
16 financial setbacks of rural economic support and
17 adverse effects on local economies, dependence on fish
18 and wildlife resources for food is even more important
19 and vital to the residents of the Yukon-Kuskokwim
20 Delta. There is drastically growing need to continue
21 hunting and fishing to supplement harvesting food for
22 personal and family needs. The ever-changing Federal
23 and State regulations play a big part in restricting
24 harvest of fish and wildlife within the Yukon-Kuskokwim
25 Delta when it is most needed for food, clothing and
26 financial support where appropriate and legal.

27
28 The Council participated in the
29 deliberations on issues and topics and has recommended
30 regulatory changes for managing the fish and wildlife
31 resources. The Council is very much aware of how these
32 regulatory changes impact the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
33 residents' subsistence activities and economy --
34 rather, I'm sorry, economic dependence. Because of its
35 duties and responsibilities as set forth in ANILCA
36 Section .805 and the Regional Council Operating Manual,
37 the Council carefully weighs all concerns that are
38 expressed by subsistence stakeholders and other user
39 groups when making its recommendations to the Federal
40 Subsistence Board.

41
42 The Council appreciates this
43 opportunity to submit its fiscal year 2010 annual
44 report. The following are the regional resource
45 concerns of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
46 Regional Advisory Council. the Council hereby
47 expresses its concern more than once that the Council
48 is not satisfied with the 2009 annual report responses
49 because response are a reverse of what could have been
50 done to deal with the issues brought forth by the

1 Council in 2009 and in previous years through its
2 annual report.

3

4 Issue 1: Subsistence resource
5 management on conservation units and Federally-managed
6 public lands. In the past the Council had submitted
7 its annual reports to the Secretary of the Interior
8 through the Federal Subsistence Board and expected
9 sensible responses to deal with the issues brought
10 forth through its annual reports. However, the Council
11 was not satisfied with the responses it received in the
12 past, because the Board used all or a portion of other
13 responses given to other Regional Advisory Councils
14 within the State of Alaska as far back as FY 2006. The
15 issue of resource management on Federally-managed
16 public lands has not been inconsistent with the
17 purposes of the Alaska National Interest Lands
18 Conservation Act of 1980 as amended. The Council is
19 well area of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office
20 of Subsistence Management managing fish and wildlife
21 resources pursuant to Title VIII of ANILCA and
22 developed regulations. The Federal Subsistence Board
23 needs to realize fish and wildlife resources managed
24 pursuant to Title VIII of ANILCA also need to be
25 managed under other sections of ANILCA such as Section
26 .804, .806, .809, .811, .812, and .814. All of these
27 ANILCA sections are connected when giving subsistence
28 priority an opportunity to the users. With this said,
29 the Council hereby requests the Board provide its
30 answers to the following:

31

32 1. Predator management of wildlife
33 resource within the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and other
34 region's boundary.

35

36 a. The Board needs to look at the
37 broad picture and weigh why Mulchatna Caribou Herd
38 continues to decline in Units 17 and 18.

39

40 b. The Board needs to listen to the
41 general public in the areas affected where resource
42 issues including public forums provided by the Councils
43 are brought forward for the Board's consideration. In
44 certain areas issues could be heightened while in other
45 areas issues could be diminished gradually. The
46 Councils live with the issues in each of their
47 respective areas they represent and each subregion's
48 fish and wildlife resource issues are hardly the same
49 as that of the other region.

50

1 Recommendation: The Yukon-Kuskokwim
2 Delta Subsistence Advisory Council hereby recommends
3 the Board take a broad look at the Mulchatna Caribou
4 Herd decline and allow necessary and thorough research
5 on the predation of this caribou herd by predators such
6 as wolves, bears, and wolverines in its spring and fall
7 migration routes, including calving areas. In the
8 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region, the Mulchatna Caribou
9 Herd is becoming more and more limited subsistence
10 resource when the herd returns to the Delta.

11
12 In 2009, several communities asked for
13 extension of caribou season due to poor snow cover on
14 the ground to access caribou hunting grounds on the
15 tundra. The request for extended caribou hunt by
16 several villages within the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
17 region were declined by the Board, and subsistence
18 needs for at least 500 eligible rural residents were
19 not met as a result of the Board's decision not to
20 extend caribou season.

21
22 Subsistence users provided public
23 comments during 2009 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
24 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council meetings and they
25 showed their support for the extension of 2010 winter
26 caribou season in Unit 18. The communities requested
27 for extension of caribou season and special action
28 requests were declined by the Board. And that
29 definitely caused hardship for less fortunate
30 subsistence users who needed red meat for their
31 families at that time.

32
33 The Board's predator management policy
34 adopted by the Board in 2004 under B in part, beginning
35 in the middle of paragraph states: Where predators
36 have been determined to be a major contributing factor
37 in the significant reduction of ungulate populations
38 important for subsistence use or in the chronic
39 suppression of such populations at low densities, the
40 Board will endorse timely affirmative action consistent
41 with each respective agency's policies and management
42 objectives to reduce predator populations and allow
43 affected ungulate populations to recover. The Board
44 will monitor actions taken by the agency to address
45 such concerns, and will provide appropriate support
46 where necessary to ensure the continuation of
47 subsistence harvest opportunities. The Board's
48 predator management policy clearly indicated that
49 something could be done when the Federal Regional
50 Advisory Councils authorized under Subsection

1 .100.11(c)(vi)(D) is forwarded to the Board for its
2 consideration. The Council hereby requests something
3 to be done and report to the Council in a positive
4 manner.

5
6 Issue number 2. Streamline Council
7 nominations and appointment process. During its fall
8 2010 meeting, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence
9 Regional Advisory Council discussed the current Council
10 nomination process that apparently needs to be
11 streamlined by the Board. Regional and statewide
12 tribal recommendations indicated that it would work for
13 the better and for small rural communities to have a
14 tribal representative on the Council membership who are
15 appointed by the tribal councils locally. Apparently,
16 current Council nomination process creates some
17 confusion among remote subsistence communities and
18 remove village residents. As a result of this, some of
19 the newly appointed local tribal members when appointed
20 and elected as local leaders, believes that they are
21 appointed automatically to become one of the Federal
22 Regional Advisory Council members in their regions.
23 After some of the local leaders are appointed to local
24 tribal leadership office, newly elected tribal Council
25 leaders potentially have provided some misleading
26 information to the members of their remote community.
27 Some of those individuals have contacted at least one
28 of the Council coordinators regarding travel and per
29 diem for their first Council meeting attendance.

30
31 Recommendation: The Yukon-Kuskokwim
32 Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council hereby
33 recommends the Board take another broad approach on the
34 possible avenues for streamlining Federal Council
35 membership nomination process beginning in 2012.
36 Council member vacancies have created uncertainties
37 relating to a quorum when weather factors and member
38 vacancies occurred during past Council travel to the
39 Council meeting locations. Currently Council Charters
40 indicate when Council member vacancy occurs, the
41 Secretary of the Interior with concurrence of the
42 Secretary of Agriculture would appoint a Council member
43 to fill a vacant seat's term. There have been Council
44 member vacancies in the past and as a result of that,
45 some of the Council's regions faced high rate of
46 Council member vacancies that potentially are causing
47 less interest on the Council membership. Streamlining
48 Council member nominations and appointment process
49 would benefit all of the Councils regions statewide
50 including agencies involving with the appointment

1 process.

2

3 Meetings in FY 2010. On March 2, 3 and
4 4, 2010, Council met in Bethel, Alaska and Council
5 heard changes to the procedures on the proposed rule
6 relating to the public comments on the Federal
7 regulatory change proposals and wildlife resource
8 issues. Council heard reports from the fisheries
9 resource managers and partners who made their
10 presentations on the fisheries research programs.
11 Council heard updates on the Bering Sea Chinook salmon
12 bycatch from the agency and organizations Staff.
13 Council also heard updates on brown gear subcommittee
14 meetings and draft results of subcommittee
15 recommendations. Council heard a joint update from the
16 Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish
17 and Wildlife Service on salmon fisheries management on
18 the Lower Yukon River and the Lower Kuskokwim Federal
19 and State public waters. Council heard updates of
20 possible big game hunting opportunities within fall
21 2010 on the Kuskokwim moose moratorium area.

22

23 On September 30 and October 1, 2010 the
24 Council in Bethel, Alaska, and there were Federal
25 fisheries regulatory change proposals for Council's
26 review and recommendation. Council made
27 recommendations on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring
28 Program information needs. Over the course of the
29 fiscal year, Council members were also involved in
30 other fish and wildlife resource management and related
31 meetings, working group meetings, and fish and wildlife
32 resource hardships -- excuse me, fish and wildlife
33 resource workshops throughout the fiscal year.

34

35 Thank you for the continued opportunity
36 to assist the Federal Subsistence Management Program in
37 meeting its obligations to protect subsistence uses of
38 fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands in
39 our region. The Regional Council looks forward to
40 continued discussion about the issues and concerns of
41 subsistence stakeholders of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
42 region.

43

44 If you have any questions about this
45 annual report and the past Council involvements, please
46 contact Alex Nick, Regional Council Coordinator at 907-
47 543-1037 or 1-800-621-5804, extension 257.

48

49 Sincerely, Lester Wilde, Chair, Yukon-
50 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

1 And there's a list of copies following
2 that.

3
4 Mr. Chair.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any additions need
7 to put on there. Bob.

8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just don't have an
10 addition, but I'd like to remove one word that keeps
11 popping up and it's not right. And that word is rural.
12 Most of Alaska villages are not in rural Alaska. We
13 are in remote Alaska. We have no road systems. If you
14 look at the definition of rural, it means it's
15 connected to a suburb and to an urban area. We don't
16 have road systems out here. That's why we're remote.
17 We're Bush Alaska. Or bushless in the case of the
18 tundra villages. And so I would just recommend that we
19 remove the word rural from all of these reports and put
20 in plain remote Alaska villages.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Young lady, you
23 have something to say on that. And then we'll go to
24 Mr. Roczicka. Go ahead.

25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, OSM.

27
28 I just wanted to explain that rural is
29 the word that's used in ANILCA in Title VIII, and
30 that's why we use rural in this. So it might confuse
31 people, they would, you know, not understand that being
32 remote is also being rural I think. So that's what we
33 use in our program, and so that's the language that we
34 use.

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: And yet we say on the
37 recommendation and some of the observations, it says
38 remote community and remote something and remote
39 something. So why -- you know.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, in all the --
42 in everything that's described out here, it's always
43 been the rural area, so I'm sure that's what they're
44 used to, and how they interpret that. If they need a
45 clarification I'm sure that somebody will clarify it.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: I'd be willing to
48 clarify it for them.

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: But if you feel

1 that we need to -- you want to use the remote in there,
2 we could vote on it and see if that's what the wish of
3 the Council is. And if you want that removed and put
4 in remote, you could make a motion to that effect.

5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we remove
11 the word rural and replace it with the word remote when
12 we're dealing with the annual report and how we report
13 to the Federal Subsistence Board and let them
14 understand clearly that's what we mean by being remote.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's on the
17 floor. Do I hear a second.

18
19 MR. UNOK: Second.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
22 Aloysius -- I mean Mr. Aloysius Unok. May I have a
23 roll call vote, Mr. Coordinator?

24
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Discussion.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

28
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30 I'm not going to support that removing the word rural.
31 This goes to the Secretary. The Secretary has to deal
32 with it under Title VIII of ANILCA. There are a large
33 number of groups across the state that are connected
34 with the road system. Copper River Native Association
35 certainly might have something to say to you about
36 that. Cook Inlet Tribal Council as well as Tanana
37 Chiefs, the Kenaitze Tribe, other areas there that are
38 on the road system but are defined as rural and that's
39 the only protection for subsistence that they have,
40 being in close locations for areas that are considered
41 nonsubsistence use areas.

42
43 And so I know what you're trying to get
44 it here, but to keep the legal weight and recognition
45 that it has at the level that it needs to be dealt with
46 with a Cabinet Secretary, taking the word rural out and
47 replacing it with remote. We can add it in, certainly,
48 but do not remove the rural. It's not a good idea in
49 my mind.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
2 discussion on this. Mr. Nick.
3
4 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
5 Council. As you remember during the discussion of the
6 annual report topics for 2010, Council members were
7 directed to contact me if they have additional topics.
8 As of the date that this annual report was finalized,
9 we did not receive any additional topics with the
10 exception of some corrections by Mr. Roczicka.
11
12 Mr. Chair.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any further
15 discussion.
16
17 (No comments)
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We've got a new
20 secretary. Mr. Secretary, will you take the role.
21
22 MR. J. ANDREW: William Brown.
23
24 MR. BROWN: Yes.
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion was
27 remove the word rural and to replace it with the word
28 remote. And that's what you're voting on. Go ahead,
29 Mr. Secretary.
30
31 MR. J. ANDREW: James Charles.
32
33 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
34
35 MR. J. ANDREW: Noah Andrew.
36
37 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. If it
38 refers to our villages it should be rural.
39
40 MR. J. ANDREW: Evan Polty.
41
42 MR. POLTY: Yes.
43
44 MR. J. ANDREW: Harry Wilde, Sr.
45
46 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
47
48 MR. J. ANDREW: Ray Oney.
49
50 MR. ONEY: No.

1 MR. J. ANDREW: Mary Gregory.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Absent. Excused.
4
5 MR. J. ANDREW: No. 8 vacant. And
6 Lester Wilde, Sr.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
9
10 MR. J. ANDREW: Aloysius Unok.
11
12 MR. UNOK: No.
13
14 MR. J. ANDREW: Greg Roczicka.
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: No.
17
18 MR. J. ANDREW: Robert Aloysius.
19
20 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
21
22 MR. J. ANDREW: Myself. No. John
23 Andrew. The count ought to be yes - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
24 Six yes. One absent. And no's, you've got 1, 2, 3, 4,
25 5. And one vacancy. So you've got five yes -- no, six
26 yes, five no, one vacancy, one excused.
27
28 REPORTER: I don't think -- go ahead.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, I guess the
31 -- I don't know how we're going to rule this, according
32 to the majority rules, I think we'll need to change the
33 word remote with an explanation that this Council has
34 determined that we would use remote instead of rural on
35 that letter.
36
37 Any further discussion. Go ahead, Mr.
38 Andrew.
39
40 MR. J. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. I'd like
41 to get clarification from our Staff. They might have a
42 better explanation.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, I think the
45 Staff understand what's going on here, and in the event
46 that -- go ahead, Staff. We have two young ladies that
47 are.....
48
49 MS. PETRIVELLI: Excuse me, but all
50 Federal agencies have the authority to define rural how

1 they want. And so the Federal Board defines rural for
2 Alaska. And rural as defined for Alaska, the way the
3 Federal Board does it is they define the non-rural
4 areas. So in Alaska the non-rural areas are
5 Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Ketchikan and then some
6 parts of the Kenai Peninsula around Kenai, Homer and
7 Seward. And the rest of Alaska is rural.

8
9 Now, there is a recognition that within
10 the rural areas there are remote areas and non-remote
11 areas, and they go through the process every 10 years,
12 and in fact that's an agenda item later about defining
13 rural, but the Federal Board since they took over
14 management in 1990, they made their own definition of
15 rural, because each Federal agency has different
16 purposes for defining rural. Even though it's a common
17 word, for the purposes of the program, they define
18 rural. So non-rural areas in Alaska are those that I
19 mentioned, and everything else is rural.

20
21 Now, the reason those areas are
22 important for definition, those are the people that are
23 eligible for subsistence hunting and fishing on Federal
24 public lands. So that's the reason for using the word
25 rural in our program.

26
27 So however you use it in your letter,
28 you know, you could say row over a boat, but no matter
29 what you say, the Federal Board has made a definition
30 about rural.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We understand, but
33 that letter is from this Council, so in this case we
34 could use remote.

35
36 MS. PETRIVELLI: You could use remote,
37 but the Federal Board -- now as the Federal Board
38 moves, because we're going through the -- there's going
39 to be a workshop in April because there's a lot of new
40 Board members, my boss included, and then just the
41 review. But they'll be reviewing rural designations
42 again, and the workshops going to be held in April.
43 And the Chair of this Council is invited to attend
44 that. But there will be more continuing definitions of
45 rural as we move along.

46
47 So you could use the word remote in
48 your letter, but the Federal Board has defined rural as
49 it has defined it. And the purposes they define it for
50 is to determine eligibility for subsistence.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes. But for this
2 letter we'll be using the remote because it was already
3 voted now by the Council.

4
5 Go ahead, Mr. Unok.

6
7 MR. UNOK: Why they didn't use
8 resident?

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Why didn't they use
11 resident?

12
13 MR. UNOK: Yeah.

14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I don't have a
16 answer to that question. Does somebody have an answer
17 to that question?

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Talk to the 1980
20 Congress.

21
22 MS. PETRIVELLI: You mean all residents
23 of Alaska?

24
25 MR. UNOK: Yes.

26
27 MS. PETRIVELLI: The State of Alaska
28 defines all residents of Alaska as eligible for
29 subsistence. So I live in Anchorage and under State of
30 Alaska regulations, I could participate in subsistence
31 activities that aren't under Tier II. But the Federal
32 program only provides subsistence priority for rural
33 residence, because they recognized the limited
34 resources, and they define subsistence as practiced by
35 rural residents. And there's a long history about why
36 they did just rural. Why they changed from Alaska
37 Native to rural. But I think we could have that
38 discussion some other place.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Did she help
41 you out?

42
43 MR. UNOK: No.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, we can
46 discuss that later.

47
48 MR. UNOK: Okay.

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further

1 discussion on the letter. Mr. Roczicka.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 And I do apologize. I had -- you know, Alex had asked
5 me to look that over and I did give it some read, and I
6 actually had actually rewritten number 1 and had 20
7 copies that I had intended to bring along, which I told
8 you would be here, and they are sitting on my desk. In
9 the scramble to go catch the plane, I do not have them
10 here, and had it pretty well laid out, but I'd like to
11 incorporate -- make sure that some of those
12 incorporated in the rewrite of No. 1.

13

14 And the main points, and I'm doing this
15 off the top of my head. I put some thought into it and
16 had it all written up nicely.

17

18 But anyway, in our letter to the Board,
19 we need to have our management agencies to be
20 accountable to Title VIII of ANILCA, in its spirit and
21 intent, that they need to manage the populations to
22 provide for subsistence needs. And they should also be
23 accountable to the deference criteria that is cited
24 that for the Regional Councils, that our recommended
25 actions should be followed by the management agencies,
26 not necessarily just the Federal Subsistence Board, but
27 if it make -- if it's commonly accepted management
28 practice, if it is not detrimental to subsistence and
29 it's based on sound biological principles, then the
30 Board is supposed to follow on that, and the management
31 agencies should do the same in managing the resource.
32 And currently they are actually in contradiction to
33 that, and they're giving reasons for doing so in
34 deference to interests of a foreign culture.

35

36 And I would request that that would be
37 in there, adding that into the closure policy that I
38 mentioned earlier. Actually I didn't have that one in
39 the one that I had written up. It kind of slipped by,
40 but seeing it there now. When we have closures or a
41 Tier II situation where subsistence needs are not being
42 met, habitat is not a limiting factor, then the
43 management agency should be fully exercising all within
44 their power to get those populations back to where they
45 can provide those subsistence needs that they had been
46 providing for.

47

48 Now, I've been told, and we need to
49 have this information for the people that we're here to
50 represent that come to use, that we work with, and they

1 don't have an avenue to get here, but at the level that
2 we do as a Regional Council, that calls for that level
3 of answer from the Federal management agencies.

4
5 They have said that there's conflicting
6 legislation in discussions with Mr. Haskett and others.
7 Well, when we ask them to specify where those conflicts
8 are, we don't get an answer back. What we get is a
9 conflict in the interpretations and the policies that
10 are in place that are contradictory to what Title VIII
11 of ANILCA says you would do and the spirit and intent
12 as Mr. Salazar said. And to take it even a little
13 further, it goes directly against our Presidential
14 administration who said that the actions of his
15 departments and agencies would be very assertive and
16 aggressive in addressing the needs of the Native
17 American people. Who has as large a recognition of
18 that than the subsistence use in the State of Alaska.
19 So I would re.....

20
21 And the other item then that I had in
22 there, and one of the main items, was that four, the
23 management agencies to address specifically where that
24 conflicting legislation is at. Point it out. They
25 mention biological diversity and NEPA and so forth.
26 NEPA can be answered very simply with an environmental
27 assessment of the management -- at least under the Fish
28 and Wildlife Service by the Refuges. Right on point,
29 right at that time, they can do it and they can do it
30 very expeditiously and comply with NEPA.

31
32 The biological diversity goes into a
33 lot of ambiguous ideals. It doesn't really have a set
34 of criteria, so it's -- again, it's individual or
35 agency interpretation. It is not Federal law that I
36 can find or anybody that I know of can find, so we need
37 to ask them specifically, you tell us where that's at
38 so we can work with the people we represent to take it
39 where it needs to go to get it changed.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council, feelings
42 on that? Would you like to include that in the annual
43 report?

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: I would.

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: In that case, could
48 you have that rewritten by tomorrow before we act on
49 it, and have enough copies for the rest of the Council
50 so we can get the new additions? I know it's going to

1 be a little bit of work tonight, but, you know, that's
2 why we're here.

3

4 MR. ROCZICKA: If I can have access to
5 a computer, I can write that up.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I think the young
8 man here can take care of that.

9

10 MR. NICK: okay

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other additions
13 that need to be put on the annual report that anybody
14 can think of.

15

16 (No comments)

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
19 we will vote on the final edition when we get it done.

20

21 Does anybody know if we're going to
22 have dinner at the school or not? Go ahead, Alex.

23

24 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I think Anita
25 has information on the dinner.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

28

29 MS. ANDREWS: The Head Start Parent
30 Committee is sponsoring a fundraiser, potluck dinner at
31 the Head Start at 6:00 o'clock.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. And that's
34 the only dinner available for us tonight.

35

36 MS. ANDREWS: And it's \$10 a plate.
37 Yeah.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

40

41 MS. ANDREWS: And then they're going to
42 do another dinner tomorrow, probably same time, same
43 place.

44

45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: They saw us coming.

46

47 (Laughter)

48

49 MS. ANDREWS: And also if I may add,
50 for those of you that need rides here in town and up to

1 and from the airport, you can call Oscar Johnson, if
2 you could write his number down, it's 591-6384. Oscar
3 will be providing rides for you all. And he'll be
4 available until after you have your dinner. 591-6384.
5 And his name is Oscar.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. The Head
8 Start building is -- Anita, could you describe where
9 the Head Start building is, please?

10

11 MS. ANDREWS: It's just right down this
12 main road. It's a blue building. If you know where
13 the tribe is? If you know where the tribal office is,
14 it's right across the tribal office.

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's right down the
17 street from the school that you ate it. You go out the
18 door, it's right down the street. It's a blue building
19 to your right as you go down the street.

20

21 MS. ANDREWS: Yep.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Anita.

24 Yes, ma'am.

25

26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Just before you
27 conclude, I had a couple things to say about tomorrow.
28 Some thing we need to think about.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. I think
31 we've got some time. Go ahead.

32

33 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
34 I just wanted to make sure we didn't miss an important
35 part of our agenda. Earlier when -- on the call for
36 proposals. Because we only take wildlife proposals
37 every two years, I wanted to make sure that this
38 Council knew that this was your opportunity, and it
39 would be really good to get any proposals at the
40 meeting so could ask questions and clarify if we have
41 anything we need to know. So maybe over the evening if
42 you can think about it, if there are any proposals you
43 want to make to change wildlife regulations, because we
44 only do that every two years. That was just my thought
45 thinking about that.

46

47 And then the other thing, we're going
48 to be spending a lot of time tomorrow on the
49 subsistence review from the Secretary's Office, and
50 there's one item that might take a little bit of

1 reading on it if possible. I know the Seward Peninsula
2 Council ended up breaking and letting everybody have
3 time to review it. It's a very important item. We're
4 reviewing the memorandum of understanding with the
5 State and there's a briefing on it on Page 63, and then
6 the actual MOU, the memorandum of understanding,
7 follows what on Page 65. And what we're looking for is
8 if there's language that needs to be changed, wording,
9 anything in there. So if people -- because it's a
10 little bit long, it's a few pages, if people have the
11 time tonight to kind of look that over to see if you
12 have some suggestions on anything you want changed in
13 the MOU. This was something the Secretary's Office
14 asked for us to review with the Councils, and, you
15 know, the Board met I think in November, and this was a
16 discussion about the MOU, and the Board said, we want
17 to be bottom up. We want to go to the Councils and
18 find out what the Councils think, so this is your
19 opportunity to have some input into this important
20 document. Okay.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

23

24 MS. ARMSTRONG: And we'll do it
25 tomorrow.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right. Thank
28 you. There was -- my train of thought got -- any
29 further discussion on this.

30

31 MR. UNOK: I have a question.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Unok.

34

35 MR. UNOK: Proposals to change some
36 things in here?

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.

39

40 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's correct.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yep.

43

44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Right. For those of
45 you particularly who are new, if you look through there
46 and see if there are that you think need to be changed.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And it might be a
49 good idea if somebody from the City of Mountain Village
50 can get on the radio and inform the public and inform

1 the public that we will be taking proposals for game,
2 game proposals tomorrow, and that they should have
3 those proposals in to us if possible so we can process
4 them for review.

5
6 Anything else.

7
8 (No comments)

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you very
11 much. We've got until about -- we could work for
12 another half hour if you guys feel like it. Okay.

13
14 At this time we're going down to
15 Council Charter, No. 16, Council Charter review. Mr.
16 Nick.

17
18 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Your
19 Council Charter is on Page 55 of your workbook.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute, let
22 -- can I ask, Anita, is it -- would it be all right for
23 us to leave our stuff here tonight, or do we need to
24 take them?

25
26 MS. ANDREWS: You leave them. There's
27 nothing going on in here tonight.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.
30 Okay. Thanks. Go ahead, Alex.

31
32 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Your
33 Council Charter is on Page 55. Every two years a
34 Council reviews its charter and provide any
35 recommendations.

36
37 Mr. Chair.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any recommendations
40 for the Council Charter.

41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: It would be nice for the
47 Coordinator to read the Charter so we could digest.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Alex. It
50 might take us another half hour but it would be good.

1 MR. NICK: Okay. Council Charter on
2 Page 55.

3
4 No. 1. Official designation: Yukon-
5 Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

6
7 No. 2. Objectives and scope of
8 activity: The objective of the Council is to provide
9 an administrative structure that enables residents of
10 the region who have personal knowledge of local
11 conditions and requirements to have a meaningful role
12 in the management of fish and wildlife and of
13 subsistence uses of those resources on public lands in
14 the region.

15
16 No. 3. Period of time necessary for
17 the Council's activities and termination date: The
18 Council is expected to exist into the foreseeable
19 future. It's continuation is, however, subject to
20 rechartering every biennial anniversary of the Alaska
21 National Interest Lands Conservation Act of December 2,
22 1980. The Council will take no action unless the
23 Charter filing requirements of Section 9 of the Federal
24 Advisory Committee Act have been met.

25
26 No. 4. Official to whom the Council
27 reports: The Council reports to the Federal
28 Subsistence Board Chair, who is appointed by the
29 Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the
30 Secretary of Agriculture.

31
32 No. 5. Support services: The U.S.
33 Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior,
34 provides administrative support for the activities of
35 the Council.

36
37 No. 6. Duties of the Council: The
38 Council possesses the authority to perform the
39 following duties:

40
41 a. Initiate, review, and evaluate
42 proposals for regulations, policies, management plans,
43 and other matters relating to subsistence uses of fish
44 and wildlife on public lands within the region.

45
46 b. Provide a forum for the expression
47 of opinions and recommendations by persons interested
48 in any matter related to the subsistence uses of fish
49 and wildlife on public lands within the region.

50

1 c. Encourage local and regional
2 participation in the decision-making process affecting
3 the taking of fish and wildlife on the public lands
4 within the region for subsistence uses.

5
6 d. Prepare an annual report to the
7 Secretary containing the following:

8
9 (1) An identification of current and
10 anticipated subsistence uses of fish and wildlife
11 populations within the region.

12
13 (2) An evaluation of current and
14 anticipated subsistence needs for fish and wildlife
15 populations within the region.

16
17 (3) A recommended strategy for the
18 management of fish and wildlife populations within the
19 region to accommodate such subsistence uses and needs.

20
21 (4) Recommendations concerning
22 policies, standards, guidelines, and regulations to
23 implement the strategy.

24
25 e. Make recommendations on
26 determinations of customary and traditional use of
27 subsistence resources.

28
29 f. Make recommendations on
30 determinations of rural status.

31
32 g. Provide recommendations on the
33 establishment and membership of Federal local advisory
34 committees.

35
36 The Council will perform its duties in
37 conformity with the Regional Advisory Council Operating
38 Manual.

39
40 No. 7. Estimated operations costs:
41 Annual operating costs of the Council are estimated at
42 \$200,000, which includes one and one-half person-years
43 of staff support.

44
45 8. Meetings: The Council may meet
46 twice each year at the call of the Council, Council
47 Chair, Federal Subsistence Board Chair, or a Designated
48 Federal Officer with the advance approval of the
49 Federal Subsistence Board Chair and the Designated
50 Federal Officer who will also approve the agenda.

1 9. Membership: The Council's
2 membership is as follows:

3
4 Thirteen members who are knowledgeable
5 land experienced in matters relating to subsistence
6 uses of fish and wildlife, and who are residents of the
7 regional -- excuse me, who are residents of the region
8 represented by the Council. To ensure that a diversity
9 of interests is represented, the Department of the
10 Interior will comply with the requirements of the
11 Federal Advisory Committee Act, Section 5(b)(2) as
12 expressed by the U.S. District Court in Safari Club
13 International versus Demientieff in the amended order
14 dated August 7, 2006.

15
16 The Secretary of the Interior will
17 appoint members based on the recommendations of the
18 Federal Subsistence Board and with the concurrence of
19 the Secretary of Agriculture.

20
21 Vacancy: Whenever a vacancy occurs
22 among Council members appointed under paragraph 9, the
23 Secretary will appoint an individual in accordance with
24 paragraph 9 to fill that vacancy for the remainder of
25 the applicable term.

26
27 Terms of office: Except as provided
28 herein, each member of the Council will serve a three-
29 year term with the term ending on December 2 of the
30 appropriate year unless a member of the Council resigns
31 prior to the expiration of three-year term, or he/she
32 is removed for cause by the Secretary upon the
33 recommendation of the Federal Subsistence Board.
34 Members will be notified of their appointment in
35 writing. If resigning prior to the expiration of a
36 term, members will provide a written resignation.

37
38 Election of Officers: Council members
39 will elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, and a secretary for a
40 one-year term.

41
42 Removal of members: If a Council
43 member appointed under paragraph 9 has two consecutive
44 unexcused absences of regularly scheduled meetings, the
45 Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board may recommend
46 that the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence
47 of the Secretary of Agriculture remove that individual.
48 A member may also be removed due to misconduct.

49
50 Compensation: Members of the Council

1 will receive no compensation as members. Members will,
2 however, will be allowed travel expenses, including per
3 diem, in the same manner as persons employed
4 intermittently in government service are allowed such
5 expenses under 5 U.S.C. 1.37 -- I'm sorry, 5 U.S. dot
6 -- it must be after 5:00. Excuse me. I'll start over.
7

8 Compensation: Members of the Council
9 will receive no compensation as members. Members will,
10 however, will be allowed travel expenses, including per
11 diem, in the same manner as persons employed
12 intermittently in government service are allowed such
13 expenses under 5 U.S.C. 5703.
14

15 No. 10. Ethics responsibilities of
16 members: No council or subcommittee member will
17 participate in any specific party matter, including a
18 lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or
19 related litigation with the Department in which the
20 member has a direct financial interest.
21

22 No. 11. Designated Federal Officer or
23 Employee: Pursuant to Section 10(e) of the Federal
24 Advisory Committee Act, the Designated Federal Officer
25 will be the Federal Regional Coordinator or such other
26 Federal employee as may be designated by the Assistant
27 Regional Director, Subsistence, Region 7, U.S. Fish and
28 Wildlife Service.
29

30 No. 12. Authority: The Council is
31 reestablished by virtue of the authority set out in the
32 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, 16
33 U.S.C. 3115, 1988.
34

35 And it's signed by Secretary of the
36 Interior, Ken Salazar.
37

38 And this was dated last November 20 of
39 2009.
40

41 Mr. Chair.
42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
44 Nick.
45

46 Any questions for Mr. Nick or anything
47 concerning this. Mr. Aloysius.
48

49 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. I have a
50 question on No. 2, objectives and scope of the

1 activity. The objective of the Council is to provide
2 an administrative structure. Why did they use the word
3 administrative?

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any answer to that
6 question.

7
8 MR. NICK: Could you restate your
9 question again, Bob?

10
11 MR. ALOYSIUS: Certainly. Why did they
12 use the word administrative in No. 2 of the charter?
13 It says, the objective of the Council is to provide an
14 administrative structure.

15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: And you want to know
17 why the word administrative?

18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)

20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, administrative in
22 meaning a way to organize people I think is what that
23 -- you know, you could almost not have that word in
24 there. To provide a structure for the Council. So
25 this charter tells you how many people, when you're
26 going to -- you know, when you're going to be getting
27 new members, how to get old members off. It gives you
28 a structure for how the Council operates. Does that
29 make sense? You know, for why they said
30 administrative, it's.....

31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS: It makes sense to me,
33 but I was wondering why did they use the word
34 administrative, you know, because that always involves
35 paperwork, paperwork, paperwork.

36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, there is a lot of
38 paperwork, isn't there, Alex? But Alex does the
39 paperwork.

40
41 MR. NICK: There's a lot.

42
43 MS. ARMSTRONG: Don't worry, the
44 Council doesn't have to do the paperwork. I don't
45 know, but that's not something that this Council
46 actually has the ability to change, because that's in
47 all of the charters. But if they ever decide to reword
48 it, we'll bring that up. I don't know why that word in
49 particular was chosen. It was probably 20 years ago.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: One more. On No. 10,
2 the whole sentence reads, no Council or subcommittee
3 member will participate in any specific party matter
4 including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim,
5 agreement, or related litigation with the Department.
6 What department, the Interior or the Agriculture? I
7 think that needs to be clarified.

8
9 MS. ARMSTRONG: Department meaning the
10 Department of Interior. The signature at the bottom is
11 with the Department of Interior.

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
16 discussion on the Charter.

17
18 (No comments)

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, young
21 lady.

22
23 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry, I
26 didn't see that. Go ahead, Mr. Charles.

27
28 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 Where does that -- I think it's on -- it should be on
30 membership, but when we wanted to become a RAC member
31 there's a question in there, who we want to represent,
32 the sports, or subsistence, or commercial. Where does
33 that go?

34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's a very good
36 question. In the beginning of the program, all the
37 subsistence users on the Council -- all of the members
38 on the Council were subsistence users. And then there
39 was a lawsuit and it was determined that we needed to
40 have representation of all users who might be affected
41 by the regulatory changes. So this a -- it's a general
42 goal. It's not that it has to be fulfilled, because
43 not all the Councils can, but of having what we call
44 the 70/30. So 70 percent are subsistence users and 30
45 percent are sport and/or commercial. But it's not a
46 specific rule per se, because some of the Councils,
47 they can't. They don't sport users who live in the
48 region or commercial users who live in the region. So
49 there is just a goal I guess I would call it of trying
50 to have some other membership.

1 MR. CHARLES: Thanks.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Uno, do you
4 have a question?

5

6 MR. UNOK: It's like the Yukon
7 commercial is not used when the fish are low, the same
8 one he's asking?

9

10 MS. ARMSTRONG: It could be something
11 like that. It could be moose. It could be that, you
12 know, or caribou or any other resource where you don't
13 have enough of the resource and so you have only
14 subsistence users are allowed to harvest it, and that
15 would cut out in some places game guides wouldn't be
16 able to operate. So it could be fishing, could be
17 wildlife, either.

18

19 And we do have on this Council -- we
20 have one representative who is here as a commercial
21 fishermen as representing the commercial fishermen
22 interest. As you know. Yeah.

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
25 question on this? I'm sorry. Any further question.
26 Mr. Roczicka.

27

28 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
29 Back to that ethics responsibility, and I'm wondering
30 about -- I might have to resign here depending on what
31 the.....

32

33 (Laughter)

34

35 MR. ROCZICKA: But anyway, can you
36 identify what the specific party matter, and then you
37 go into lease, license, permit, contract, claim or
38 agreement or related litigation in which member has a
39 direct financial interest. I work for the tribal
40 council. The tribal council has several cooperative
41 agreements, contracts of funds that come through OSM to
42 conduct in-season monitoring programs, the post-season
43 subsistence harvest survey, the Bethel test fishery,
44 other related -- although now most of it has been
45 routed through the State of Alaska, so technically
46 we're partners with the State of Alaska, or contracting
47 with the State under the tribal council, but how that
48 might fall in there. Because if it's with litigation,
49 yes, I can understand, but the way I read this, it
50 could be broken out to mean any financial activity.

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: I believe the key word
2 is direct financial interest. That you're probably
3 employed whether they have those contracts or not.

4
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Correct.

6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG: And so you're not
8 directly benefitting; whereas if you were perhaps a
9 commercial guide and you might directly benefit from
10 something, then it could be different. I believe. But
11 I do know that our lawyers look at the applicants and
12 so if you got on here, I think you're okay. And you've
13 been around for a while, Greg, so if there was an
14 issue, they would have let you know.

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: I've been in conflict of
17 interest, too, before.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
20 questions. Mr. Aloysius, then Mr. Evan. Go ahead,
21 Bob.

22
23 MR. ALOYSIUS: I have a question for
24 Greg. Who pays your salary and where does that money
25 come from?

26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Orutsararmuit Native
28 Council.

29
30 MR. ALOYSIUS: Where does the money
31 come from?

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: It comes through grants
34 and contracts. It comes through various -- a lot of
35 different sources including the ones that I just
36 mentioned, and also the 638 designated for natural
37 resources. But if I was to rely on them, I'd have a
38 six-month position at 20 bucks an hour with no travel
39 or anything else involved.

40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: So I can understand it,
42 you're safe, because you don't benefit directly from
43 OSM dollars going into ONC. Right?

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: I personally write a lot
46 of those grants and contracts. I have staff that do
47 some of it as a result of those contracts, I'm the
48 primary instigator of them. I'm the director of the
49 natural resource program.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that take care
2 of you, Robert.
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmatively)
5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Evan.
7
8 MR. POLTY: Yeah. I'm a member of the
9 advisory council for Lower Yukon Schools -- Fish and
10 Game. So would that be any conflict on that situation
11 where I am in right now?
12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
14
15 MR. POLTY: No conflict. Okay. Thank
16 you, Chair.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And Mr. Unok.
19
20 MR. UNOK: So it's like that ethics
21 deal right here, it's like you guys doing a favor for
22 me while I'm on the Board, that kind of stuff, right?
23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Exactly.
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If there are no
27 further discussion on this, I have one thing that I
28 want to make sure all Board members get, or Council
29 members get, is this. This is the report that you guys
30 were wondering about that Sandone was going to give, I
31 want to make sure you guys get it prior to his coming
32 on his. Thank you. And there's some additional copies
33 back here, too, for -- here you go, young lady.
34 There's the rest for the Council. That's information
35 we'll be needing when we get ahold of Mr. Sandone on
36 his report tomorrow. I just want to make sure you guys
37 get, that we all get a copy of that. But I didn't get
38 a copy for some reason.
39
40 (Laughter)
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There are other
43 copies that are going to be passed out over there.
44 After everybody gets those necessary paperwork then we
45 could recess until tomorrow.
46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we recess
2 until 9:00 o'clock tomorrow morning.
3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
5 to recess until 9:00 in the morning.
6
7 MR. ROCZICKA: Second.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded. All in
10 favor aye.
11
12 IN UNISON: Aye.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
15
16 (No opposing votes)
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. If you guys
19 want additional copies, if you need them, they're over
20 somewhere. But this is the main report on the Chinook
21 subsistence and personal use harvest pattern.
22
23 (Off record)
24
25 (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 of Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 1 through 150 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME I, taken electronically by our firm on the 23rd day of February 2011, in Mountain Village, Alaska;

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

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

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 8th day of March 2011.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/14