

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

3
4 PUBLIC MEETING

5
6 VOLUME II

7
8
9 City of Mountain Village Community Hall
10 Mountain Village, Alaska
11 February 24, 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

35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43 Recorded and transcribed by:

44
45 Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC
46 135 Christensen Drive, Suite 2
47 Anchorage, AK 99501
48 907-243-0668
49 sahile@gci.net

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

P R O C E E D I N G S

(Mountain Village, Alaska - 2/24/2011)

(On record)

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Hey, I got a new gavel

(Laughter)

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And it works. That's good.

(Laughter)

REPORTER: Lester, your microphone.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. We're down to Item 17, agency and organization reports. Item A, Office of Subsistence Management, update on travel procedures. Coordinator. Mr. Nick.

MR. NICK: Good morning.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Good morning, sir.

MR. NICK: Yeah. For the record, my name is Alex Nick. I'm the Council coordinator.

And in your packet on Page 58 you will find update on travel procedures. I really love to talk about travel.

(Laughter)

MR. NICK: I'm just trying to wake you up. Before I go into that, what I would like to do is make sure, let the Council know that if you need to change your travel plans, you need to let me know before you travel, if you're leaving early. If you plan to leave early. Because of the policies that we're going to be talking about, we will have to work very closely on travel issues. If there's a travel issue, you need to let me know.

I'll provide you with my cell phone number at this time. That number is 545-1135. And it's my personal cell phone. 545-1135. And my home phone number is 907-543-3043 in Bethel. Again I'll

1 give you those numbers. My cell phone number is 545-
2 1135 and my home phone number is 543-3043. My family's
3 very good at relaying the message to me when I'm not at
4 home when someone calls relating to business.

5
6 I'll read the update on travel policy
7 and then we can discuss travel a little bit more.

8
9 Travel arrangements. All Federal
10 agencies are required to make all travel arrangements
11 through the Travel Control Center. All Council
12 members' travel arrangements must be made by Office of
13 Subsistence Management Staff. If you make amend your
14 travel yourself, you will not receive any per diem for
15 travel time after the amended ticket is issued and you
16 may be liable for the cost of airfare.

17
18 Therefore, any changes toy our travel
19 absolutely must be made through your coordinator. If
20 you are unable to contact your coordinator, call Durand
21 Tyler at 907-786-3888 or 1-800-478-1456, or Ann
22 Wilkinson at 907-786-3676.

23
24 Travel vouchers. The U.S. Fish and
25 Wildlife Service nationwide is preparing -- excuse me
26 -- is preparing to initiate new software for the
27 Federal financial and business management system at the
28 start of fiscal year 2012, beginning from October 1,
29 2012 [sic], which will extend the time when OSM cannot
30 make purchases or payments. There are two ways this
31 might affect you directly. (1) Members who make a last
32 minute decision to attend a Council meeting may not
33 receive a travel advance; and (2) travel vouchers for
34 the fall 2011 council meetings will be delayed.

35
36 What I would like to do is, you know,
37 when it's time to travel home or to or from any Council
38 meetings, and for some of you who travel outside of
39 scheduled meetings like to Anchorage, elsewhere, if you
40 think you will make any changes or you need to make
41 changes on your travel plans, you need to let me know
42 or Durand or Ann know in advance. You know, this does
43 not mean that you should call me after you arrive to
44 your other destinations that you would like to go to.
45 It's going to cause some complications.

46
47 James.

48
49 MR. CHARLES: How about for
50 emergencies? Sometimes family members are sick or

1 dying. For emergency, what can we do?

2

3 MR. NICK: You can contact me or Durand
4 Tyler and then we'll work something out for you. In
5 cases like weather conditions out here, you know, you
6 need to keep close contact with me or Durand. And if
7 you can't contact people who are listed in this update,
8 then you need to contact any of the available staff.
9 They'll relay the message to us.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
12 questions for Mr. -- any further -- Mr. Brown.

13

14 MR. BROWN: What about if we get -- if
15 one of the members get sick and could that be excuse or
16 what?

17

18 MR. NICK: If any of you get sick while
19 you're on travel status, you need to let me know or let
20 one of the Staff know. We'll take care of that.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

23

24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Like today,
25 weather forecast is bad today, tomorrow, and maybe even
26 to Saturday. If we have no choice but to stay in a
27 village, what do we do after that when we get home?

28

29 MR. NICK: As long as we know about the
30 weather and as long as you let us know, there will be
31 no problem. Like for today, some members were
32 indicating that they would like to return earlier
33 should this meeting be adjourned earlier today. You're
34 on safe side until tomorrow, because all of you are
35 scheduled to return tomorrow anyway. But if it's
36 beyond tomorrow due to weather conditions, and
37 especially I am here, you need to keep in close contact
38 with me. In situation like we're facing today, weather
39 conditions, you know, there's flexibility there.

40

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

43

44 MR. CHARLES: Like the other day,
45 Charlie and I didn't make it that morning, because
46 there was no planes, even weather was nice, the plane
47 you selected didn't make it to Tuntutuliak on time, and
48 so we miss our flight. What happens in that kind of
49 conditions?

50

1 MR. NICK: All you have to do is let me
2 know or let Durand know about the situation. As long
3 as we know about it, then we'll deal that.

4
5 MR. CHARLES: We worked hard, tried to
6 catch another flight to come here, so it's not easy
7 when you miss your scheduled flight. And it's not our
8 fault.

9
10 MR. NICK: Yeah. In the past the
11 Council used to be able to -- well, you know, we did
12 not allow that, that happened anyway. There used to be
13 returning home on available flights. That's not going
14 to happen any more. If you are going to do that, you
15 let me know and rearrange your travel, you know, en
16 route from meeting to home, your home. You need to let
17 me know.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Charles?
20 Does that answer your question?

21
22 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: His question was coming
27 here, not going home. And the plane didn't pick them
28 up on time to bring them here, so they had to wait for
29 another plane. That was his question, not going home.

30
31 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.

32
33 MR. NICK: I think I did not understand
34 your comment, Bob. Could you restate that?

35
36 MR. ALOYSIUS: His question was when
37 Charlie and James did not get picked up in time to make
38 their flight.

39
40 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.

41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: What's the situation
43 there?

44
45 MR. NICK: Well, it's not their fault.
46 It's whoever is supposed to pick you up didn't pick you
47 up on time. In most cases we will -- you know, weather
48 permitting, we will expect you to travel as scheduled,
49 but if there's any changes that you want to make
50 personally, then that's what we want to know about.

1 MR. CHARLES: It wasn't personal that
2 time. It was the airline's fault. We were ready to go
3 and the plane didn't make it on time to catch another
4 flight coming here. So we had to catch the next flight.

5
6 MR. NICK: Yeah. You know, the answer
7 to that is, you know, we can't control what's
8 unforeseen. We don't have any control over that. But,
9 you know, they might want know when you travel to
10 meeting and back to your village, because no matter how
11 we travel, our travel is tracked by the travel agency.
12 They know when we left and they know when return. They
13 also know whether or not if we use the ticket, or if we
14 did not use the ticket that we're supposed to travel to
15 and from wherever we're going to.

16
17 Helen, you have something?

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr
20 Charles.

21
22 MR. CHARLES: Another thing is we did
23 not have any paperwork or itinerary. We were traveling
24 by mouth. That's another problem because those guys
25 didn't know we were supposed to catch one flight and
26 then another one, because we didn't have itinerary or
27 anything or ticket. We couldn't look which flight to
28 catch, and which -- or how -- because from Tuntutuliak
29 to Bethel, Bethel to Mountain. And that they could
30 have tell us, we've got no more flights, because that
31 happens all the time. We don't have any more flights
32 today, even weather is good and nice and clear. What
33 happens then?

34
35 MR. NICK: Okay. In this situation,
36 travel for this meeting, I did not receive the
37 itineraries until last week. And upon receipt of the
38 travel itineraries, I contacted most of you by phone,
39 telling you that you were scheduled to travel on
40 certain flights. And the reason why that happened was
41 we have one travel arranger in OSM. His name is Durand
42 Tyler. He had family emergency, his father passed away
43 and then he had to be away from office. I'm not sure
44 how long he was away, but the travel for this trip were
45 not issued until he returned from wherever the funeral
46 was.

47
48 And we have a new person, but he's in
49 training status I believe on travel. Things hopefully
50 will improve after that, because we'll have a couple of

1 people dealing with that.

2

3 I don't issue your tickets. The only
4 thing that I do is I request your travel. The way your
5 travel request is submitted, first I submit for each
6 and every one of you travel approval request. Then my
7 supervisor approves all of those travel approval
8 requests. After that then what happens is even though
9 the travel approval request is approved by my
10 supervisor, I can't do anything until -- excuse me --
11 until the travel authorization is issued. The travel
12 authorization number is provided to me. That's the
13 only time when I could make your reservations. That's
14 the way your travel is handled. And then what happens
15 after I submit your travel reservations request to our
16 travel agency, he or she then again contacts Durand
17 Tyler who will authorize purchase of your ticket. And
18 for that reason, you know, the process is, you know,
19 sometime it's not one day. Sometimes it's not two
20 days. Sometimes it takes more than that. And we don't
21 have any control over that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
24 questions. It looks like we're having problems with
25 travel like we used to. Well, actually I think our
26 travel nowadays is a lot smoother than it used to be
27 when we first started. There's just little minor
28 glitches now and again. Individuals have different
29 problems because they're coming from different areas.
30 But in this area where we're coming from, especially
31 out along the coast, we have three flights a day. Some
32 of these villages only have one or two flights a day,
33 so that causes a lot of problem and missed flights and
34 everything else.

35

36 Who else had -- Mr. Andrew, go ahead.

37

38 MR. J. ANDREW: Thanks, Mr. Chairman.
39 Excuse me. The Staff had promised to get their
40 paperwork ready and not going to the last minute. You
41 were instructed to have it ready on the last meeting,
42 and you don't have to wait three months or four months
43 and then do it at the very last. This is what caused
44 problems. And you see all of them, practically all of
45 us are elders, needing more respect as far as being
46 given treatment. It's not intentionally, but things
47 happen and anything's never perfect in our world.

48

49 For me it's been a terrible experience
50 on this trip, because Era an Hageland's always

1 chronically late in our villages, in Unit 4 area.
2 Sometimes they don't arrive for a day or two. And the
3 day we travelled I was up at the airport for almost a
4 couple of hours, out in the open air because our local
5 agent has one little tiny little truck, a one passenger
6 truck. Whoever they bring up, they always just dump
7 them at the airport and leave them. And it's not very
8 good, and that was my frustrations. I don't want to go
9 -- if I ever get to go next time, I want to go with Era
10 or Hageland, because sometimes even when we go back,
11 they don't meet us at the airport. We have to call
12 around or walk down. From the airport to my home is
13 about a mile and a half. And in the winters, like I
14 said yesterday, I like to see the winter meetings be
15 held in Bethel, because in the winter weather's always
16 a factor, and we all know that. In the summer the
17 weather's milder, we don't mind waiting at the airport.

18

19 (In Yup'ik)

20

21 Thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, young lady.

24

25 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr.

26 Chair. Helen Armstrong at OSM.

27

28 I just wanted to say something about
29 the travel. It may seem that we could plan these trips
30 three months in advance, but what ends up happening is
31 we don't know what the agenda's going to be until
32 usually sometime not too long before the meeting. And
33 in this meeting in particular, we were thinking that it
34 would -- that all the meetings would be one-day
35 meetings, because there weren't proposals that had to
36 be presented with the analyses and a lot of debate on
37 them. But then the -- we finally got the letter from
38 the Secretary and they finally decided what they were
39 going to do with that, and we decided to have enough
40 time for everybody.

41

42 So it wasn't -- I mean, I really feel
43 for Alex, because he has no control over that, and then
44 he had no control over the problems that we had within
45 our office. We not only had one person who had a
46 family emergency, we had a second person who was a back
47 up who has very, very seriously ill husband, and so
48 things just kind of got slowed down. So, you know,
49 things happen.

50

1 But I think the main point of this
2 information is we want to make sure you guys call if
3 you need to make a change. And this isn't OSM's rule;
4 this is something that comes out of Washington, you
5 know, that we cannot allow people to make their own
6 travel arrangements. So that's the message. Write
7 down the phone numbers. Make sure you contact Alex if
8 it's after hours, and we'll make sure everybody gets
9 what they need, but we just have to do it for you.
10 We're not allowed to have you do it yourselves.

11
12 So Alex is doing the best he can under
13 the circumstances, and it's been a little bit of a
14 tough season for us I think.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ms.
17 Armstrong. Mr. Noah, did you have something.

18
19 MR. N. ANDREW: Yes. Thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman. My concern, the latter part of it is held by
21 John, but anyway I want to put something in there. I
22 probably won't be having this cold if I didn't wait
23 that long. Let me tell you something right here. There
24 was Hageland and Era, and I always heard they're one
25 and the same outfit. Era was landed there, both of
26 Era's were landed there. The plane that come pick me
27 up was Yute Air, and they were idling. And I was going
28 to bring this one anyway, because I got frustrated
29 there, being about a mile and a half, two miles out of
30 the village and nobody with you, and the wind is
31 blowing like that. It's not what you want to do. But
32 we need to get what's his name up here, or get those
33 Federal guys up here and work on this seriously. Maybe
34 we can start to use two airlines at the same time,
35 maybe use two only and they're not sharing, this one,
36 or whoever it is, that we're able to take it. Because
37 this isn't a game. We're the Council here. And we
38 need to make some corrections that apply to us. I
39 really want to make a little more stress that. I know
40 there are some of my colleagues are trying to put
41 something in there.

42
43 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Noah.

46
47 You know, Ms. Armstrong, one of the
48 problems we have, that's also a problem out here, I'm
49 not talking about the travel, but as far as airlines
50 are concerned, they won't take -- they don't trust each

1 other. They won't take each other's tickets. That's
2 the biggest problem that we have out here. And I think
3 in areas, especially where they have to stand out in
4 the weather, nobody likes standing out there in that
5 high winds and that type of weather for any length of
6 time. The most -- I think the way this would be is to
7 get these guys, get their preference on which airlines
8 that they should travel, they need to travel on. I
9 know Alex does that. He does a good job. He asks me
10 all the time which airlines I prefer. I prefer
11 travelling with Era, because they've got a lot of
12 airplanes and they have different schedules and they
13 fly them.

14
15 You know, coming from a larger village,
16 we're lucky, we have an opportunity to catch any
17 airlines. We have three different airlines coming into
18 Hooper Bay three times a day. You know, some of these
19 villages only have one airline coming into their
20 village one or two times a day, and that makes a lot of
21 difference.

22
23 Anyone else. Mr. Unok.

24
25 MR. UNOK: So if we want to change last
26 minute, we can't do it, return to your home, like if
27 anybody go Anchorage, suddenly you want to go shopping
28 one more day, that wouldn't happen. Can't happen.
29 Returning.

30
31 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.
32 Unok. If you want to extend your travel for personal
33 reasons, you need to call me or call Durand, and then
34 if you call me, then I would call Durand, and then if
35 Durand approves to do that, then you would be able to
36 do that. But it will depend on what he does, you know.

37
38 MR. UNOK: Because some airlines pay
39 you extra when you change your travel.

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: They charge you
42 extra.

43
44 MR. UNOK: Yeah.

45
46 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Members of the
47 Council. Another issue emerges during this discussion.
48 Mr. Andrew indicated something about Yute Air travel.
49 If any members of this Council changes airline
50 scheduled airline travel on their own to another

1 airline without our knowledge and approval, then
2 there's a good possibility that he or she will be
3 liable for payment of that airline ticket. That could
4 happen. And that's one of the reasons why, because of
5 the policies that we've got, and because of the
6 policies that our travel arranger in Anchorage has to
7 follow, we need to stay on top of the travel.

8

9 Like, for example, during this meeting,
10 your scheduled meeting, original scheduled meeting was
11 scheduled to be held in St. Mary's. Because they were
12 not registered in CCR as a vendor, potential vendor, we
13 could not do it because, you know, they didn't renew
14 their CCR registration.

15

16 The same applies with -- I think the
17 same applies with airlines. There are some certain
18 airlines that we might not be able to do business with.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that take care
21 of you?

22

23 MR. UNOK: No, he did not. He didn't
24 answer my question, what will happen if members change
25 and the airlines they pay, you have to pay extra.

26

27 MR. NICK: Maybe Helen would be able to
28 answer that, but.....

29

30 MR. UNOK: Well, excuse me, for the
31 changes.

32

33 MR. NICK: I would think that, you
34 know, if you do that without our knowledge, you won't
35 be reimbursed for that. But if you do it through me or
36 Durand or any of the Staff, then there's possibility we
37 might be able to reimburse you for airline change, if
38 that airline's the only available airline during that
39 day.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that answer
42 your question?

43

44 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chairman.

45

46 MR. UNOK: Yeah.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Evan, go
49 ahead.

50

1 MR. POLTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
2 Another thing that when you travel with snowmachine to
3 your destination, do you get mileage for that, or they
4 pay for the gas, or you have to furnish your own gas
5 and get reimbursed for travel?
6

7 MR. NICK: Through Chair. Mr. Evan
8 Polty. That also would have to be arranged prior to
9 your travel. When I contact you, for example, I ask
10 you will you be able to travel to this scheduled
11 meeting, and you agreed to travel on the airline that I
12 mentioned to you. That, you know, takes care of your,
13 what do you call it, expenses. I think I didn't say
14 that right. If you are going to travel on your own
15 snowmachine, we're not paying rent for it. We're only
16 paying for gas, we're paying for.....
17

18 MR. POLTY: And mileage?
19

20 MR. NICK:mileage. And it would
21 have to be approved prior to your travel, like during
22 this trip. If you plan to do that, then you would have
23 to let me know and then I would contact Durand, get his
24 approval for you to do that, and you would be okay.
25 But if you do that without our knowledge, then it will
26 be on your own.
27

28 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair. The reason,
29 when you were discussing with you that the manifest
30 indicated that leave at 11:30 and I'll be here by noon.
31 And I go ahead I figured I wouldn't be waiting until
32 3:30 for another plane that's coming in to bring me
33 here. But by the time I went up to the airport, they
34 didn't know I was -- I wasn't even on the manifest, so
35 I got 12:30 plane, and when I reached St. Mary's, they
36 told me I wouldn't be here until 3:30. So there was a
37 gap there that I was wondering why even thought I was
38 supposed to be here by noon that they didn't know that
39 I got -- I reached my destination early. So I talked
40 with the agent there that I was supposed to be Pilot
41 certain time and arrive here in a half hour. So they
42 decide, there was a plane that's coming -- I watched
43 the plane coming in, so they put me on there early, so
44 that's why I decided to take the airline than driving
45 myself down here. So it wasn't too bad after all
46 anyway, I did my own talking with the agent and they
47 brought me here early. Otherwise I would remain there
48 until 3:30.
49

50 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.

1 Polty. In that situation you would be responsible,
2 because you live right there, and airlines usually
3 announce whether or not they're coming to a village by
4 VHF radio when they're close enough, like between
5 Mountain and St. Mary's. If you know that you are on
6 -- for example, I told you that you were going to be on
7 the morning flight from Pilot Station to Mountain
8 Village. If you know that it's going to be delayed,
9 you need to contact that agent on your own, let them
10 know that you're supposed to be on that scheduled
11 flight. And they -- you know, it's okay for you to
12 change that, because, you know, you have no control
13 over that. It's okay for you to contact them on your
14 own in that situation. But if it's going to be a
15 change that will affect your travel, we need to know.

16

17 MR. POLTY: Thank you.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anyone else. Mr.

20 Aloysius.

21

22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Many times when a flight
23 is canceled, you try to rebook and they won't rebook,
24 because you're not scheduled according to their
25 schedule. I mean, you're not traveling according to
26 their schedule. And it depends on the agents. A lot
27 of times they'll just, we're sorry, you know, you can't
28 travel because you were supposed to travel here. But I
29 tell them, you canceled your plane. Well, that has
30 nothing to do with your travel, and so what do you in a
31 case like that.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Call Alex.

34

35 MS. ARMSTRONG: Call Alex.

36

37 MR. NICK: Go ahead.

38

39 MS. ARMSTRONG: Call Alex, call
40 somebody in the office, you know. I mean, the main
41 point about this really is that if you're changing your
42 travel for personal reasons, you want to go somewhere
43 else on your way home, you have to call our office. If
44 there's a weather issue, you know, the plane doesn't
45 come in, so you catch a later plane, it's the same
46 airline, it's the same itinerary, that's not the issue.
47 The issue is when people change their reservations for
48 personal reasons. And it says, I want to make sure you
49 understand, you may be liable. It doesn't say you will
50 be liable. I think if there's a problem with weather,

1 with planes not showing up, we can argue that they had
2 to catch another plane, and, you know, they were trying
3 to make the meeting. That's a different situation.
4 It's when you're trying to make -- when you make
5 changes for personal reasons, you cannot do that. You
6 might be liable in that situation for your ticket,
7 because there are change fees and that sort of thing.

8
9 Just any question, if you are
10 uncertain, call Alex. And he keeps his cell phone with
11 him all the time. During the travel meeting time, he's
12 got his cell phone right there so you can call him if
13 there's any problem. That's the nice thing about cell
14 phones now.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Aloysius?
17 Mr. Noah, go ahead.

18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: When you're at the mercy
20 of -- when you're working with.....

21
22 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS:one airline, you
25 know, you can't beat their system. And again it always
26 depends on the agents.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We have Mr. Noah
29 and then we'll go to Mr. Brown. Go ahead.

30
31 MR. N. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. I'm
32 talking about the same thing. An important meeting we
33 have here and we start at the scheduled time. I'll
34 give you an example. You were there this morning.
35 Yute Air call from Akiak, I'm not going to Tuluksak;
36 I'm going back. Going back. The next Yute Air
37 schedule is at 1:00. The next airline coming in is Era
38 and the next plane would be Hageland. How much time is
39 this to let you know ahead of time. Take maybe is that
40 two hours, three hours, one minute? Because that's
41 happened.

42
43 The other situation I saw was this,
44 they're about to go aboard. The hospital called,
45 that's our plane. This is emergency. Now what do we
46 do in that case? I'd like to be here on time. This is
47 where I work. I'm not talking about leisure time. I'm
48 talking about work time, because we had problem on this
49 trip. Can you give me any suggestions here, please.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Armstrong.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think, you know,
4 if Alex has his cell phone with him, he can call our
5 travel people, the travel agency and make the change.
6 I mean, it would take, you know, I would say as long as
7 he's got his phone, you know, you can get a reservation
8 changed in 15 minutes. So, you know, I'm just going to
9 throw a number out there. Give a half hour if you can.
10 And, you know, we'll work with people. I may be wrong,
11 but I'm pretty sure that what we're really concerned
12 about is when people change things for personal
13 reasons, like wanting to go visit somebody and extend
14 their stay. Not when the plane didn't come and I
15 needed to get on another plane and I was trying to get
16 to the meeting. Am I right, Alex? Is that? But it's
17 not too hard to call Alex I think. I hope that will be
18 true. You know, we'll see how it goes.

19

20 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Yeah, Helen's
21 right in that, but there's differences between making
22 your travel changes through the agent in the village
23 and through the Carlson Travel, your travel agency.
24 When you make your travel changes through Carlson
25 Travel Agency, which is our agency, it's almost 100
26 percent guaranteed that you'll make it on that flight
27 providing that the station, like St. Mary's, receives
28 it on time, versus changes made through local agent.
29 We wouldn't know about that until you complete your
30 travel.

31

32 And going back to Mr. Andrew's comments
33 about Yute Air, your travel schedule was not made
34 through Yute Air. You know that it was done by
35 Era/Hageland Aviation.

36

37 And for changes, you know, if you're
38 going to be traveling on Era, like, for example, Bob
39 travels through Era all the way from Kalskag to
40 Mountain, and if he's going to go to St. Mary's, he'll
41 still be going back by Era all the way to Kalskag. But
42 for those of you who have a number of airlines that
43 serves your village, there's a good possibility that
44 there might not be -- rather, some of them might not be
45 approved by our travel agency.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew, Mr.
48 Noah.

49

50 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.

1 Chairman. Whether it's Yute Air, Era or Hageland or
2 whoever, we need to work on this one, get it
3 straightened out now. I want to travel to my meeting
4 on time and on schedule instead of going out there,
5 standing in the cold weather and catching cold. And I
6 want my colleagues to do the same thing.

7

8 Let me tell you, you told me my plane
9 was coming in. My plane went back from Akiak, and
10 rescheduled my travel plan. Otherwise I would have
11 caught all the connecting flights.

12

13 Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Nick.

16

17 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Andrew.
18 Some of those things are beyond our control. And, you
19 know, a question came up earlier that, you know, if you
20 miss your scheduled flight, if it's scheduled to leave
21 at 11:00 and arrive in Bethel maybe 11:30 and then
22 connect to St. Mary's. If you're late for that, if
23 your airline accepts -- well, it's not your fault, it's
24 your airline's fault. So it's the airline that you
25 travel, like Era, they will make the decision. They
26 will still have you on their books going to that
27 village, wherever you're going to or community.

28

29 But then we have to be very careful.
30 Like what Helen said, that the main point of this
31 travel update is when you make your travel changes, you
32 know, for personal reasons.

33

34 And I want to mention, you know, before
35 we conclude this, I want to mention for those of you
36 who have some personal reasons like going to the
37 hospital en route to meeting, and going back to your
38 village, we also need to know about those. You need to
39 let us know if you're going to do that ahead of time so
40 that if a question comes up, then I'll be able to
41 answer that. And/or let someone answer that for us.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any more questions.

44 Mr. Brown.

45

46 MR. BROWN: What about the per diem?
47 In other agencies when I'm traveling, I provided the --
48 what I intend to spend my time, and in some cases when
49 I'm stuck and weather is the factor, they extend my per
50 diem.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Armstrong, go
2 ahead.

3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
5 Yes, absolutely, if it's weather or the plane doesn't
6 come because of a mechanical, whatever, something
7 that's out of your control, you will get per diem. You
8 know, if we're stuck here in Mountain for five days,
9 you will get per diem until you reach your home
10 destination. If you stop on your way home to go visit
11 family members or go to -- you know, stop for shopping,
12 whatever it may be, and it's personal reasons, then
13 your per diem stops. You would get the amount of per
14 diem that would be what you would have gotten if you
15 had gone home. So say you were supposed to arrive home
16 on a Friday at 5:00 o'clock, but you didn't get home
17 until Saturday at 5:00 o'clock because you did
18 something personal, your per diem would be up to Friday
19 at 5:00 o'clock. So definitely you are covered if
20 we're stuck here, you get per diem. Okay?

21
22 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Brown, go
25 ahead.

26
27 MR. BROWN: Yeah. Other thing, on my
28 returning home last fall, the plane, in that time I was
29 traveling with Grant. And I sit all day and they
30 canceled, but the other airlines were still flying, so
31 I went over and paid my own. And what is my returning
32 ticket? I called the coordinator, I can't get my
33 reimbursed my ticket on that other airline.

34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: You did get reimbursed?
36 Or, no, you're talking.....

37
38 MR. BROWN: No, I just paid my own.

39
40 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. In situations
41 like that, remember I told you, if you call me after
42 what happened, you won't get reimbursed because you
43 didn't get approval for that. I did contact our travel
44 agent or arranger to check on that. So in situations
45 like that, if you decide to go home and then just
46 because there's no flights on that day, you -- without
47 contacting Durand or me or Ann, and then call us later
48 after you make it home, it will be some complications.
49 If you're going to be reimbursed, they will work on it
50 for maybe it might take up to a year before that

1 happens, if it's going to happen. Most likely it will
2 not happen. The reimbursement will not happen if you
3 decide to have travel expenses like that without our
4 knowledge. If you contact me after you got home and
5 tell me, well, I spent \$200 to buy a new ticket, it's
6 going to cause a lot of work, you know, for Staff and a
7 lot of work for travel arranger and me and most likely
8 you will not be reimbursed for that. We don't have any
9 control over that.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Brown?
12 Does that answer your question?

13

14 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmatively)

15

16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr.
17 Aloysius.

18

19 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Along the
20 same line of if you decide to stop over in the
21 hospital, supposing you had an emergency and had no
22 choice but to go to the hospital, you know.

23

24 MS. ARMSTRONG: I believe if it were an
25 emergency and you had no choice, I think the government
26 would work with you on that. So I mean I -- yeah. And
27 if you're unconscious and you can't call, I don't think
28 they can hold it against you. So, yeah.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Aloysius?

31

32 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Harry. Mr. Wilde,
35 go ahead.

36

37 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Today being a
38 Regional Advisory Council I think it's so easy, I never
39 complained. When we're stuck first, John Andrew was
40 our advisory leader there in Bethel. We do everything,
41 sometime that we couldn't go fly over, go back to our
42 home. He'd borrow a place to sleep sometime. Sometime
43 he borrow blankets, sleep over. And we tried to have a
44 meeting closer to Bethel. We borrow Sno-Go to go to
45 where we're supposed to have a meeting. We didn't
46 complain, because it's so -- I was young anyway those
47 days.

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MR. H. WILDE: But today the airlines
2 are different. We had only one airline, Hageland, from
3 Bethel. They take us all over. They had only three-
4 passenger airline. If you cannot put your gear in,
5 it's too bad. You have to wait for a whole day or
6 couldn't make it. So I don't blame right now that
7 you've got -- we start having meeting in a long ways,
8 you know, just like Tuntutuliak or whatever is a long
9 ways from here. But different airlines. Or that's why
10 they're having start problem. I don't blame them,
11 these boys have a problem, because I think in those
12 villages, longer villages where you have a meeting,
13 like here in Mountain Village, you have to use two,
14 three airlines, that's a problem. It's kind of hard
15 when it's bad weather, try to wait for airlines, and if
16 you can't make it, it's hard to try to stay, wait for
17 the place where they're to pick you. So far I'm lucky.
18 I never have really a problem going to meeting.

19

20 Qu yana.

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Harry.
23 Mr. Evan. I mean, Mr. Polty.

24

25 MR, POLTY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
26 On the travel situation I think what I've heard there
27 was when I'm traveling to Bethel, Era, the airlines
28 over there go ahead and lock me in a computer. And
29 when I'm going to travel on the Yukon, they usually
30 coordinate with St. Mary's, and when I call about the
31 manifest where I am, when I call, they didn't have me
32 on the list, and they coordinated with Bethel. So
33 traveling around this area, that they take care of it
34 through St. Mary's. I think that's where I got myself
35 tangled up. So quite a few times when I travel this
36 area, they'd rather book me through St. Mary's other
37 than Bethel. And when I'm in Bethel area, they take
38 care of it through Era, that Bethel area, takes care of
39 that.

40

41 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

44

45 MR. NICK: Yeah. Mr. Chair. Members
46 of the Council. A couple more things that I wanted to
47 mention before we wrap up this.

48

49 With respect to your travel vouchers
50 after you return, you need to send your travel receipts

1 like taxi receipts to me within a couple days if
2 possible, work days if possible. Then what I will do
3 is forward those receipts on to Durand, and he will
4 work on your travel voucher and get the rest of your
5 per diem back to you hopefully within a short time.

6
7 There's other thing that I want to
8 mention at this point is, if Helen could assist me on
9 this, beginning this year our -- the remainder of your
10 per diem will no longer be directly sent to your
11 financial institution, like your bank. It will not
12 happen any more. Reimbursement checks will be sent to
13 OSM and then OSM will send them directly to you in the
14 address you provided to us.

15
16 And the information I received before I
17 traveled to this meeting is that cash advances will no
18 longer be possible as well for those of you who want to
19 have cash advances.

20
21 So keep in mind when you return,
22 provide your travel receipts to me, and then I will
23 forward them on to Durand, and then he will work on our
24 travel vouchers, and then work on our vouchers, get
25 your reimbursement back to you hopefully within a month
26 or two.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
29 Nick. If there are any further questions about travel,
30 during the break you could get together with anyone on
31 the Staff that's responsible for travelling, and if you
32 have any questions, they should be able to give you the
33 answers.

34
35 Anything else on travel before we get
36 to the next subject.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you,
41 young lady and Mr. Nick.

42
43 And the next person on is the
44 Secretarial program review update and actions needed.
45 Ms. Armstrong from OSM.

46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
48 I'd like to have everybody turn to Page 59 in their
49 books, and I don't know if people have had a chance to
50 read this.

1 But I think you're all aware by now
2 that there has been the Secretarial review going on of
3 the subsistence program. And we received a letter from
4 the Secretary of Interior. It's to Mr. Towarak who's
5 our new Chair of the Subsistence Board. And in the
6 letter he outlines what the review has determined.

7
8 So it's a -- so when you look at the
9 letter, on the first page, there's some things numbered
10 1, 2, 3. Those are the things we're going to go
11 through.

12
13 No. 1 on there is develop a proposed
14 regulation to increase the membership on the Federal
15 Subsistence Board to include two additional public
16 members representing subsistence users. There was a
17 briefing that was handed out yesterday that looks like
18 this. Briefing on changing the composition of the
19 Federal Subsistence Board. That's what -- all of this
20 has happened relatively recently, so it wasn't in your
21 book, with our apologies, but it just -- these things
22 have happened kind of last minute.

23
24 This is something for you to comment
25 on. There's a proposed rule out and those of you who
26 have been on the Council a long time know that when
27 there's a proposed rule, before it becomes a final
28 rule, that you can provide your comments.

29
30 The proposed rule has been developed by
31 Pat Pourchot, who is the special assistant to the
32 Secretary of Interior. I think some of you may have
33 met him. He works in the Anchorage Secretary of
34 Interior Office and in OSM.

35
36 You can provide public comments here.
37 You can provide public comments. On the back of this
38 separate sheet there's a mail address. There's also a
39 website where you can provide comments so that this
40 shows you all the different places you can provide
41 comments. So if you leave here and you read this, or,
42 you know, after our discussion something else comes up,
43 you can still provide comments. It isn't only here
44 that you can provide them.

45
46 The comments can be submitted until
47 April 12th, so you have some time.

48
49 You may go back and talk to some
50 people, and you come up with some other ideas.

1 The proposed regulation doesn't say
2 anything about the selection process for the new
3 members, and it only adds the language that there will
4 be two additional members, and that it increases the
5 quorum. So it's fairly simple.

6
7 So there's nothing in there that says
8 that the people have to be from rural Alaska. There's
9 nothing that says they have to be Native. It just says
10 they have to be two public -- you know, they're two
11 public members who represent subsistence users.

12
13 And, you know, there was a lot of
14 discussion about this I believe it was at another level
15 way above me, but I'm certain they probably discussed
16 this. And, you know, sometimes I think people get a
17 little alarmed at that idea, but I will say that there
18 was a Chair of the Southeast Council for many years who
19 was very good who was from Ketchikan. And Ketchikan is
20 a non-rural place. It's not considered -- it doesn't
21 fall under our Federal subsistence regulations, but he
22 was Tlingit and he had grown up in a subsistence way of
23 life, and he very much so represented subsistence
24 users. So I don't think they wanted to eliminate those
25 people who may have grown up in rural Alaska but moved
26 to one of the urban centers and could still possibly be
27 a voice on the Board.

28
29 But that might be something you want to
30 comment on. I don't know. I'm just letting you know
31 that this is -- that what it says is two new members
32 who are representing subsistence users, and doesn't say
33 anything more than that.

34
35 Any questions on that. Any discussion,
36 comments.

37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

39
40 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute, Tim.

43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Let him go ahead.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead then. Go
47 a head, Tim.

48
49 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
50 Chairman.

1 AVCP did submit a resolution for the Y-
2 K RAC to consider. I don't know if you got it or not,
3 or whether it's actually distributed to the Council.
4 And it addresses the process that we recommend to the
5 Federal Subsistence Board in the selection of the two
6 individuals, two public members.

7
8 Did you get a copy?

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that
11 again, Tim? I'm.....

12
13 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. We sent a
14 resolution or faxed a resolution to the city office to
15 be delivered to Alex. I don't know if Alex got that
16 resolution or not, or whether or not it was distributed
17 to the Council members.

18
19 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 MR. T. ANDREW: But we did submit a
22 resolution for you to consider and make recommendations
23 on the process of selection of those two public
24 appointments.

25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Tim, this is Helen. We
27 do have it and Alex is distributing it right now.

28
29 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. And I don't know
30 if you want to take comments on it now, Mr. Chairman,
31 or did you want to wait until when I come up on the
32 agenda.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Since we're on the
35 subject right now, Tim, go ahead with the comments that
36 you've got.

37
38 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
39 Chairman. The resolution is -- it's a resolution of
40 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council
41 regarding tribal consultation and adding public members
42 to the Federal Subsistence Board to represent rural
43 subsistence users. And this resolution basically
44 encourages you to -- or encourages the Federal
45 Subsistence Board to select tribal representation on
46 the Federal Subsistence Board for the two public
47 appointees.

48
49 And the reason for this is in the
50 subsistence management in Alaska, Alaska Natives have

1 the greatest to lose when things go wrong. And we
2 would like to be a voice that is heard in this forum,
3 and our interests, our cultural way of life being
4 representative and addressed through the Federal
5 Subsistence Board.

6
7 I'd like to take for example the
8 situation on the Yukon River with the Yukon River king
9 salmon. We have a dwindling supply of salmon coming
10 into the Yukon River. People are going to fish camps a
11 lot less. They're not processing salmon or kings as
12 much as they have in the past with the severe
13 restrictions that we have experienced in the past. In
14 our 2008 tour that we took the press to the villages
15 when we didn't have the returns, people were only
16 processing chum salmon and they weren't involving the
17 entire family like the way it used to be when they were
18 processing kings, because kings were a lot bigger fish
19 and take a little bit more work.

20
21 You know, these types of things are not
22 -- you know, for the current Federal Subsistence Board
23 composition, you know, these types of things are not
24 considered when actions are being taken. And only
25 tribal members can only relay this type of thing to the
26 -- or this type of issues to the Federal Subsistence
27 Board besides the RAC Chairs that are present.

28
29 But as far as two voting seats, we feel
30 that it should be tribal representatives that should be
31 seated on the Federal Subsistence Board.

32
33 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Tim. I
36 think we'll need to digest this and we'll probably come
37 back to discussion at the that your tribal -- during
38 the time that AVCP is recognized. Could you wait for a
39 decision on this until that time, Tim?

40
41 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah, I can wait until
42 that time. And just for your information, there's two
43 resolutions and a notice that has been issued as well,
44 seeking advice.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, I realize
47 that. We'll try -- the Board is really looking forward
48 into getting that tribal representation, and they've
49 also been directed by the Secretary of the Interior to
50 go out and get a program going with the tribal

1 representatives. So that discussion will be
2 forthcoming in a while. After we go through most of
3 these reports that we have, then we'll go back into
4 this, go back to this discussion on you topic, Tim, if
5 that's okay.

6
7 MR. T. ANDREW: Yes, that will work.
8 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You're welcome.
11 Anybody else. Mr. Roczicka.

12
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
14 And one thing that I want to mention, too, even though
15 it's not really included here, and I recognize that
16 this is a new process, but I have a strong concern, and
17 I'd like it reflected, that we don't know what and how
18 this election process is going to take place for the
19 people that are eventually there. Once it gets up to
20 that level, and seeing some of the decisions that's
21 comes down through the Secretary's Office that are
22 oftentimes counterproductive towards the concerns of
23 the RACs and the tribal community within the State of
24 Alaska, I have strong reservations on that. Seeing how
25 that selection process works, it's going to -- it needs
26 to get to us as soon as possible, and I don't know how
27 since we're only allowed the two meetings a year we can
28 actually respond to that as a committee. So I just
29 wanted to register the concern now that they need to be
30 very careful in how that's conducted.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you,
33 Greg. Go ahead, Ms. Armstrong.

34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: My understanding is
36 that all of the comments will go the Secretary's
37 Office. A final rule will then be written, and then
38 that will be presented to you. There won't be a second
39 opportunity for comment. I specifically asked that
40 question, do then the Councils get to look at what's
41 being proposed, but I was told no.

42
43 So this is your opportunity to make
44 your comments. And then hopefully, you know, they'll
45 be heard.

46
47 So just to be really clear, you want to
48 see in the proposed rule the selection process
49 described for how these two members would selected. Or
50 actually maybe.....

1 MR. ROCZICKA: I guess it's kind of
2 addressed in the resolution to some degree that we want
3 to have that tribal representation, but, you know,
4 when you have ambiguous language that says public
5 representative, the Secretary of Interior, or actually
6 one of his Staff in a leadership position in
7 Washington, D.C. is making that determination and
8 recommends to him. It may not really reflect the best
9 interest of the Regional Councils or our people here.
10 And I have a strong concern with that, and it's
11 reflected right now by what you're telling me that the
12 proposed rule, this is our only chance comment. We
13 don't have that in front of it, so we can't really
14 comment on it, and what we get back is the way it's
15 going to be.

16
17 MS. ARMSTRONG: We do have the proposed
18 rule. We don't have the final rule. That's what you
19 can't comment on is the final rule.

20
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Understood. Yes. Yes.

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: And I do have copies of
24 the proposed rule if you'd like to see it.

25
26 MR. ROCZICKA: I have read the proposed
27 rule.

28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything further on
30 the Secretarial program review update.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, I'm ready
35 for a 15-minute break. I need some coffee. Thank you.
36 Have a 15-minute break.

37
38 (Off record)

39
40 (On record)

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Before we go on
43 with the rest of our agenda, I just want to make sure
44 that everybody knows that Jan Iverson from KYAK is over
45 there. He'll be taking some pictures. So if you don't
46 want your picture taken or put in the paper or
47 something, let him know, but he'll be taking pictures.
48 I don't know how many he's going to take, but.....

49
50 MR. IVERSON: A lot.

1 (Laughter)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We are down
4 to Item A of 2 under Office of Subsistence Management,
5 is a letter from Secretary to Federal Subsistence
6 Board, Tim Towarak. Ms. Armstrong, you're going to be
7 covering that or did you already cover that?

8

9 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, no, we have a long
10 way to go.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

13

14 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's a lot of parts in
15 the letter we're going to be covering.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right. Go
18 ahead.

19

20 MS. ARMSTRONG: So just to make sure,
21 we were on the proposal for two new Board members.
22 Were we concluded on that with comments? Were there
23 any other comments that you wanted me to take back for
24 the Secretary on.....

25

26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I think we're going
27 to carry on this discussion when Tim Towarak [sic] gets
28 on and we'll go into depth at that time.

29

30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Then the next
31 thing is deference to Regional Advisory Councils.
32 That's No. 2. This is just informational and there's
33 no action on that.

34

35 And I should at this point refer to
36 you, if you turn to Page 76, we put it in a table all
37 of the issues that are before the Board and the
38 Secretary for change. So it kind of helps lay it all
39 out what's happening. So we had already expand the
40 membership and then the one on deference.

41

42 The review of the memorandum of
43 understanding, this is on Page -- there's a briefing on
44 Page 63 and then there's the actual memorandum of
45 understanding is on Page 65.

46

47 So in the letter the Federal
48 Subsistence Board agreed -- or the Secretary said that
49 they agreed to review the MOU with the Regional
50 Councils. I think it was mentioned yesterday that this

1 was something the Board had discussed in November, and
2 they wanted a bottom up process, and finding out what
3 the Councils feel about the MOU.

4
5 So just to give you a little bit of
6 background, when the Federal program began in 1999.....

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute.
9 Could you excuse me a minute. Bob, did you have a
10 question.

11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I thought you
13 were on No. 2, Page 59.

14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, not everything
16 are things that you have to actually vote on today.
17 They're just items in here as a matter of -- they're in
18 there, in the letter, but they're not things that we're
19 actually taking action on right now. So of the things
20 we're taking action on later. And this is one, this is
21 just saying they're expanding the deference. And I'm
22 not exactly sure why they do this, but on No. 5 is
23 where we talk about deference and C&T. So No. 2,
24 there's nothing to take action on right now.

25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, I was confused,
27 because I thought you were No. 2, and then I was going
28 to ask a question about.....

29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Sure

31
32 MR. ALOYSIUS:what they mean, in
33 addition to the takings. What do they mean by takings
34 decisions?

35
36 MS. ARMSTRONG: There's deference, and
37 this is actually described in ANILCA. There's
38 deference to the Councils, that the Board has to defer
39 to the Council's recommendation, and they have to
40 listen to the Council recommendation when it's talking
41 about taking wildlife or fish. So that's what they
42 mean by the taking. And the only times when the Board
43 can disagree with the Councils is if there's a
44 conservation concern, and maybe the Board disagrees
45 with the Council. The Council doesn't think it's a
46 conservation concern, but, you know, the Board thinks
47 it is, and so if they can document that, then they can
48 disagree with the Council.

49
50 If there's some impact to subsistence

1 users that they're concerned about, and then the.....

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: And also supported by
4 substantial information.

5

6 MS. ARMSTRONG: Pardon?

7

8 MR. ROCZICKA: And supported by
9 substantial information.

10

11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes. Yeah. Yeah.

12

13 MS. KENNER: (Whispering)

14

15 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, no, we're not
16 talking about C&T. No.

17

18 Supported by, thank you, my brain
19 wasn't working fast enough, substantial information.

20

21 So it's just saying that we have that
22 deference to the Council in taking decisions.

23

24 Where we're going to get into it, it's
25 No. 5, where there's been disagreement has been on
26 whether customary and traditional determinations are
27 considered takings or not. And that is going to be up
28 for some discussion, but not at this time. Okay. That
29 is part of the Secretarial review is whether or not
30 there should be deference for customary and traditional
31 use determinations.

32

33 Okay. Any more questions.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, everybody.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, I went
40 through that too fast.

41

42 The MOU, back to that. So when the
43 Federal program was created and they took over
44 management in 1999 there was -- I mean fisheries
45 management, I'm sorry, in 1999, because of the need for
46 close coordination between the State and the Feds on
47 management issues and this is something that is defined
48 in ANILCA, the MOU helps address the necessity of
49 having some communication and coordination between
50 State and Federal governments to aid in effective

1 management of fish and wildlife. And this is in Title
2 VIII. In .802(3), .805(a), .810(a), .812 and .816(b),
3 there's talk -- discussion about communicating between
4 the State and the Feds.

5
6 So the MOU contains references to State
7 law, and some people have had concerns about that and
8 signing the MOU, because there was a concern that the
9 Board undermined its obligation under Title VIII to
10 provide for subsistence priority for rural Alaskans.

11
12 But the Board's authority and charge
13 and obligation to rural residents only comes for Title
14 VIII and any other Federal statutes. The MOU does not
15 and cannot change that. So there's no changing of
16 Federal law.

17
18 The guiding principles of the MOU are
19 to avoid duplication of research, monitoring and
20 management involving subsistence and other users in
21 fish and wildlife planning efforts, and promoting clear
22 and enforceable hunting, fishing, and trapping
23 regulations.

24
25 The action we need from you today is to
26 review the MOU and to offer specific comments on
27 changes you might like to see in the MOU, and the
28 wording of the document or in some way that you feel it
29 could be improved. The Board has a review period for
30 it now until May 1st, so again to read it later or talk
31 to somebody about it and wanted to make some
32 recommendations, you could still make some comments up
33 to May 1st. And then on Page 64 it gives the places
34 where you can send those comments to.

35
36 So if you look at the MOU, there's a
37 preamble, it goes through you know, all of the
38 background to it, the guiding principles of it, which I
39 just went over, and then Section 4 on Page 67 actually
40 states all the things that the Feds and the State
41 mutually agree on.

42
43 I don't know if you want me to go
44 through those briefly, or did people have an
45 opportunity to look.....

46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, if there's
48 going to be some discussion, I can see that needs --
49 the MOU should be reviewed and commented on. I think
50 we should go in as instructed and just all go through

1 that and make comments as we go along.

2

3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Do you want me to go
4 through it then verbally?

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That way we don't
7 have to go back to any of the topics that you've
8 already covered.

9

10 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Okay.

11

12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If it's
13 informational, we'll just go on as it states in the
14 agenda. Okay.

15

16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So I'll just
17 briefly go through then on Page 67 what it says. Is
18 that what you want me to do? I was a little unclear.

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, you know,
21 there's some -- I don't know if everybody understands
22 this briefing on the memorandum of understanding, but I
23 think the background should be made understood where it
24 says when the Federal government program expanded the
25 subsistence, we should go into that and cover the whole
26 thing to make sure all of the.....

27

28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Everybody understands
29 it.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE:Council
32 understands it.

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I did go through
35 the background and some of the key points. Let me must
36 pause. Are there questions about what the MOU does?
37 The purpose?

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are there any
40 questions no the MOU, on the background and the key
41 points in it. Mr. Aloysius, I see you flapping your
42 wings.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: You know, I don't
45 understand it quite, because this is the first time
46 I've seen it. How can I have questions on it before I
47 even read it.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Do you want
50 to take some time in order before you.....

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: My thought was that I
2 thought she was going through this memorandum of
3 understanding and go through it piece by piece and
4 every time she stops at a certain place, she'd ask for
5 if there's any questions or comments on that particular
6 area that she covered.

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's what I would
9 like to see. That's the reason why I mentioned that we
10 should go through the whole thing so it's understood.
11 These booklets I know I are sent out and some of these
12 got late. I didn't even receive mine, so some of us
13 haven't had the opportunity to go through this.

14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: Oh, I totally
16 understand.

17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So it would help a
19 lot if you would go through the topics as you get
20 through them.

21
22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: I understand. So I
27 haven't started with the MOU. I'm still on the
28 briefing which gives the background of how we got to
29 where we are with this.

30
31 When the MOU -- you know, some of you
32 who have been around for awhile probably even remember
33 when we first created this MOU in April of 2008, they
34 actually had a meeting with all of the Council members
35 in Anchorage. Everybody came into Anchorage and met
36 and discussed this. So this did have Council input in
37 the beginning.

38
39 And I think that was called a
40 memorandum of agreement then it became a memorandum of
41 understanding, which I think is just more binding. The
42 agreement was kind of like, yeah, we're going to do
43 these things and it's a little bit of an agreement, but
44 the memorandum of understanding is more binding.

45
46 So then in 2008, based on the MOA, they
47 created the MOU, an that took about a year. And it was
48 signed in December of 2008. So now we are here today
49 to look at it again and see if there are some things
50 that need to be changed in it.

1 There are three protocols that target
2 at specific issues developed under the guidance of the
3 MOA and the MOU. And those are the subsistence
4 management information sharing protocol, that was
5 created in April of 2002; the Yukon River drainage
6 subsistence salmon fishery management protocol, also
7 created in April of 2002; and the memorandum of
8 understanding on the review and development of
9 scientifically-based salmon escapement goals was
10 created in 2005. And these protocols facilitate
11 management as well as the exchange and sharing of ideas
12 between the Federal and State agencies.

13

14 Again the key guiding principles of the
15 MOU include avoiding duplication of research,
16 monitoring, and management involving subsistence and
17 other users in fish and wildlife management planning
18 efforts, and promoting clear and enforcement hunting
19 and fishing and trapping regulations.

20

21 So all of that's from the briefing.
22 Any questions so far. And then I'll get in the
23 specifics of the MOU. We'll go through it.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Unok.

26

27 MR. UNOK: You mentioned a memorandum
28 of agreement, and are you talking about two things now?

29

30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Now it's a memorandum
31 of understanding. In the beginning of the fisheries
32 management portion of our program, it was a memorandum
33 of agreement. That evolved into a memorandum of
34 understanding. So it's just one document. God
35 question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?

38

39 MR. UNOK: So it's a memorandum of
40 understanding is one whole with the memorandum
41 agreement? Are you saying that?

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It started out as
44 the memorandum of agreement and after editing it and
45 everything going through it, they changed the title to
46 memorandum of understanding. Okay?

47

48 MR. UNOK: Yes, I understand.

49

50 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So let's go

1 through the MOU on Page 65. So this is between the
2 Federal Subsistence Board, which is made up of the Fish
3 and Wildlife Service, the Forest Service, the Park
4 Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian
5 Affairs, and the Chair who is appointed by the
6 Secretary, and the State of Alaska. And that's ADF&G
7 and the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Alaska Board of
8 Game.

9

10 All right. The preamble is on Page 65,
11 and it describes there that because the State of Alaska
12 is responsible for management, protection, maintenance
13 and enhancement, rehabilitation, extension of the fish
14 and wildlife resources of the State of Alaska, and
15 those are based on the sustained yield principle. And
16 then it lists, kind of goes through some of their laws.
17 And because the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior
18 through the authority of ANILCA and other laws of
19 Congress are responsible for ensuring that the taking
20 on Federal public lands of fish and wildlife for
21 nonwasteful subsistence uses as defined in ANILCA shall
22 be accorded priority over the taking of other such --
23 on such lands of fish and wildlife for the purpose of
24 providing for in ANILCA .804, and it goes through all
25 of that regulatory kind of discussion.

26

27 Because of all that, and whereas
28 ANILCA, Title VIII, authorizes the Secretaries to enter
29 into cooperative agreements, therefore the signatories
30 endorse coordinating between the State and Federal
31 government. I'm on Page 66 now at the top.

32

33 So this MOU forms the basis of
34 cooperation and coordination among the parties with
35 regard to subsistence management of fish and wildlife
36 resources on Federal public lands.

37

38 The purpose of the MOU, it's under II
39 Purposes, is to provide a foundation and direction for
40 coordinated interagency fish and wildlife management
41 for subsistence uses on Federal public lands consistent
42 with specific State and Federal authorities as stated
43 above that will protect and promote the sustained
44 health of fish and wildlife populations, ensure
45 conservation and stability in fish and wildlife
46 management, and include meaningful public involvement.
47 And then it goes on a little bit.

48

49 Then the guiding principles, Section
50 III goes through the guiding principles. No. 1.

1 Ensuring conservation of fish and wildlife resources
2 while providing for continued uses of fish and
3 wildlife, including a priority of subsistence uses for
4 subsistence uses through interagency subsistence
5 management and regulatory programs. And then it talks
6 about coordination between all the different entities,
7 State/Federal agencies, Regional Advisory Councils,
8 State Advisory Committees, State and local
9 organizations, tribes, and other Alaska Native
10 organizations.

11
12 No. 2, using the best available
13 scientific and cultural information and local
14 traditional knowledge for decisions regarding fish and
15 wildlife management for subsistence uses on Federal
16 public lands.

17
18 No. 3, avoid duplication in research,
19 monitoring, and management.

20
21 No. 4, involve subsistence and other
22 users in the fisheries and wildlife management planning
23 processes.

24
25 No. 5, promote stability in fish and
26 wildlife management and minimize unnecessary disruption
27 to subsistence and other uses of fish and wildlife
28 resources.

29
30 And, 6, provide clear and enforceable
31 hunting, fishing and trapping regulations.

32
33 I want to pause here. Does anybody see
34 anything in the guiding principles that they would like
35 changed, edited, reworded.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Oney.

38
39 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
40 Chairman. Ms. Armstrong. How do we get -- I know is
41 mainly talking about public lands. How do we get to
42 include public waters? I mean, I know there's --
43 because, you know, if we're going to talk about fish,
44 we need to include all their entities that are affected
45 by the fish that we're using. So the high seas is
46 disrupting our way of life, our subsistence resources
47 out there, so how do we include that into this MOU.

48
49 Thank you.
50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: That's a good question.
2 Whenever we talk about Federal public lands in the
3 Federal Subsistence Management Program, it actually
4 does include the Federal waters that are within those
5 land conservation units, so in the Y-K Delta, most of
6 it's refuge land. Everything within the boundaries of
7 the Refuge, all the waters within the boundary of the
8 refuge are managed by the -- I shouldn't -- it's not
9 managed. They fall under the Federal subsistence
10 management regulations. So even though it doesn't say
11 lands and waters, the waters are included, but that's
12 waters within the conservation unit. We don't have
13 regulatory authority, and it's not something that can
14 be ever addressed in -- I mean in this MOU. We don't
15 have regulatory -- we, the Federal Subsistence
16 Management Program, does not have regulatory authority
17 outside of any of those conservation units, so they
18 don't have regulatory authority, the Federal
19 Subsistence Management Program, for anything that's
20 offshore. But it may be something you want to address,
21 but it's not something we can address in this. Okay?
22 I hear you. I know the concerns, yeah. Yeah.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?

25
26 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman. Just to follow up.

28
29 I would like to make that concern
30 known, you know, on record that if we're going to talk
31 about fish, we need to include everybody in the
32 picture, I mean, the whole cycle of the salmon needs to
33 -- everybody needs to be on the table if we're going to
34 continue to work on the salmon to rebuild them. so
35 everybody needs to be on the table from the time that
36 they spawn up until the time that they return back into
37 their spawning areas, so we need to make that known,
38 that, you know, because of the bycatch that is of great
39 concern to everyone up and down the Yukon, we need to
40 put that on record that we need everybody on the table.

41
42 Thank you.

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Duly noted. Yeah.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

47
48 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Still on
49 those guiding principles. I think it needs to be said
50 on record here as well that the Federal government to

1 this point has actually been out of compliance with
2 these principles, and I speak specifically to the
3 Unimak decision which is the only one where we really
4 have an active role that's been played by the Federal
5 government where they played, and they are in direct
6 violation of every one of these conditions in here.
7 They did not use the best available knowledge. They
8 did not act in a timely fashion. They had the
9 information in front of them over a year in advance,
10 and they sat on it and did nothing, and the subsistence
11 uses were allowed to be -- continue to be closed, and
12 have no opportunity whatsoever. It's Staff did not
13 promote the stability of the wildlife management
14 processes and minimize unnecessary disruption. Just
15 right on down the line.

16
17 And I can go on down through over half
18 of these listings of conditions in the protocol, and
19 specifically No. 10 where I actually was involved in
20 putting this together back in 2000 and 2001, that we
21 had that -- in Section 10 where we added that sentence,
22 conservation of the resource, or continuation of
23 subsistence uses is of immediate concern, and the
24 review shall not delay timely management action. And
25 they agreed to that. And they have totally thrown it
26 out the window, and we'll address it later in our -- in
27 the annual report. But that is -- the main problem
28 here is that they're not even complying with what
29 they're got in place right now.

30
31 And we get into the issue of the
32 taking. It's mentioned taking also should entail that
33 there's something there to take and bringing into
34 management. And right now that is not clear, and
35 hopefully it can be made more clear with what we have
36 in place, but it's gotten to where the competing use
37 now is the abstract and ideological of other interests
38 that are a directly competing use to providing food on
39 the table. Now, is keeping food off the table or
40 keeping animals from being able to harvest, we get into
41 some kind of a legal argument, does that become a
42 taking? It certainly does in my mind when you have
43 substantial scientific information there, you have the
44 Regional Councils and all the local users saying you're
45 hurting subsistence uses, so there's no -- and they're
46 recognized scientific management principles pretty much
47 throughout the northern hemisphere.

48
49 And it -- again, violating all these
50 criteria of deference, they're thrown out the window

1 and disregarding -- the concern again is there we
2 essentially have been answered of where the Federal
3 government is supposed to go in protections, that this
4 is now going to -- the same standards's going to be
5 applied to the rest of our regions.

6
7 And that is -- again, it's
8 hypocritical. And that's the nicest term I can think
9 of.

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: I hear your concerns.
12 I mean, I don't have any response to that. You know, i
13 think people are aware, too, of those concerns. Not to
14 not listen your concerns, because they are -- but is
15 there anything we could do differently in the guiding
16 principles, do you think? Any different wording.

17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: Insert a phrase in one
19 of them that would reflect what's in Item 10, in
20 Section 10, that they would take timely action. Or
21 insert that sentence in there.

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Do you have a
24 suggestion, Greg, of where you what that put in?

25
26 MR. ROCZICKA: Insert the last sentence
27 from paragraph 10 in those 1 through 13 that you have.
28 Insert that last sentence after No. 2.

29
30 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

31
32 MR. ROCZICKA: Actually No. 5 would be
33 more appropriate.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Which No. 5 you're
36 talking about? Make sure the rest of the Council.....

37
38 MR. ROCZICKA: No. 5 in the guiding --
39 take the last sentence out of No. 10 of the MOU,
40 Section 4, No. 10, the last sentence, for conservation
41 of the resource or continuation of subsistence use is
42 of immediate concern, the review shall not delay timely
43 management actions, and maybe insert that into No. 5 of
44 the guiding principles as well.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Is that
47 understood by the rest of the Council. Any questions
48 on that. Since this is going to be coming from this
49 Council, I want to make sure that everybody's in
50 agreement. Any disagreement.

1 (No comments)

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Then so be it.

4

5 Mr. Noah, you have a statement or a
6 question.

7

8 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.

9 Chairman. One of the unforeseen problem that is
10 arising very rapidly, issue is in the waterfront, on
11 the river over in Kuskokwim basically. It deals with
12 water that go up through the habitat, spawning areas,
13 one of which is Tuluksak and its tributaries. Right now
14 Kuskokwim is no longer feasible to transport barges,
15 not even small barges. And we have been trying to get
16 some attention there so that before it really became a
17 problem. It's problem now. I hate to kind of bring it,
18 but let me tell you the real try fact right now. About
19 a mile and a half from Tuluksak, if that barge goes up
20 there, it had to turn, make the engine really high
21 speed in order to turn into one area and hold offload
22 down a little bit and hit the gas then and go. That
23 kind of problems is arising between Bogus Creek and
24 Akiak. Down the line this is going to be a major
25 problem.

26

27 Kuskokwim is a resource. It's our
28 table. It's the plate. And we got to be very, very
29 concerned about this situation. And I'd like for you
30 to look into that and possibly come up with some
31 solutions. We've tried areas like going to Corps of
32 Engineers, for example. That is the problem now. This
33 coming spring, I don't know what Mother Nature will do
34 with that river.

35

36 The other predator that is hanging
37 around there is the beaver.

38

39 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 MR. N. ANDREW: Beaver houses are -- I
42 don't know, maybe you can look into that, because it
43 will be one of the major problems later on.

44

45 For your information, Mr. Chairman.

46

47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Andrew, point
48 of order. Let's get back to the MOA/MOU.

49

50 MR. N. ANDREW: That's essentially what

1 we need to do.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anybody else have
4 any concerns on the MOU. Mr. Roczicka and then we'll
5 go to you Mr. Unok. Go ahead.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. I just wanted to
8 get it clarified. I was scribbling here on the one we
9 just finished with, No. 5, so it would read -- it would
10 flow better into place there by incorporating that last
11 sentence.

12

13 So No. 5 would read as it is up to
14 promote stability in fish and wildlife management and
15 minimize unnecessary disruption to subsistence and
16 other uses of fish and wildlife resources. And than
17 say through active management and for conservation of
18 the resource or continuation of subsistence uses is of
19 immediate concern, review shall not delay timely
20 management action.

21

22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Do you have that
23 written down so I could just get it from you later?

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: I do. I was scribbling
26 it as we.....

27

28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I'll make
29 sure.....

30

31 MR. ROCZICKA: That's why I went back
32 on to get it on the record. I can get that to you.

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right. I have to
35 take notes back and it takes a while to get the
36 transcript, so if I can just get that from you later
37 and write it down so I can take that back. Thanks.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
40 discussion on the MOU.

41

42 MR. UNOK: I do.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Noah, could you
45 please turn off your speaker? Thanks. Anybody else.
46 Mr. Unok.

47

48 MR. UNOK: On No. 4, No. 9, what do you
49 mean by to identify local agency representative for
50 communications. Can that be like who you guys -- the

1 city council, tribal council? I don't understand.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I guess he needs an
4 explanation on that one sentence, 9.

5

6 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'll do my best. I'm
7 not the creator of this, but I think what they're
8 saying, and this may be a place where you'll want to
9 think about -- you know, want to put more clear
10 language if it's not clear enough. But I think what
11 they're saying is that you should identify local -- I
12 mean, they say agency representatives, I think they
13 mean -- I mean, it could be a tribal organization, it
14 could be -- I mean, most likely it would be a tribal
15 organization at a local level if you need efficient
16 communication. I think that's what it's trying to say,
17 but because it's the whole State of Alaska, they're
18 trying to be kind of broad in how they say it, because
19 there aren't tribes in every community, so they're just
20 saying local agency representatives for communication.
21 Does that make sense?

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?

24

25 MR. UNOK: Yeah. I guess.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You guess. If you
28 have any other questions, you know, she'll be around
29 for a while for any of those personal places where you
30 don't understand. But now is the time to bring out any
31 of this stuff if you need to understand it better.

32

33 MR. UNOK: What I was asking, if it
34 could be reworded to whoever is appointed I guess.
35 Would that work?

36

37 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, to -- I
38 didn't hear quite what you said.

39

40 MR. UNOK: To appoint someone to be
41 communicating with the Federal and State, would that
42 work?

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's what it
45 says. That's what it says.

46

47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I think that it
48 intends to imply, is to -- I don't think they want to
49 appoint necessarily, but just identify who would be the
50 person to talk to for the agency or the, you know,

1 tribal organization.

2

3 But why don't I do this. Let me make a
4 note that the language is unclear in No. 9, and we'd
5 like to -- and we can have -- and that you would like
6 more language that was clearer as to the intent of what
7 it means, and we can take that message back to our
8 office and we'll work on developing better -- if it's
9 not clear to you, then it needs to be developed into
10 something else. Okay. So clarify language in No. 9.

11

12 MR. UNOK: Yes.

13

14 MS. ARMSTRONG: If I take that message
15 back?

16

17 MR. UNOK: Yes.

18

19 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

20

21 MR. UNOK: Because the tribals are into
22 subsistence mostly. And they're communicating with the
23 Federal and State better than State/City office.

24

25 MS. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Does that
28 take care of you know, Mr. Unok?

29

30 MR. UNOK: Yes.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

33

34 MR. ALOYSIUS: Earlier I thought I
35 heard that Mr. Roczicka was part author of this
36 document.

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Clarification on
39 that, Mr. Roczicka.

40

41 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I was
42 Vice Chair of the State Board of Game at the time, and
43 I attended a couple of meetings as a representative of
44 the State Board of Game when these were all in draft
45 form back in 2000 and 2001. The Chairman was actually
46 the designated person to sign on off in, but she
47 couldn't attend all the meetings at the time, so I
48 attended on her behalf and that was one of the -- that
49 sentence that I pointed out, that was one that we
50 insisted should be included.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: In other words you're
2 very knowledgeable about this document, and maybe you
3 could explain each of these items and why they were
4 they written the way they are. Why were they not
5 written in the language that anybody could understand,
6 is my question.

7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Because they were mostly
9 drafted by bureaucrats, and the majority of people in
10 this world are not bureaucrats. I actually have that
11 down as, when it says for occupation, I sometimes put
12 petty bureaucrat.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any more comments.

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: It was drafted by the
17 Department and brought to us, and also the Federal
18 Staff had their drafts, and they worked it up amongst
19 themselves, kind of like the technical committee for
20 OSM does with their regulations, and then they brought
21 everybody together in the same room and we reviewed it
22 as we're reviewing now for our recommendations and
23 input.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Ms. Armstrong.

26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
28 I think what I'm hearing you say is that this isn't all
29 clear, so if there are, as Mr. Unok did, if there are
30 things that you want written in a clearer way, let me
31 know and we'll take that back, that word back to
32 Anchorage and we can work on clearer and more easily
33 understood language and not such bureaucratic language.
34 That can be a comment that you make on it. That's
35 fine, and I think that's a legitimate comment.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I think one of the
38 problems that we might have also is that -- those of us
39 that are living out here in a village and that are
40 mainly volunteering for the positions of this area
41 don't have the college education and the word
42 dictionary use of the words, and it's harder for us out
43 here if we're going to make any comments to use a
44 dictionary when we don't have one right alongside of
45 us. But I think that might be some of the problems.
46 It was put together by a group of like Greg says, a
47 group of bureaucrats and people in the agencies that
48 have the use of all the language every day, you know.
49 We don't use this language on an every daily basis. We
50 use our (In Yup'ik). English to us in some areas is a

1 second language, and it makes it hard for us to
2 understand some of these words that are in here.

3

4 Mr. Aloysius.

5

6 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you. You know,
7 the other thing you forgot to mention is that we don't
8 have the resources that available to Mr. Greg Roczicka,
9 because he's got an office full of information that he
10 can just go pick and choose whatever he wants, whereas
11 in a village, you know, we don't have that available to
12 us.

13

14 MS. ARMSTRONG: I will take back the
15 message, the comment that this needs to be written in
16 language that is not as bureaucratic and more easily
17 understood, and we can work on, we say wordsmithing it
18 to see if we can.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If there's any
21 comments that the Department or the Service wants us to
22 review this, we've got to be able to understand it.

23

24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Shall we go ahead and
25 start on the top of Page 67 on No. 4 and go through
26 each one of those, and I'll take them one-by-one and
27 make sure everybody understand, and if there's
28 something you want rewritten, we can do that? Do you
29 want to.....

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's what we can
32 do. One more. Go ahead, Mr. Unok.

33

34 MR. UNOK: How long we have to work on
35 this, too?

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, we're not
38 going to be catching any planes today, you know.

39

40 (Laughter)

41

42 MR. UNOK: Well, I'm asking her when's
43 the due date or deadline?

44

45 MS. ARMSTRONG: The due date for
46 comments is May 1st, so there is time, but since we
47 have time today, not catching any planes, I would
48 recommend we work on it, because we all know we leave,
49 we are busy, we forget about it and, you know.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, we have it in
2 front of us.

3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: Right.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's a good time to
7 work on it now.

8
9 MS. ARMSTRONG: And you have Staff to
10 hopefully be able to explain what these things mean.

11
12 So let's take the top of Page 67, No.
13 4, Section 4, the Federal Subsistence Board and State
14 of Alaska

15
16 (Off record)

17
18 (Power outage)

19
20 (On record)

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Now?

23
24 REPORTER: Hold on one, let me power
25 all the equipment back up.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Now, okay.

28
29 REPORTER: (Nods affirmatively)

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let us continue.
32 Ms. Armstrong.

33
34 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
35 All right. So we were on Page 67, we're on No. 1, to
36 cooperate and coordinate their respective research,
37 monitoring.....

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: May we have -- just
40 a minute. May we have some quiet here, because we're
41 doing something important. If you need to speak, speak
42 in a quiet voice so you don't disturb what's going on
43 here. We'd appreciate it very much. Thank you.

44
45 Go ahead, Ms. Armstrong.

46
47 MS. ARMSTRONG: To cooperate and
48 coordinate their respective research, monitoring,
49 regulatory, and management actions to help ensure the
50 conservation of fish and wildlife populations for

1 subsistence use on Federal public lands.

2

3 So this is saying that we want to have
4 cooperation and coordination on all of those things.
5 Research, monitoring, regulation actions, management
6 actions.

7

8 Any questions.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr. Unok.

11

12 MR. UNOK: Before they make the
13 regulations, are you saying that, or after they make
14 it?

15

16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Before regulations are
17 made. So when proposals come in to change hunting and
18 fishing regulations, then it requires us to -- because
19 this is between the State and the Feds, okay, it
20 requires us to include the State in what's being
21 proposed. So we have to make sure, we're very kind of
22 strict in our office really, that we make sure that we
23 send everything to the State. When we're sending
24 things to the Regional Councils, we make sure we're
25 also including the State.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

28

29 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 2, to
30 recognize that State and Federal historical and current
31 harvest and population data and information and
32 cultural information are important components of
33 successful implementation of Federal responsibilities
34 under ANILCA Title VIII.

35

36 So what that's saying is that it's a
37 responsibility of the Federal government, Title VIII of
38 ANILCA says this, that we use historical and current
39 harvest information on the resources, and population
40 data on the resources, the moose, the caribou, the
41 fish, and that we also use cultural information, which
42 I think it's really good that it's in here. That these
43 are important to this program. So it's just
44 recognizing really that that kind of information is
45 important. Okay.

46

47 Any questions.

48

49 (No comments)

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right. No. 3,
2 provide a priority for subsistence uses of fish and
3 wildlife resources and to allow for other uses of fish
4 and wildlife resources when harvestable surpluses are
5 sufficient, consistent with ANILCA and Alaska Statute
6 16.05.258.

7
8 So that's just saying that we have a
9 priority. It's really letting the State know we
10 provide a priority to Federal subsistence users so if
11 there aren't enough moose to go around, and it's
12 Federal public land, the Federal program has the right
13 to close the land to all but Federally-qualified
14 subsistence users. That's what it's saying, that we
15 provide a priority. It's letting them know we have
16 that priority. And then if there are enough to go
17 around for everybody, that there is a harvestable
18 surplus, that means there's enough for everybody to
19 harvest, then we keep it open to all users.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Continue.

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Let me know if you're
24 not understanding something, because we want to make
25 sure it's all clear. This is a very important
26 document.

27
28 No. 4, to recognize that.....

29
30 (Cell phone ringing)

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Sorry.

33
34 MS. ARMSTRONG: It's okay.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It won't happen
37 again. Sorry about that.

38
39 MS. ARMSTRONG: We all do that. It's
40 okay.

41
42 (Laughter)

43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: No. 4, to recognize
45 that cooperative funding agreements implementing the
46 provisions of this MOU, memorandum of understanding,
47 may be negotiated when necessary and as authorized by
48 ANILCA .809 and other appropriate statutory
49 authorities.

50

1 So what that's saying, I'm going to
2 take that sentence alone.

3
4 (cell phone ringing)

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I thought it was
7 off. I thought I turned it off. I'll make sure of it
8 this time. Go ahead. I'm sorry.

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: So that's saying
11 there's a part of ANILCA .809 and we all them Section
12 .809 agreements, and those actually -- the Federal
13 Subsistence Management Program actually has agreements
14 with the State. We provide funding for making sure all
15 of these things happen that are in the MOU. And so
16 this is just saying that there has to be a funding
17 agreement that -- and it can be negotiated, but that
18 it's authorized under Section .809. Okay.

19
20 The next sentence says Federal funding
21 agreements for cooperative research and monitoring
22 studies of subsistence resources with organizations
23 representing local subsistence users and others will be
24 an important component of information gathering and
25 management programs.

26
27 This just says that we have these
28 cooperative agreements that the Federal government pays
29 for research and monitoring studies. We do this under
30 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program where we have
31 studies that are done under cooperative agreements. So
32 it's just making a statement. And that these
33 agreements are important to our program and gathering
34 information.

35
36 Any questions.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 5, to
41 recognize that State and Federal scientific standards
42 for conservation of fish and wildlife populations are
43 generally compatible.

44
45 So that's saying that we're using the
46 same scientific standards generally. They're generally
47 going to be in agreement. It doesn't say always. It
48 says generally.

49
50 When difference interpreting data are

1 identified, the involved agencies should appoint
2 representatives to seek resolution of the differences.

3

4 So sometimes they do disagree, and
5 we've had -- we do have these working groups that will
6 address those issues. So it's not saying that we, the
7 State and Federal agencies always have to agree.
8 They're saying they generally should be in agreement,
9 and if not, they should have people appointed to figure
10 out how to resolve those differences.

11

12 Any questions.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 6, to
17 cooperatively pursue the development of information to
18 clarify State and Federal regulations for the public.

19

20 And we do. So that's just saying we're
21 supposed to work together if there are things that need
22 clarifying on State and Federal regulations.

23

24 Questions.

25

26 (No comments)

27

28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 7, to
29 recognize that the signatories may -- signatories means
30 the people who are signing -- may establish protocols
31 or other procedures that address data collection and
32 information management, data analysis and review, in-
33 season fisheries and wildlife management and other key
34 activities and issues jointly agreed upon that affects
35 subsistence uses on Federal public lands.

36

37 And there is an appendix on Page 71
38 that has the scope for protocols and other procedures.
39 So this is where you might have work groups appointed
40 to address issues. And then it has some direction for
41 how that should be done.

42

43 All right. No. 8 -- No. 7, any
44 questions.

45

46 (No comments)

47

48 MS. ARMSTRONG: All right. No. 8, to
49 provide an opportunity, through interagency Federal-
50 State technical committees for appropriate scientific

1 staff, along with Regional Advisory Council and/or
2 State Advisory Committee representatives, subsistence
3 users, and other members of the public to discuss and
4 review data analyses associated with proposal analyses
5 and resource and harvest assessment and monitoring.

6

7 So this is just saying that if we need
8 to, we should have these committees, and it should
9 always include Regional Council membership and
10 subsistence users.

11

12 All right. 9, this is one we want to
13 clarify to make it clearer.

14

15 To designate liaisons for policy
16 communications and, as appropriate, to identify local
17 agency representatives for efficient day-to-day
18 communication, field operations and data retrieval
19 between State and Federal programs.

20

21 I actually wanted to -- I started to, I
22 think we went past this, but when you were asking the
23 question about this one, what I was hearing you say
24 right there at the end was maybe some reference to
25 tribal organizations, and adding something in about
26 that, not just clarifying it, but did you -- is that
27 what you were looking for was local agency
28 representatives -- or maybe you could talk a little bit
29 more about what you were looking for there.

30

31 MR. UNOK: I was talking about tribals
32 are more active upon subsistence, that's what I was
33 saying, because they send these things to corporation
34 offices, and they don't pass them on.

35

36 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. He was
37 referring, for the transcript, to the wildlife
38 regulation book.

39

40 MR. ALOYSIUS: I agree with him. And
41 it's very clear that the tribal entity in a village has
42 more input into the Federal system than a city, because
43 every village isn't incorporated as a second-class
44 city. And they're more prone to go with what the State
45 asks them to do. And they're very seldom -- they're
46 very reluctant to pass on information or communicate
47 with residents who are tribal members.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would you like to
50 be recognized, Mr. Pappas.

1 MR. PAPPAS: Yes, Mr. Chair. George
2 Pappas, Fish and Game.

3
4 I am on the State's liaison team, so
5 the designated liaison on the State's team is my
6 supervisor. Her name is Jennifer Yuhas. And she was
7 the individual -- Y-A-H-U-S. She's the individual for
8 policy communications. So if you have questions about
9 policy, it would go through her.

10
11 And the last part of No. 9, data
12 retrieval between State and Federal programs, I'm the
13 fisheries liaison for fisheries data. So any fisheries
14 data requests that come in, they come through me. I
15 coordinate getting that information from State Staff
16 and getting it back to the requester. So that's my
17 portion of the MOU.

18
19 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, George.
22 Continue.

23
24 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. So just to
25 reiterate, we will take back the comment that something
26 needs to be added there of working with tribes and the
27 local communities maybe in addition to local agency
28 representatives, but somehow clarifying that. We'll
29 work on what the wording might be. Okay.

30
31 No. 10, To provide adequate opportunity
32 for the appropriate Federal and State agencies to
33 review analyses and justifications associated with
34 special actions and emergency orders affecting
35 subsistence uses on Federal public lands prior to
36 implementing such actions. Where possible and as
37 required, State and Federal agencies will provide an
38 advance notice to Regional Advisory Council and/or
39 State Advisory Committee representatives and other
40 interested members of the public before issuing special
41 actions or emergency orders. Where conservation of the
42 resource or continuation to subsistence is of immediate
43 concern, the review shall not delay timely management
44 action.

45
46 So this is one where there has been --
47 I don't know about has been, but there might be -- I
48 think this is getting at some of Greg's issue, but the
49 Councils are included when possible, but not always is
50 what this is saying, because sometimes things are

1 happening really fast, especially with fisheries
2 management.

3
4 So this is saying that when you have a
5 special action or emergency order, that prior to
6 implementing those, you have to have consultation with
7 the State and the Feds. The Federal agencies have to
8 consult with the State, and vice versa, and that there
9 has to be notice given to the Regional Advisory
10 Councils. So they have to be informed. And the State
11 Advisory Committees also have to be informed, and any
12 other interested members of the public. So we put out
13 a news release on those issues. But that when it's a
14 conservation concern and you -- and it's immediate they
15 sometimes can't do all of that consultation with the
16 public and the Regional Councils. That's what that
17 says.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. Robert,
20 go ahead. Sorry. Mr. Aloysius.

21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. Who is
23 responsible to contact the RAC Council members and
24 Advisory Committee members? It just says will provide
25 advance notice. And who in.....

26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Who does it?

28
29 MR. ALOYSIUS:the bureaucracy is
30 responsible for that?

31
32 MS. ARMSTRONG: The coordinators. For
33 the Federal Regional Advisory Councils, the
34 coordinators, so Alex Nick would be the one contacting
35 all of you. And then with the State, that goes through
36 the State system. I don't know who the person is.
37 George can answer that question.

38
39 MR. ALOYSIUS: The reason I brought it
40 up is because, you know, I didn't even know we had a
41 moose season at home until somebody was saying, we're
42 going to go moose hunting, and I said, no, it closed,
43 you know, January what's the -- no, it's open until
44 February 28th. Where did you get that from, you know?
45 And I'm the Chair for the AC in the Central Kuskokwim,
46 and I'm a member of the RAC here, and yet I did not get
47 any kind of information, not even an email or a hate
48 mail or anything. So that's something that's really
49 new to me.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other comments.
2 If not -- Mr. James.

3
4 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5 I'm the same way as Pop. I'm at Lower Kuskokwim Fish
6 and Game Advisory Committee Chair, but I was just like
7 him. I was blind when people called me about the
8 extension. And our coordinator, May, Lower Kuskokwim,
9 is in Dillingham.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That doesn't
12 surprise me.

13
14 MR. CHARLES: And that's why we were
15 blind, even the State and Federal opened the season for
16 extension. They didn't tell us.

17
18 Thank you.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I know that those
21 of us who serve on the Council get those questions all
22 the time, because I get them, too. And as Chair of
23 this Council, I don't know anything about any of that
24 information that's being given out, and the local
25 people in our area depend on the information. They
26 will come to you when they want to know exactly what
27 the -- instead of going around, getting shifted from
28 one agency to another, they come to their local people
29 that they feel that they trust. You know, when we give
30 them information, they know that we pretty much will
31 tell them the truth as it is. And they'll come to us
32 before they'll come to anyone else. So it might be a
33 good idea whenever there's any changes in the regs or
34 any other information that should be brought out to the
35 public that the Council members and/or Chairs of
36 Advisory Councils and, you know, the State Advisory
37 Council, both should at least get some information on
38 that so they can -- or be able to talk to an individual
39 in the office that has that information that we can
40 rely on.

41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm wondering maybe you
43 would want to add language to this section to address
44 the concerns I'm hearing, because this is saying you'll
45 be notified in advance where possible. And maybe it's
46 not always possible but if you haven't been notified
47 before the decision was made to open a season or
48 change, open or close a fishing season, whatever, maybe
49 something needs to be added about -- I'm not sure I'm
50 saying this right. I'm just throwing out an idea, that

1 you want to add something saying Regional Advisory
2 Councils in the effected region, Council members in the
3 effected region must be notified. And I think also
4 State Advisory Committee representatives, must be
5 notified when there has been any change.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That would probably
8 help us a lot. Both the Advisory Councils of the State
9 and Advisory Councils of the Feds.

10

11 And to go back just a bit. You know,
12 the local tribes are the ones that deal mainly with the
13 Federal programs. And in Item 9 where it says to
14 designate liaisons for policy communications and
15 appropriate to identify, instead of local, would it be
16 possible to put tribal agency representatives?

17

18 MS. ARMSTRONG: What I think it might
19 be -- I might suggest is to say, you could say to
20 identify tribal and/or local, because not all
21 communities in Alaska have tribes.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Yes. But
24 mention tribal in there, because they're the ones that
25 are dealing with the Federal subsistence program and
26 the Federal programs that are available.

27

28 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I think that's a
29 good solution, to identify tribal and/or local.

30

31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.

32

33 MR. UNOK: Question.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And what was that?

36

37

38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's get
41 back to the Chair. We will recognize you, Robert. Go
42 ahead.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Instead of using the
45 word local just identify State and tribal agency
46 representatives. Because when you say local, it could
47 be anybody.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: yeah.

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: Say that again, what
2 you were suggesting? State -- so to identify.....
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: To identify State or
5 tribal agency representatives, and omit the word local,
6 because local could be anything. You have two specific
7 government agencies in a village represented by a city
8 and a tribe.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would that work?
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: Not all. So you're
13 considering city to be State when you say State?
14
15 MR. ALOYSIUS: Well, the simple matter
16 of fact is every village in Alaska is a second-class
17 city.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't think they all
22 are. They aren't. That's the problem. They don't all
23 have city organizations. So I think that's why they
24 specifically said local, because they're trying to
25 cover everybody.
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Okay. The way to get
28 around that is just to simply to identify all Federal,
29 State, and local -- hmm.
30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: Maybe to say local
32 governments where possible. I don't know. We'll work
33 on it.
34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS: Because, you know,
36 you're talking about three different entities right
37 there, and that's Federal, State and local would cover
38 all of them.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: As long as you
41 understand.....
42
43 MS. ARMSTRONG: We understand.
44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE:what we need.
46 What we want.
47
48 MS. ARMSTRONG: And the main point is
49 to add tribal in there.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Right.
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Is that okay
6 with you, Robert?
7
8 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmative)
9
10 MR. UNOK: I've got a question.
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute.
13 There was a couple questions, statements over there.
14 Mr. Roczicka, did you have?
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: No.
17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Noah.
19
20 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
21 Chairman. Not all of us are second-class cities.
22 There are a few of us who are all tribal.
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thanks for
25 the clarification. Thank you.
26
27 Anyone else.
28
29 MR. UNOK: I have a question.
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Al.
32
33 MR. UNOK: You mentioned all State,
34 what are we working on, the whole State? This is for
35 the whole state of Alaska?
36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yes, it is.
38
39 MR. UNOK: Okay. Now I understand.
40 Thank you. So like it could be Anchorage, too.
41
42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. It's the entire
43 State of Alaska, but that excludes the non-rural areas
44 of Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan and then some parts of
45 the Kenai. That's kind of more or less it, yeah.
46 Yeah. So it's not the entire State, no.
47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Do you want
49 an addition or something on Item 10, Mr. Roczicka.
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: No, not necessary. It
2 would be just switching a word that doesn't really mean
3 any difference.

4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Then
6 continue on.

7
8 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 11, to
9 cooperatively review existing and proposed State fish
10 and wildlife management plans and Federal subsistence
11 management plans that affect subsistence uses on
12 Federal Public lands, providing an opportunity for
13 Regional Advisory Council and/or State Advisory
14 Committee representatives and other public to
15 participate.

16
17 So it's, you know, when we have those
18 management plans that are being created, the State has
19 to be involved, Feds have to be involved and the
20 Regional Advisory Councils and the Advisory committees.

21
22
23 Consider State fish and wildlife
24 management plans as the initial basis for any
25 management actions so long as they provide for
26 subsistence priorities under State and Federal law.
27 Procedures for management plan reviews and revisions
28 will be developed by the representative -- I mean,
29 sorry, the respective Federal and State Boards in a
30 protocol.

31
32 So this is just about reviewing
33 wildlife management plans, fish and wildlife management
34 plans.

35
36 Any questions or comments?

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. No. 12, to use
41 the State's harvest reporting and assessment systems
42 supplemented by information from other sources to
43 monitor subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources
44 on Federal public lands. In some cases, Federal
45 subsistence seasons, harvest limits or data needs may
46 necessitate separate Federal subsistence permits and
47 harvest reports.

48
49 So it's just saying we use the State's
50 harvest reporting, and then supplement it by other --

1 like we have -- it's supplemented by the Federal
2 permit, harvest reporting information, and it's also
3 supplemented by other data that might be available.

4
5 Questions on that one?

6
7 Number 13.

8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Robert has one.

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Sorry.

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: I just want to comment
14 that the 19A moose season is a tier II for the State
15 and they issue up to 200 permits, and the Feds come in
16 with an additional 100, so that's a very good example
17 of what this section is.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Continue. Oh, I'm
20 sorry. Go ahead, Mr. Polty.

21
22 MR. POLTY: Thank you, Chairman. While
23 we're discussing this No. 11, we still have problem
24 with those harvest tickets when it comes to open
25 season. And we're still short on those harvest tickets
26 that we need to record the catch we do. And we need to
27 find someone willing to just go ahead and send us
28 enough to sustain the community for their needs, the
29 harvest tickets. State supplies with the permits, but
30 even though they -- we have enough permits to go
31 around, but we get low on the harvest tickets.

32
33 Okay. Thank you, Chairman.

34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: We'll make sure that
36 message gets back to the -- these are for hunting on
37 Federal public lands?

38
39 MR. POLTY: Yes.

40
41 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. We'll make sure
42 that message gets back to the Refuge.

43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One bit of
45 information I might give you is that your harvest
46 tickets are good until June of the year after.

47
48 MR. POLTY: The year after.

49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So if you have, if

1 the hunters have their harvest tickets, it's good for
2 all through the winter season.

3

4 MR. ALOYSIUS: All over the State.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Okay.

7

8 MR. POLTY: Okay. Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Wilde.

11

12 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Here in Mountain
13 Village, storekeepers, they get the license and harvest
14 tickets and others. I think it would be good even
15 tribals, they have that, taken care of that, because
16 sometimes that the two manager A.C. Company, they are
17 busy and take quite a while to sit in there and
18 waiting. But I think city or tribal if they got, it
19 would be good, because people, city and corporation,
20 sometimes that I go around to the city and corporation
21 and ask them when the moose season going to be open and
22 all that. So it would be easier I think for the people
23 here. We've got quite a few people here, young people,
24 quite a few. Instead of send them to the store, it
25 would be better I think.

26

27 MS. ARMSTRONG: We can send that
28 message back, too.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Unok. Mr.
31 Wilde, please turn off your mic. Thank you. Mr. Unok.

32

33 MR. UNOK: When other communities run
34 out of harvest ticket, there's a neighbor community's,
35 they can pick up some harvest tickets from the other
36 communities. And a hunting license if they want to, if
37 they can travel.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, young
40 lady.

41

42 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I like it, you
43 call me a young lady. It's nice. I'm emphasizing the
44 young.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I know you're
47 younger than I am, that's the.....

48

49 (Laughter)

50

1 MS. ARMSTRONG: My daughter thinks I'm
2 quite old, you know.

3
4 Okay. No. 13, we're at the last one.
5 To ensure that local residents and other users will
6 have meaningful involvement in subsistence wildlife and
7 fisheries regulatory processes that affect subsistence
8 uses on Federal public lands.

9
10 So it's just stating that people need
11 to be involved.

12
13 Any questions on that one? Any
14 changes? Anything? All right.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Unok, you have
17 a question.

18
19 MR. UNOK: Yeah. Does this mean if any
20 changes, people got to go by the rules, emergency
21 actions? It's not that? No?

22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Through the Chair.
24 What this is saying is that local residents and other
25 users are to be involved, that they should have some
26 ability to comment on the regulation changes. So when
27 regulations -- when somebody makes a proposal to change
28 regulations, the public has the right to comment on
29 those changes. The Council does. It goes through a
30 public process, that's what it's saying. It's ensuring
31 that we have a public process of reviewing those
32 regulation changes. They're not just done without your
33 involvement.

34
35 MR. UNOK: Okay.

36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?

40
41 MR. UNOK: Yes.

42
43 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: I want to add a little
48 bit to that. Actually it goes a little further. When
49 you start to do some of the -- deal with some of the
50 legal angles on this where a meaningful involvement --

1 what is a meaningful involvement. It's not that you're
2 just available. It's the general public to be able to
3 comment on our regulation or not. It leads into the
4 deference criteria that are mentioned in Title VIII of
5 ANILCA that when you have a meaningful role, that means
6 that you have -- you're accorded a higher level of
7 consideration, and actually making changes happen, and
8 you need to be listened to with a high level of
9 consideration and cooperation with what you're trying
10 to have accomplished. It has a definite legal weight
11 by saying meaningful.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
14 discussion on this.

15
16 (No comments)

17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there anything
19 else you need to bring before us? But it's 12:00
20 o'clock now. We've got a time schedule at the school,
21 so if there isn't anything else on the MOU then --
22 we'll wait until Mr. Nick is done with his discussion,
23 whatever they're discussing must be important.

24
25 Well, anyway, go ahead, did you have
26 anything else on this?

27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: I believe we're done
29 with the MOU unless you wanted to look at the general
30 provisions, but it's up to the Council.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Anything else that
33 you might think of come up, you could bring it up
34 later.

35
36 Mr. Aloysius, it looks like he's
37 starving, so we might as well break for lunch. We'll
38 have a recess until 1:00 o'clock.

39
40 MR. ALOYSIUS: Do I hear 1:15. It
41 takes a long time to go over there.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Robert. 1:15
44 then.

45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Do I hear 1:30?

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 1:15, 1:30, right
49 around that. I'll call the gavel at 1:30.

50

1 (Off record)

2

3 (On record)

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Since everybody's
6 here, I know I said 1:30, and I usually keep the time
7 that we usually say that we're going to start, but the
8 man that wanted it until 1:30 has decided he wants to
9 start now, so we might as well.

10

11 (Laughter)

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm not going to
14 mention any names, but.....

15

16 (Laughter)

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'll call the
19 meeting back to order. We are down to item 4,
20 customary and traditional use determination, requires
21 some input from the Council.

22

23 MS. ARMSTRONG: Actually, Mr. Chair,
24 this Helen Armstrong.

25

26 If I can back up a little bit, I
27 realized I overlooked something. We're still on the
28 Tim Towarak letter, the letter from the Secretary, and
29 on the No. 2 part, on the deference, I neglected to
30 expand that. There's no recommendation from the
31 Council, but I have some informational information I
32 need to talk to you about on deference.

33

34 And if you'd turn to Page 76 of your
35 books, there's a table there, and the second
36 highlighted in gray part says expand deference to the
37 RACs. So one part is C&T, and the Board is supportive
38 generally of expanding deference to C&T. Right now
39 there is no deference. They don't know if they'll make
40 a policy or rulemaking. There's exploration into
41 figuring out what needs to be done.

42

43 The next step is to develop some kind
44 of policy, rulemaking, advanced notice, something like
45 that. And whatever gets drafted will be back before
46 you in the fall of 2011. So the deference to the
47 Councils for C&T is forthcoming. No decisions today,
48 no recommendations need to be made. That will be
49 coming.

50

1 And then rural determinations. The
2 courts have found that rural is an absolute term
3 meaning sparsely populated. And it's not subject to
4 interpretation, so there's no deference for rural
5 determinations. This is the legal perspective. We are
6 developing, or we will be developing a process and
7 criteria for rural and non-rural determinations in the
8 future.

9
10 Right now we have quite a few brand new
11 Council members, and I believe none of the Council
12 members went through the rural process the last time.
13 So they're getting a work session April 6th, 2011 on
14 rural. And we are inviting all of the Council Chairs
15 to come. We don't want anybody by teleconference, we
16 want it to be in-person participation.

17
18 So, Lester, if you can come April 6th,
19 and if now, Vice Chair or your designee. It would be
20 good to have somebody from all of the Councils.

21
22 So there's no decision on rural at this
23 point. No recommendations to be made.

24
25 And then the third one is in-season
26 management. That's on Page 77. There's no change for
27 in-season management. We're deferring as time and
28 conservation allow.

29
30 The next step is that we want to revise
31 in-season delegation of authority letters as needed and
32 provide copies to all the Councils. That will be done
33 within the next year or so. We don't have a definite
34 date on that.

35
36 We have a lot of new things we're
37 working on right now.

38
39 And we will be discussing communication
40 improvements, enhancements that flow from the
41 delegation of authority letters, and as concerns are
42 raised, we'll be notifying the Boards. And there's
43 nothing here either for the Council to make
44 recommendations on. These are things coming up.

45
46 So then at the bottom of that Page 77,
47 the highlighted portion says review C&T determination
48 process, and that's where we are right now. We do want
49 Council input. And this is the opportunity for the
50 Councils to weigh in before the Federal Board starts

1 looking at any regulatory changes it wants to assess
2 that we even need it.

3
4 Right now we've done, since the
5 beginning of the Federal Subsistence Management Program
6 about 300 customary and traditional use determinations
7 around the State, and those have been affirmed by the
8 courts when they've gone to -- I mean, we've had a few,
9 not all of them, of course, have gone to the courts.
10 When they've been challenged. And right now we're
11 interested in knowing what you think about our
12 customary and traditional use determination process.

13
14 So we have two questions. The first
15 one is, is current way we do customary and traditional
16 use determinations working for your region? And the
17 second one is, if not, what would you like changed?

18
19 So C&T. Is it working? Do you want to
20 change it?

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any comments from
23 the Council.

24
25 (No comments)

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any problems with
28 customary and traditional -- customary determination
29 and traditional use determination.

30
31 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd like to make a
32 comment.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I can't
37 say that I agree with all the determinations that
38 they've had from those that have been before them, but
39 their reasoning and application across the gamut, I
40 think they're as close as they can get to something
41 realistic at this time. I don't see anything that
42 could really be changed that would change the situation
43 really.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, I don't seem
46 to see anything that -- everything seems to be working
47 as far as we're concerned as far as customary and
48 traditional use determination.

49
50 Does any of the other Councils have any

1 comments.

2

3

(No comments)

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, I think we
6 can just keep on going.

7

8 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. The next page,
9 Page 78.

10

11 MR. ROCZICKA: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka's got
14 a question. Go ahead, Greg.

15

16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, just a
17 clarification on these rural determinations. When
18 they're speaking to term of deference and being
19 inappropriate, again that's all centered around those
20 three criteria and how they would apply? Because I
21 don't see really how they would apply, but I'm
22 wondering about this meeting that's coming up, and I
23 think it's probably a typo in here, it says they're
24 going to have the meeting on April 6, 2011 to
25 understand the 2000 census process, and they probably
26 mean 2010. What I'm wondering first of all, is that
27 where it may be discussed on the criteria of the main
28 characteristics of the community and so forth, and what
29 may be brought up further in the review on whether some
30 communities maintain their rural status or recognition
31 or not. Is that what's going to be discussed there at
32 that.....

33

34 MS. ARMSTRONG: I really -- yeah, I'm
35 not sure. I haven't involved in it, but I think
36 they're going to give an overview of how we've done the
37 rural determinations in 2000 and then again in 2010,
38 and, exactly, talking about the criteria and how we
39 approached it in 2010. Should we do it again the same
40 way.

41

42 MS. PETRIVELLI: Well, 2000, yeah,
43 that's exactly what it is, and that's why it says 2000.

44

45 MS. ARMSTRONG: Only 2000?

46

47 MS. PETRIVELLI: In the past.

48

49 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. Because they did
50 it in 2000, it's every 10 years. So I'm not sure that

1 was.....

2

3 MS. PETRIVELLI: So the first time it
4 was. It wasn't a typo.

5

6 MS. ARMSTRONG: Right. It wasn't a
7 typo. It was 2000.

8

9 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.

10

11 MS. ARMSTRONG: But the deference
12 question, where it is an issue in particular is, for
13 example, the Southeast Council recommended keeping
14 Saxman rural and the Board voted that it should not be
15 rural. And there has been an argument from the
16 Southeast Council that there should be deference given
17 to the Council.

18

19 MR. ROCZICKA: And that remains under
20 appeal I believe?

21

22 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah. So that's the
23 question on the rural. It doesn't really affect this
24 region at all, at least not at this point. Maybe in 50
25 years or sooner, who knows.

26

27 MR. ROCZICKA: Or sooner.

28

29 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, as the population
30 grows.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
33 questions. Mr. Charles.

34

35 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
36 Does the C&T have to be updated?

37

38 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, only -- do you mean
39 the determinations? Only if the Council puts forward a
40 proposal to ask for changes. We don't update them
41 unless somebody requests it once the determination is
42 made. Okay?

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. -- where are
45 you?

46

47 MR. ALOYSIUS: You lost me.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We're on rural
50 determination, Item 5, under 17.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: What page is it on?
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Page 2.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: Huh?
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: On your agenda,
8 Page 2.
9
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Page 76.
11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Page 76. The
13 information is on Page 76.
14
15 MS. ARMSTRONG: We're actually now on
16 78, that table I was going through. The table
17 summarized what was requested in the Secretary's
18 letter. The Secretary's letter is on Page 59. But
19 this Page 76 through 78 has this table that summarizes
20 all the issues, trying to keep it a little bit
21 organized, because it's complicated.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's what I try
24 to do, too. Keep everything organized.
25
26 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, it's all
27 complicated, and there's a lot to go on. Anything on
28 that? Should I move on?
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there any other
31 questions concerning that.
32
33 (No comments)
34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, let's go.
36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. The next one,
38 it's not on the table, but the -- in the letter was
39 executive sessions of the Federal Subsistence Board.
40 There's no action that needs to be taken. But Page 74
41 has the summary of a board executive session. And one
42 of the -- the Board has a policy on executive sessions,
43 and one thing they are now doing as a result of some of
44 some of the discussions lately is that they are given a
45 summary of their executive sessions.
46
47 So the executive sessions, I'm not
48 allowed into. Nobody's allowed in to except the
49 lawyers, the Board and, you know, it kind of depends on
50 what the issue is. But they don't take any actions.

1 They're not taking actions on regulatory matters. And
2 they use them for discussing personnel issues, and if
3 they do a personnel action, they won't do a summary,
4 because those are protected by Federal law.

5
6 So that's just an update on the
7 executive sessions.

8
9 So I think that is it in the letter
10 pretty much that needed to come before the Council. So
11 we're done with the Secretary's letter. That was 2.a.
12 And, let's see, 2.a., b.

13
14 Tribal consultation's the next one.
15 And that's on Page 72. And this letter should have
16 been -- it was sent to all of the Council members. The
17 one that's in here is just -- their names are blocked
18 out. And we have heard that some people didn't receive
19 it. We do know that they were sent. We checked and
20 doublechecked. And there were, I don't know, 250
21 letters. I'm not sure how many of these letters were
22 sent out. 400 and something. But this letter go out
23 to everybody about tribal consultation.

24
25 Did people receive this? Is this
26 something kind of familiar or not?

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It might be a good
29 idea to read this letter.

30
31 MS. ARMSTRONG: If that's your wish, we
32 can. Or I can summarize the points.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Summarize it
35 then.

36
37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Title VIII of
38 ANILCA provides a foundational a foundational role for
39 the 10 Regional Advisory Councils in development of
40 regulations guiding the taking of fish and wildlife on
41 Federal public lands in Alaska. Deference to the
42 Councils ensures that rural residents have a meaningful
43 role in the management of fish and wildlife subsistence
44 uses. That was the vision Congress had, was to give
45 deference to the Councils.

46
47 And up until now, because of this
48 foundational role of the Councils in the Federal
49 Program, and because of the requirement in ANILCA that
50 the Board defer to Councils' recommendations, the

1 Federal Subsistence Board has not explicitly consulted
2 with tribes during the development of the regulations.

3

4

5 This issue has been -- I mean, it's
6 come up before, should we be doing tribal consultation.
7 And prior to the Obama Administration, the position of
8 the Federal Subsistence Board had been that we consult
9 with Regional Councils, because that's what ANILCA says
10 we have to do. But with this new Administration, the
11 President has ordered that the importance of tribal
12 consultation across the government.

13

14 And so consistent with the Secretaries
15 of Interior and Agriculture's renewed emphasis on
16 respectful relationship with tribes, the Federal
17 Subsistence Board would like to enhance the government-
18 to-government consultation with tribes. So the Federal
19 Subsistence Board is initiating steps to formally
20 incorporate tribal consultation into Federal
21 Subsistence Management Program, but they need to
22 maintain the role of the Councils at the same time.

23

24 So as a result of that, the Board met
25 -- well, there was an invitation sent out to all of the
26 tribes in the State. They were invited to participate
27 in the January 18th to 21st, 2011 Federal Board
28 meeting. All Federally-recognized tribes in Alaska as
29 well and ANCSA corporations were invited. The tribes
30 were invited to provide comments on the fisheries
31 proposals, and they were also invited to a meeting on
32 the 21st to discuss development of tribal consultation
33 protocol for the overall Federal Subsistence Management
34 Program.

35

36 The Council members were sent the
37 letter, which is what's in your book, signed by the
38 Board Chair, explaining their intended process.

39

40 I don't know if anybody from here was
41 at that tribal consultation meeting or not. Were you
42 there, Lester? You were there.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, I was.

45

46 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. That was just a
47 beginning of the discussion. I don't know -- I'm not
48 even sure how many tribes were represented there, but
49 we did have a fairly decent turnout considering the
50 distance that people have to travel.

1 The Board's goal is to develop a tribal
2 consultation policy for the Subsistence Management
3 Program, and they want that to be consistent with the
4 Department of Interior policies and Department of
5 Agriculture policies.

6
7 The meeting on the 21st, we did have a
8 court reporter there, and OSM is preparing a summary of
9 all the main points that were made at that meeting. And
10 those will be given to the Councils for you to read and
11 review.

12
13 And then after that summary's done,
14 there will be development of specific consultation
15 mechanisms that will require further meetings between
16 the Federal Subsistence Board and the tribes. So we're
17 just in the very beginning process of this development
18 of tribal consultation.

19
20 So the main themes that were heard at
21 that meeting with the tribes was that tribal traditions
22 in the use of fish and wildlife predate western
23 management systems. Knowledge is passed down through
24 the generations, and we need to listen to traditional
25 knowledge. The Regional Advisory Councils, with all
26 due respect, are not tribes. There is a necessity to
27 consult meaningfully directly with the tribes. And the
28 tribes need to be informed of program developments
29 early on. The tribes need to be partners in the
30 process. Tribal participation in the Council process
31 needs to be made very clear and explicit.

32
33 The current meeting window for the
34 Councils is an opportunity for the Councils to receive
35 the update on tribal consultation and to provide
36 initial perspective and feedback.

37
38 There are a couple of points that we
39 wanted to just make sure we're really clear. And
40 that's that in making the decisions on regulations, the
41 Federal Board must follow the recommendations of the
42 Regional Advisory Councils, that we're bound to that by
43 law, unless they are supported by substantial evidence,
44 they violate recognized principles of fish and wildlife
45 conservation, or they would be detrimental to the
46 satisfaction of subsistence needs. And that's in
47 .805(c) of ANILCA.

48
49 ANILCA does not provide rights to
50 tribes for this taking of subsistence, the subsistence

1 taking of fish and wildlife and shellfish, but because
2 tribal members are affected by subsistence fishing,
3 hunting and trapping regulations, the Secretaries
4 through the Federal Board will provide Federally-
5 recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations an
6 opportunity to consult.

7

8 So maybe just to summarize that. What
9 they're saying is we're developing a process for tribal
10 consultation, but we need to remember that the Councils
11 by law are the ones that are given deference to by the
12 Board. So we'll get input from the tribes, but the
13 ultimate recommendations of the Councils is what the
14 Board will listen to. If that's clear?

15

16 So it's kind of new. We'll see what
17 happens. We're developing the process.

18

19 Does anybody have any thoughts,
20 perspectives, comments on that?

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any thoughts or
23 questions concerning -- Mr. Unok.

24

25 MR. UNOK: Yeah. You mentioned that
26 advisory board does not recognize tribal leaders. And
27 we're made out of from different communities. What do
28 you mean by that?

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There was
31 discussion by the Board that said that we are tribe.
32 We are Council members. The tribe is a different
33 entity. They understood that there was a lot of tribal
34 leaders that were on the Council, but in the whole, the
35 Council is not a tribe.

36

37 MR. UNOK: So they do not recognize.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, they recognize,
40 they've got more.....

41

42 MR. UNOK: Not as tribes.

43

44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Correct. You're not
45 here to be a representative of the tribe, you're here
46 to be representatives of subsistence users. You're
47 here to be representatives of subsistence users in the
48 region, not necessarily representatives of the tribe.
49 And there are people are on the Councils, not all of
50 the Councils, but a lot of the Councils, that are not

1 tribal members. So it's they're representing
2 subsistence users, but not the tribes. But that
3 doesn't mean we can't consult with the tribes. So
4 that's what -- the Board is trying to figure out how to
5 weigh those things, and how to do the consultation, and
6 at what point do you do it, and how do you do it, and
7 what's the process. And so there's a lot they have to
8 work out. It's kind of a new day.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, it's a new
11 thing that's coming out, and it was brought forth by
12 Salazar during his trip. That's one of the findings
13 that he had. And that kind of streamlines our program,
14 I guess you could say. So the tribes are also included
15 in the decisionmaking, but the ultimate decision comes
16 down to us and the Subsistence Board.

17

18 Any other questions. Mr. Roczicka.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Well, maybe
21 you touched on it and I missed it, but on the timeline.
22 Well, I'm looking at this piece of information that
23 came off on the meeting that's currently being planned
24 in Nome where it's immediately preceding the North
25 Pacific Council, or immediately following. And we'll
26 be taking that up later under organizational when AVCP
27 speaks, but they're looking at that meeting in early
28 June, and I'm wondering what kind of a timeline,
29 because at the end of his letter, of course, it says
30 prior to finalizing our process that they will be
31 looking for further input from the Councils. And if
32 there's any kind of a general -- are we looking a year
33 down the road? Will we have another chance to look at
34 it as a Council on some kind of a more fleshed out
35 draft?

36

37 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, I'm not the
38 queen, and I'm not really good at predicting the
39 future, but I think they want to do it sooner rather
40 than later. There is a push to do it. But I also know
41 that bureaucracy can sometimes move at slower paces
42 than we like. So I'm not -- I don't think that the
43 letter gave any timeline.

44

45 MR. ROCZICKA: No, it doesn't.

46

47 MS. ARMSTRONG: Let me just turn to Pat
48 Petrivelli, who was involved in some of this. Do you
49 know? Do they have a timeline, Pat?

50

1 MS. PETRIVELLI: I don't know.
2
3 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't believe there's
4 -- I don't think they're daring to say yet, because
5 there's a lot that needs to be done. So in the future.
6 We'll see.
7
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. That is going to
9 be an action item for us down the line.
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: I believe so. And the
12 letter that you were talking about, this one, this is
13 not connected. I mean, it's connected, but we're not
14 organizing this meeting, the one that's.....
15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Yet.
17
18 MS. ARMSTRONG:that Sky Starkey
19 had brought up. This is the first I had seen of it.
20 So that's all I know about it is I know as much as you
21 do, because I hadn't see this, and I'm not sure if
22 people in my office have seen it yet.
23
24 Thank you, Mr. Chair. I believe that
25 concludes our lengthy Fish and Wildlife Service
26 presentation.
27
28 I mentioned the executive Board session
29 that's on Page 74, and that was No. 3. And after that,
30 I think I'm done.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any
33 questions for.....
34
35 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen.
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Helen. Mr. Andrew,
38 did you?
39
40 (No comments)
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you
43 very much.
44
45 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
46 Thank you very much.
47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We have Mr. Sandone
49 standing, but I told him around 2:30. If you'd rather
50 go into his report, or we could continue on with our

1 agenda until 2:30 and then have him call. He said it
2 will take him about 5 or 10 minutes to set up.

3
4 So the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
5 do you have a report.

6
7 (Laughter)

8
9 MR. BUE: You don't want to go up?

10
11 (Laughter)

12
13 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
14 name is Fred Bue, Fish and Wildlife Service. I'm based
15 out of Fairbanks, management of the Yukon River
16 fisheries.

17
18 And I don't know if -- I know printing
19 of the book was really tight this spring, and so I
20 don't know if the last couple pages have this handout.
21 If you don't have it, I have some extra copies with me.

22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 84.

24
25 MR. BUE: Yeah, 84 and 85. We had some
26 earlier on the back table, too, of your book doesn't
27 have it. Mine from the internet had it, but I'm not
28 sure if everybody's book got it. Alex has some copies
29 here.

30
31 What this is, is this was a paper that
32 Steve Hayes with Fish and Game and myself put together,
33 and it was going to go into a packet a YRDFA letter
34 advertising a meeting this coming spring, a spring
35 preparedness meeting is what we've called it the last
36 couple years. And what it is is a meeting, it's an
37 unofficial meeting. It's not a regulatory meeting. It
38 doesn't develop regulations and rules, but what it does
39 is it's a communication process where we get upriver,
40 downriver, people throughout the drainage on the Yukon
41 River to come together and we talk about the status of
42 the fishery, and what we can do within our authority to
43 adjust fishing in-season. Give people an expectation
44 of what may be to come, and there be some management
45 options that we can do within our authority without
46 changing regulations.

47
48 As you know, this meeting isn't to
49 develop new regulations. There's official processes to
50 do that, both on the State side and the Federal side.

1 And so this is just a joint fishermen's
2 meeting to get together and come up with some ideas,
3 share information about our areas.

4
5 So this is -- it's also funded by the
6 US/Canada Panel to help promote information sharing on
7 our side and cooperative management to some extent.

8
9 We discussed this a little bit last
10 week here in Mountain Village, the idea, and for people
11 to come up with ideas, go back to their communities and
12 think about it, and plan for coming to this meeting, it
13 will be in April, with some ideas and prepare for some
14 discussion.

15
16 And so I guess what I'm going to do
17 here is just read through this. It's really not as
18 long as it looks. And that way I can read it to the
19 RAC in Galena next wee, the Western Interior; I can
20 read it at the Eastern Interior, and so they all have
21 the same message.

22
23 So, Mr Chairman, with your permission.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Fred.

26
27 MR. BUE: So again referring to this
28 page, the Yukon River Chinook salmon are important to
29 all users in the Yukon area. Unfortunately, they have
30 experienced a drop in production. Current run sizes
31 are about half the historical levels, making it
32 difficult to meet escapement goals and provide for
33 subsistence uses on the river.

34
35 Harvests have been greatly reduced
36 since 2000 as you can see in that figure there. That's
37 the harvest. It's not the total run, but it's the
38 harvest. Historically in the figure 1 you can see
39 prior to '97 there and back was pretty significant
40 harvest, and since then it's dropped off quite a bit.
41 And so we have reduced harvest.

42
43 So despite good parent year
44 escapements, they produced poor runs in 2007, 2009 and
45 2010. Those runs were below expectations, and
46 escapement goals into Canada were not met.

47
48 Preliminary analysis suggests that the
49 2011 Yukon River Chinook salmon run will again be below
50 average to poor. Due to poor production in recent

1 years, it is likely the 2011 Chinook run may not be
2 sufficient to fully support subsistence needs.

3
4 Over half the Yukon River Chinook
5 salmon that are harvested in Alaska are Canadian
6 origin. That means that they're going to Canada to
7 spawn. Therefore it is very important to keep Canadian
8 as well as Alaska stocks healthy. Conservation o
9 fisheries resources by all user is extremely important
10 for ensuring future salmon runs. It is now prudent to
11 enter the 2011 season with the expectation that
12 conservation measures will be required in an effort to
13 meet escapement goals and share the available
14 subsistence harvest.

15
16 It is necessary for all users to help in meeting
17 escapement goals. In recent years, Canadian fishermen
18 have voluntarily reduced their subsistence harvest,
19 sometimes by more than 50 percent, in order to allow
20 fish to reach the spawning grounds. During these low
21 runs, it is necessary for all users to look at the
22 amount they harvest and determine how they can ensure
23 adequate Chinook salmon escapement.

24
25 Given the users' concerns over the
26 future of Yukon River Chinook salmon runs, it is
27 necessary to develop a management plan or strategy
28 focused on rebuilding the stocks. The initial
29 objectives of the plan would be to achieve escapement
30 goals in the Alaska portion of the drainage and meet
31 escapement and harvest-sharing commitments to Canada.
32 Furthermore, this plan must provide for subsistence use
33 of Chinook salmon in the Alaska portion of the drainage
34 and management of overlapping summer chum salmon
35 fisheries.

36
37 Yukon River fisheries managers need
38 your assistance in developing options and management
39 strategies for the 2011 season that will assist in
40 getting fish to the spawning grounds should the chinook
41 run be similar to the poor runs of 2007, 2008, and
42 2010. Because of the trend of low productivity, it is
43 anticipated that a conservative rebuilding plan will be
44 in place for the next few years.

45
46 During this winter and spring, State
47 and Federal fisheries managers will attend several
48 meetings to inform fishermen and user groups of the
49 2011 outlook, and to receive input on management
50 options for the 2011 fishing season. Yukon River

1 fisheries managers are soliciting practical ideas to
2 reduce Chinook salmon harvest from resource users on
3 the river. All people who depend on the river have a
4 role in protecting these special fish for future
5 generations.

6

7 And again this meeting that we're
8 talking about is April 13th, and unfortunately I don't
9 know if it's going to be in Fairbanks or Anchorage at
10 this time. It's been being batted back and forth, the
11 location of that meeting. The first meeting in 2009
12 was in Fairbanks. The second meeting was in Anchorage
13 last year. And this year it's been going back and
14 forth trying to make sure that we get representation
15 from all users as best we can.

16

17 Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Fred.

20 Mr. Roczicka.

21

22 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
23 And it's somewhat facetious I suppose, but if I was a
24 Canadian, I could really see why they're upset. I
25 suggest you check your books. This Table 2 here that's
26 showing escapements has absolutely nothing.

27

28 (Laughter)

29

30 MR. ROCZICKA: Across the border. No,
31 literally it's a blank graph. There's nothing on it in
32 the book. And there's.....

33

34 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman.

35

36 MR. ROCZICKA:or.....

37

38 MR. BUE: The vertical column says
39 Canadian escapement, and so what we're looking at is --
40 oh, the book has nothing?

41

42 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, there's nothing on
43 the graph in the book.

44

45 MR. BUE: I think I remember, I called
46 somebody, Ann Wilkinson or somebody, and saying that
47 that was an error, so hopefully you got the handout
48 then? Did you get.....

49

50 MR. ROCZICKA: No, I didn't, because I

1 saw the heading on the top, so I figured I had it until
2 I started reading down as you were reading through the
3 narrative.

4
5 MR. BUE: Yep. I remember catching
6 that, and I apologize, I didn't look to see if that
7 correct in the book now.

8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Excuse me. Any
10 questions of Fred. Mr. Charles.

11
12 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13
14
15 Fred, on these bars, little bars and
16 higher bars, and back down to lower bars for Canadian
17 catches. How many fish are those representing? I
18 mean, those bars when they're low and high.

19
20 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Yeah. The
21 Canadian catches in the dark there, the black, the
22 lower portion of the stacked bars, on the good years
23 through the 80s and mid-90s, that was around 20,000 was
24 their harvest. That included their commercial,
25 domestic, aboriginal fisheries. And the white bars
26 that are stacked on top, that's all of our fisheries
27 combined, so that's commercial, subsistence, sport, all
28 of the Alaska ones. And maybe you can see the
29 proportion, how much is Canadian harvest and how much
30 is Alaska harvest.

31
32 And so more recently 2 to 4,000. It's
33 pretty low. And again I think they have a similar
34 thing where they still give their priority harvest to
35 their aboriginal fishery. Aboriginal is a little bit
36 different than us. We say subsistence fishing is
37 available to all State residents during most years.
38 But whereas theirs, aboriginal is specifically the
39 aboriginal fishery.

40
41 MR. CHARLES: Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
44 questions. Mr. Unok.

45
46 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chairman. On this
47 thing, is it supposed to be when the good escapements,
48 like in 1999 there was a good escapement, but after
49 four years it dropped. Was that supposed to be a good
50 return when have good escapement. What's going on?

1 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. With Chinook
2 salmon unfortunately we don't have a lot of good
3 indicators. This top graph is harvest, it's not
4 escapement, and so that's what's actually been
5 harvested. The lower graph is escapement into Canada.
6 It's not for the whole river, but it's into Canada. We
7 estimate about 50 percent of the Yukon River Chinook
8 are bound for Canada, and so we use this Canadian
9 number as a pretty good estimate of what's going into
10 Canada. And so you can see that we've been doing all
11 right on escapement, and it's not horribly low, but
12 it's cost the fishermen. They've reduced their harvest
13 in order to get that escapement and maintain that
14 escapement. The last couple years, in '07, '08 and
15 '09, those have been low escapement years, and we did
16 cut quite a bit of the harvest out of there, and we
17 still were below escapement on those years.

18
19 I'm not sure if that got close to what
20 your question was.

21
22 MR. CHARLES: Okay. What is this graph
23 right here? I don't understand. Escapements or.....

24
25 MR. BUE: The stacked bar? Okay. I
26 apologize, the lettering is pretty hard to see, but
27 it's the number of Chinook salmon harvested in
28 thousands for both the U.S. and Canada from the Yukon
29 River, and so that's what's harvested. That's not the
30 total run, but that's -- so you can see that in the --
31 you know, that through the 80s and mid 1990s we were
32 harvesting in excess of 150,000 Chinook salmon. That
33 was our harvest. And so more recently we're harvesting
34 between 50 and 70,000 Chinook salmon, which isn't very
35 much. Actually the mid, you know, 2003, 2004, 2005 we
36 were closer to 100,000. When we had our subsistence
37 harvest was going full scale, around 55,000 is usually
38 what we figure Alaska harvest is. We had took a little
39 bit of commercial in a few of those years, 20 to
40 30,000, and then we had some Canadian harvest, and some
41 small subsis -- or sport harvest and a few things on
42 there, so it go up to around 100,000 in 2003, 2004.

43
44 So that's an indication of how our
45 harvest is going. So I think everybody can agree our
46 harvest has been significantly reduced since '98. It's
47 much less that we had been harvesting prior to that.

48
49 MR. UNOK: I have two questions, why is
50 the harvest dropping and can you show us escapements?

1 We never seen any escapement report for how many years.

2

3 MR. BUE: Okay. Mr. Chairman. Again
4 the lower graph is what we use as an index for how
5 we're doing on escapement. This was just -- we have
6 other reports, but it's incomplete. We have some
7 rivers that we monitor very closely, but it's not the
8 entire river. And we wish we had numbers for the
9 entire river.

10

11 But this is our estimate of what
12 crosses the Canadian border. We think that that
13 represents nearly 50 percent of the Yukon River Chinook
14 run, so looking at escapement, that's -- those are the
15 -- this is how we're doing on our escapement. It's --
16 we've had some all right years, but those all right
17 years aren't producing the harvestable surplus that we
18 used to take. We're getting mostly our subsistence,
19 but we're not getting nearly what we used to be able to
20 harvest with commercial and still -- when we had
21 commercial in through the 80s, we were getting those
22 level of escapements plus the harvest.

23

24 Now we've taken out much of the harvest
25 and we're only being able to support that much
26 escapement. It's not like -- people think that if you
27 cut out the harvest, then you should get more into
28 escapement. I think that's what we're showing, is
29 production is down, we're not getting as many fish
30 returning per spawner that we're putting up on the
31 spawning grounds. So production isn't nearly what it
32 was through the 80s.

33

34 MR. UNOK: What about on U.S. side? We
35 never hear no escapement on U.S. side.

36

37 MR. BUE: I have some of it in here. I
38 think it's pretty similar. There's a few places, the
39 Chena River is probably one of our biggest Chinook
40 producers. It has been doing pretty good. It's near
41 or close to the top of the escapement goal range, and
42 part of that is because we've been protecting so much
43 of the Canadian stocks. But the last couple years it's
44 been also low. Andreafsky we've done all right on.
45 Anvik River hasn't been very good. So we think that
46 productivity on the Alaska side in the lower river has
47 fared a little bit better than Canada, but overall
48 everything is down. Canada has been the worse.

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Any other

1 questions.

2

3 MR. H. WILDE: Lester.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Wilde.

6

7 MR. T. ANDREW: If I may, Mr. Chair.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute.

10 I've got Mr. Wilde on the mic right now. We'll get to
11 you after -- you'll be the next one, Tim.

12

13 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thanks.

14

15 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. I
16 would like to know if this rebuild is going to be this
17 summer.

18

19 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. We don't have
20 very much control over actual production. We're
21 hoping. We need to maintain the run until something
22 else changes. I think some of the stuff that we are
23 doing is people are talking that big mesh gear maybe
24 selects for the biggest females with the most eggs.
25 And so what the Board of Fish action has done is reduce
26 that mesh size down to 7-1/2-inch mesh maximum. That's
27 a new regulation that's going into this year. But I
28 think that's a long-term process. We're talking --
29 that's looking at maybe the genetic structure of the
30 fishery and trying to get some older fish, getting a
31 larger proportion of bigger fish onto the spawning
32 grounds, maybe ones with more female, higher proportion
33 of females.

34

35 And so this rebuild is something, a
36 concept that we want people to think that we don't want
37 to just maintain what we're doing. We want to get the
38 run back to some strength that we used to enjoy and
39 appreciate. And so this is where we're initiating,
40 we're hoping people can get that mind set that we want
41 to make the run better. We don't want to just, you
42 know, cling to what's left. We're trying to turn it
43 into a positive thing so everybody can think about it.
44 But, no, we do not anticipate rebuilding the run in one
45 year.

46

47 Mr. Chairman.

48

49 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.

50 You know, I've been here a long time, and fish collect

1 a long time. These king salmon, we call it Chinook
2 salmon, people of 55 communities in the Yukon River
3 drainage here, Lower Yukon, include 45 Alaskan
4 communities depend on the resource for survival.
5 Salmon provide food for the winter.

6
7 King salmon bycatch high, a record, in
8 2007 of over 120,000 king salmon bycatch in 2007 and
9 over 700,000 chum salmon. Western Alaska king salmon,
10 approximately 40 percent are Yukon River stock.

11
12 Study have found that Alaska's chum
13 salmon and the salmon problem has gone so bad that 2011
14 Yukon River king salmon should rebuild. Same time it
15 would make -- I would make a proposal to temporarily
16 close the Bering Sea pollock fishery until the king
17 salmon bycatch exceeds a certain number.

18
19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr. Wilde. Any
22 other discussion concerning the report that Fred gave.

23
24 MR. ONEY: Tim.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry.
27 Tim, go ahead.

28
29 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you.
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And, Fred, thank you for the
31 report.

32
33 I was just wondering, last summer I
34 think the Pilot Station sonar counted like 133,000
35 kings or something like that and 35,000 went into the
36 Canada border. What happened to 100,000 king salmon,
37 or approximately 100,000 kings?

38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Fred, you got an
40 answer?

41
42 MR. BUE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman. Tim.
43 Although our subsistence harvest information, State of
44 Alaska's doing the subsistence survey, it's not
45 complete yet, but I think their preliminary estimates,
46 I'm just speaking, don't hold me to this exactly, but
47 it's reduced from what they would normally harvest,
48 which makes sense, because there was some reduced
49 fishing time and the weather and fewer fish to begin
50 with. But I think they were between 35 and 45,000

1 subsistence harvest, and that was still pretty
2 preliminary from their subsistence surveys. So that
3 would be the harvest component.

4
5 Then there's, you know, the remainder
6 of that would go into the streams above Pilot Station
7 sonar, which is -- they're pretty far and spread out
8 throughout the drainage, a lot of them. So I think
9 there are a lot of places that those fish could go that
10 we don't actually count. You know we have a few index
11 areas. And so that I think in my mind with looking at
12 the size of the run that we saw past Pilot and the
13 amount of fish that we saw go by the border, that seems
14 to make sense pretty much in my mind where we've done
15 in the past comparable numbers. So it's a relative
16 thing. If you get over 150,000 in the river, we're
17 looking at, you know, 45,000 to the border. When you
18 get below that 150,000 mark, then it's something less
19 than that at the border.

20
21 Mr. Chairman.

22
23 MR. T. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. If I may
24 ask a follow-up, please.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead Tim.

27
28 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
29 Chair. Is there any way that you can determine or
30 apportion the Canadian component from the Pilot Station
31 sonar?

32
33 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. Tim. Yes,
34 we're getting better at it. What we do do is take our
35 genetic samples at Pilot, and, you know, again that's
36 with the whole suite of sampling. That's from -- I
37 believe it's two and a half inch up to eight and a
38 quarter inch different sized nets and trying to
39 represent what the run is. Those samples are taken.
40 We try to characterize when the pulse goes through so
41 that we know it's a big shot of fish, it's a
42 significant amount of fish. We try to take a sample
43 from that and bracket that. We ship that to Anchorage
44 and the genetics lab can turn it around in about two
45 days, but there's a little bit of transportation time
46 at both ends, and so by the time we get that
47 information back, it's three and a half to four days
48 from when they pass Pilot.

49
50 That doesn't do a lot of good for

1 management below pilot, but as fish move up, I think we
2 can fine-tune our management on where we're managing
3 for fish as they go up the river. We may also be able
4 to make up on some of the fish to follow, thinking
5 that, you know, a certain portion is going through to
6 Canada. A lot of years we think that the Canadian
7 stocks tend to come a little bit earlier than the lower
8 river Alaska stocks.

9
10 There's some of those different
11 indicators there, but we have been using genetics for a
12 couple years now. It seems like we're getting a lot of
13 that streamlined, and we're being able to turn it
14 around faster. And then we think that we're getting
15 more efficient, and we think it's better, getting more
16 useful in-season, but it's still developmental, and
17 it's a lot of coordinated effort. A lot of times it's
18 a charter plane from Pilot Station to Bethel where
19 they're put on a fast plane and somebody in the middle
20 of the night picks them up at the airport and the
21 genetics labs. And there is quite a bit of effort on
22 the genetics side.

23
24 Mr. Chairman.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Tim?

27
28 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Next we have Ray,
31 you have a question.

32
33 MR. ONEY: Not a question, maybe a
34 comment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

35
36 All users in the Yukon River have been
37 doing their part as far as trying to rebuild the
38 Chinook salmon, but it seems like there's always
39 something missing when we're trying to rebuild. We've
40 been talking about rebuilding for a number of years
41 now, and it seemed like we'd go two steps forward and
42 one step back every time we're trying to rebuild these
43 stocks.

44
45 Like I mentioned earlier, and I'm glad
46 that the North Pacific person is here to hear our
47 concerns and hopefully that we'll be able to, you know,
48 bring them to the table, too, to let them know that,
49 you know, we have concerns about rebuilding the stocks
50 on the Yukon, and we need every player to be part of

1 this if we're going to rebuild the stocks. We need all
2 the players that need to be at the table to hear our
3 concerns and to plan and to try and get the Chinook
4 salmon rebuilt. You know, it's not going to happen
5 until we get everybody at the table. Even if it means
6 moratorium, you know, on the high seas, if that's what
7 needs to be taken, then that's what we should consider,
8 because from Canada and from the Lower Yukon have been
9 sacrificing, you know, a lot of their time, and net
10 gear, reducing their net gear, reducing their fishing
11 times to try and rebuild the stocks, and yet we're
12 still seeing the decline in the Chinook salmon. And we
13 know bycatch is one of the reasons that are
14 contributing to the decline of the Chinook salmon, so
15 we need to bring those people to the table to work with
16 us if we're going to rebuild the Chinook salmon on the
17 Yukon.

18

19 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You got a statement
22 or anything to that for the statement that he made.
23 Any comment, Mr. Fred.
24 Mr. Bue.

25

26 MR. BUE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
27 don't really have a lot more to say, but I think that
28 we are looking at trying to look at the whole life
29 history, the whole life cycle, the migration, all the
30 habitat of the Chinook salmon in our management. We
31 don't always have all of the authority as a local
32 manager to deal with a lot of that. From my
33 perspective as a manager, we usually try -- you know,
34 we work within the guidelines of the Board of Fish or
35 the Federal Subsistence Board.

36

37 But that said, there are other things
38 at those levels are doing. There's a sustainable
39 salmon fisheries policy that looks at including or
40 incorporating the whole life history and migration of
41 Chinook salmon or all salmon.

42

43 And I'm on the U.S./Canada Panel.
44 Right now the reason the State managers aren't here is
45 because there's a joint technical committee. The
46 U.S./Canada fisheries researchers and managers are
47 working together. They're trying to come up with our
48 preseason outlook for this year. That's why we don't
49 have specific numbers in here yet. They're looking at
50 what the outlook is, and they'll present that to the

1 Panel. Part of what the Panel does is make comments
2 also to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council,
3 because there is some international treaty agreement,
4 that there is some element of hire level pressure that
5 goes into that process also.

6

7 Mr. Chairman.

8

9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Fred.

10 Mr. Trapper, you had your hand up.

11

12 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
13 Chair and Mr. Bue. I fully agree with what Harry and
14 our partner over here Mr. Oney said earlier. And just
15 yesterday we heard from another elder, he was giving us
16 the same message about all the intercept fisheries.
17 Like Mr. Oney said, if all the players, all the
18 intercept fisheries are monitored, including near the
19 mouth and all the way through the coast that way, False
20 Pass, trawl fisheries, high sea fisheries, because
21 they're not regulated out there. They can catch all
22 they want. That's what's really hurting us right now.
23 And our message is that if this rebuilding initiative,
24 if it's to work, they need to involve all the players
25 and the resource gathers out there. The biggest
26 wasteful fishery I see is the pollock fishery. They
27 intercept a lot of our fish that are going out to
28 Western Alaska rivers and bays.

29

30 Thank you.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Trapper.

33 Mr. Unok.

34

35 MR. UNOK: Yeah, I have one question
36 and one comment. My one question is, you said higher.
37 What do you mean by higher office, like ANILCA?

38

39 MR. BUE: Mr. Chairman. I think the
40 North Pacific Management Council themselves, that's one
41 element. There's the -- I guess I'm not really certain
42 at what level. I know the Federal Subsistence Board
43 can make comments to the Council. The Commissioner of
44 Fish and Game can make comments to the Council. They
45 have seats or have places where they can insert their
46 positions into the process.

47

48 MR. UNOK: A last comment. Last summer
49 I participated on teleconference. It's under Yukon
50 Drainage Fishermen's Association. I missed only one

1 teleconference this year. First time I went almost all
2 the way. You could listen to where the fish is going
3 and where the fish is getting less. It's very good
4 program, that teleconference. You can follow the fish
5 all the way up wherever they're going, and where
6 they're getting less and less, and after they start off
7 over 100,000, they go down. It's a really good
8 program.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Fred is
11 aware of that. In fact he's a part of that discussion
12 when we have that teleconference.

13

14 Mr. Robert Aloysius.

15

16 MR. ALOYSIUS: Is there any program
17 like on the Kuskokwim River where we have six
18 monitoring programs on the tributaries to the
19 Kuskokwim. Is there any program like that on the Yukon
20 where you know what streams are Chinook streams and how
21 many Chinook are passing through a certain point? And
22 I'd like to find out where those fish went that were
23 passed the sonar and didn't make it all the way to
24 Canada. They must have gone somewhere. I mean, like
25 Tim said, where did they go?

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I know you've got
28 an answer for that one.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Fred.

33

34 MR. BUE: A lot got eaten, but a lot
35 made it up stream. The Yukon River is -- the Kuskokwim
36 is pretty big. It goes -- you know, it drains a lot of
37 mountains. But the Yukon is a lot bigger. It's 2,000
38 miles. It actually goes all the way through Yukon
39 Territories and goes into headwaters of British
40 Columbia. And so all along the way there's
41 tributaries. There's tributaries here that never even
42 get -- you know, fish turn off of before they get to
43 Pilot Station. And so we have -- we're at Andraefsky,
44 we're at -- we have a sonar at Anvik. We have a weir
45 at Gisasa. There's a weir at Henshaw Creek. There's a
46 counting tower on the Chena River. And then we have
47 test fish projects. Well, we have setnet projects at
48 the three mouths of the Yukon. We have drift projects
49 in the Yukon Delta. There's drift projects at Mountain
50 Village. Right now I think we have -- there's test

1 fish projects, test fish wheels in the Rampart Rapids
2 area near the Haul Road bridge. At Tanana there's a
3 fishwheel project. In the Tanana River by Nenana
4 there's a fishwheel project. Then we have other sonar
5 projects at other places, more for fall chum.
6 Chandalar sonar. There's a lot of projects.

7
8 But then we have another big sonar
9 project at Eagle sonar just as the fish are crossing
10 the border, and that's a joint project with both
11 Alaskan and Canadian biologists. They're monitoring --
12 it used to be a tagging project where they had two
13 fishwheels and they tagged fish. More recently they
14 developed a sonar project that works. Everybody agree
15 that it seems to be working better, and so that's what
16 they've shifted from the wheels to a sonar project
17 there.

18
19 Then in Canada they have a lot of
20 different -- many different projects also that are
21 looking at different streams and different places.

22
23 So there's projects, but, you know,
24 there's a lot of river out there.

25
26 Mr. Chairman.

27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: I realize it's a longer
29 river. It's about 10 times longer than ours, but, you
30 know, with all those sonars and different things going
31 on there, you should be able to tell.....

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: It's four times longer.

34
35 MR. ALOYSIUS:where there fish
36 are going. Is there anything going up the Koyukuk
37 River or Porcupine, you know. You guys check into
38 those rivers or those tributaries?

39
40 MR. BUE: Yes. Mr. Chairman. There is
41 a weir on the Porcupine, it's Gisasa River weir.
42 There's a weir at Henshaw Creek. Upper Porcupine --
43 excuse me, Koyukuk River. Upper Koyukuk River is
44 Gisasa weir. And Henshaw weir.

45
46 What we can also see is from the
47 genetics is how much proportion of those fish may be
48 Koyukuk River fish. And it's difficult to tell some of
49 those streams, one stream from another very specific,
50 but we can tell kind of -- we talk about basins.

1 Lower, middle, upper river stocks. We can discriminate
2 between those fairly well. And so when we see 100,000
3 go past Pilot, looking at the genetics, we can -- it
4 appears that maybe 50 percent of those are for Canadian
5 fish. And then we can look at the proportions of
6 what's in that genetic mixture, how many of those we'd
7 expect to go into the Koyukuk, how many we'd expect to
8 go into the Tanana River. And so some of those we are
9 able to tell from genetics and we expand our counts out
10 that way to estimate what went into those places.

11
12 But all along the way people are
13 taking, harvesting fish, but we don't know which fish
14 they're harvesting. It may be a Tanana fish or it may
15 be a Koyukuk fish. And so when you're removing those,
16 it's hard to estimate what's actually going to escape
17 there versus how many were going there in the first
18 place. You take a few out, but we're not sure. We
19 don't go to all the fish camps to sample all theirs for
20 genetics to know which fish they harvested. So it's
21 kind of a balancing game to some extent, and then
22 there's a lot of sampling and estimating that's rolled
23 into the mix, it's pretty -- it's a big mixture.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Did that take care
26 of you, Mr. Aloysius?

27
28 MR. ALOYSIUS: (Nods affirmative)

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: One more question.
31 We're going to have to get ahold of Sandone pretty
32 soon, because he's going to be needing to catching a
33 flight out of Fairbanks. So we'll take a couple more
34 questions.

35
36 Go ahead, Mr. Unok, as long as it's
37 concerning the subject.

38
39 MR. UNOK: I forgot what I was going to
40 ask a question. On this rebuilding, can they put in --
41 have subsistence users send out -- they can send out
42 some kind of samples of the fish, what part they can
43 send to the Department of Fish and Game or Fish and
44 wildlife? They can do that?

45
46 MR. BUE: You mean for genetic samples,
47 is that what you're looking at?

48
49 MR. UNOK: Yes, that's what it is.

50

1 MR. BUE: It's possible, but it would
2 need quite a bit of organization to see how you're
3 sampling is, how it corresponds to what's going on. We
4 don't want to just grab some samples from some fish.
5 We want to do it so that we can recognize does this
6 represent a very big part of the run? Is it just a
7 unique harvest in a fringe area, or is this going to be
8 part of the greater run.

9
10 There are places that do sample pretty
11 extensively. We do quite a bit of samples from
12 subsistence fishermen on age, length and sex. That
13 gives us a pretty good idea, but genetics is a pretty
14 expensive process, and we need to have it well
15 organized in order for it to provide very meaningful
16 data. But the ASL information, we do go to fish camps
17 on the lower river. We go to Kaltag, does a lot of
18 contract work to do some sampling as the fish go by
19 there. And a lot of these projects that we do have on
20 the river, we do the ASL sampling, age, sex, length,
21 and that's pretty informative. We can kind of see how
22 the structure of the run changes as it moves upriver.

23
24 I don't know if that helps or not.

25
26 Mr. Chairman.

27
28 MR. UNOK: It helps.

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

31
32 MR. UNOK: No, let's go.

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No go?

35
36 MR. UNOK: Go.

37
38 (Laughter)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Roczicka.

41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. And I did find it
43 with your number numbers on here now. And actually to
44 me what this really demonstrates is that you had
45 consistent escapements, you know, back over the 30
46 years of data that you have here. Roughly 30. 28, 29,
47 30, that are reflected here, and your escapements have
48 been fairly consistent all the time, and actually
49 there's only 7 out of those 30 years where you haven't
50 achieved border escapements, although those numbers

1 were put in place, when, early 90s, mid 90s, so you had
2 some little hindsight to develop those.

3

4 But what obviously jumps out when you
5 look at the harvest is that given these consistent
6 numbers of escapement, given these levels of
7 production, that it's the ocean survival. It is the
8 ocean survival that's really at the heart of this it
9 would seem to me.

10

11 I don't know as far as the optimist
12 level goes, to leave this with a good note, perhaps at
13 least from the Kuskokwim, some of the most dismal
14 returns and escapements that we've ever had ended up
15 farther down the cycle with four to six year olds as
16 being the highest returns we ever got. And
17 specifically with those '98, 2000, 2001 years. From
18 2004 to 2006 we got the highest returns on record in
19 many cases.

20

21 MR. BUE: Yeah. I guess just really
22 briefly, the reason the escapement is stable is because
23 that's where we've been trying to manage the fishery
24 for. That was our objective, and so management-wise,
25 we're pretty close to reaching that objective. You
26 know, that was the core thing. But like you say, point
27 out, the harvestable surplus isn't there.

28

29 I think also many people are looking
30 towards the marine environment for survival. When we
31 talk about the Yukon River, it is a big system, and
32 certainly habitat has to be variable from one end to
33 the other with different things. And so what's common
34 is probably the marine environment. And much of
35 Western Alaska has also seen similar regime with
36 Chinook salmon. They're have a recent downturn, the
37 Kuskokwim included. And so what's the common factor
38 between the Yukon and the Kuskokwim? Well, it's
39 probably the marine environment for whatever is out
40 there.

41

42 Mr. Chairman.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Fred.
45 If you have any further of Fred, he'll be here for a
46 while, so you could run and talk to him.

47

48 At this time we'd like to get to Gene
49 Sandone.

50

1 Unless you have -- we'll listen to one
2 more question then. Go ahead, as long as you don't
3 make it too long.

4
5 MR. JAMES: Yes, sir, Mr. Chair. This
6 is a statement for Fred. In order for us Alaskans and
7 the Canadians to meet their needs, in order to ensure
8 our future salmon runs, the North Pacific Fishery
9 Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries
10 Service should together close the winter and summer
11 pollock fishery so that escapement goals can be met and
12 also provide for our subsistence uses. Because us
13 Alaskans are not the only ones using this fish. So are
14 Canadians, and not only the Yukon, but Kuskokwim,
15 Norton Sound also. This would also ensure our future
16 Alaska, Canada salmon runs.

17
18 We need to see a drastic substantial
19 reduction in the pollock fleet and stop all the near-
20 shore fishing fleet. The Bering Sea pollock fishery
21 reduction measures have to work so that the Yukon-
22 Kuskokwim-Norton Sound Chinook salmon, chum salmon
23 rebuilding initiative will be materialized.

24
25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. At this
28 time, do you have any rebut to that, Fred?

29
30 MR. BUE: (Shakes head negatively)

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No. Okay. At this
33 time we'll give Mr. Sandone a call and let's take a 10-
34 minute break, and when we get back, we'll have Mr.
35 Sandone and ready for his work.

36
37 (Off record)

38
39 (On record)

40
41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Gene, you
42 have the floor.

43
44 MR. SANDONE: Okay. Thank you, Lester.
45 My name is Gene Sandone. I've worked for Yukon Delta
46 Fisheries Development Association, and I had worked for
47 the Department for 26 years prior to leaving in August.

48
49 I made this presentation, Yukon area
50 Chinook salmon subsistence and personal use harvest

1 patterns for the Yukon area for three reasons. First
2 off, I think there's a lot of misconceptions about the
3 harvest patterns within the Yukon area. Secondly I
4 thought it would be helpful in customary trade
5 discussions for people that know, you know, what the
6 harvest patterns are. And, thirdly, you know, with the
7 runs being so low and continuing to decrease,
8 especially the female component, I thought that it
9 might serve as information for more intensive
10 management if we cover that for Yukon Chinook salmon.
11 So without further thought here, I will continue with
12 the presentation.

13

14 The second slide is the Alaska portion
15 of the Yukon River drainages with the districts. And
16 just to give you an overview of the entire drainage,
17 the Yukon area includes the Alaska portion of the Yukon
18 drainage plus the coastal communities from Point
19 Romanof to the Naskonat, I'm sorry, I butchered that
20 name, but the peninsula down there near the Kuskokwim.
21 It includes the communities of Scammon Bay, Hooper Bay,
22 and Chevak.

23

24 District 1 includes all the waters from
25 the mouth of the Yukon up to the river Inuk River at
26 river mile 63, and it includes the communities of
27 Kotlik, Nunam Iqua, Alakanuk, and Emmonak.

28

29 District 2 extends up to river mile 192
30 and includes the villages of Mountain Village, Pitka's
31 Point, St. Mary's, Pilot Station, and Marshall.

32

33 District 3 extends up to Old Paradise
34 at river mile 301, and that's just below Anvik if
35 you're looking at the map. That includes Russian
36 Mission, Holy Cross and in the Innoko River drainage,
37 Shageluk.

38

39 District 4 extends all the way up to
40 Illinois Creek, and you can see that's just west of
41 Tanana on your map, just west of that 5A. And it's a
42 long district. It includes Anvik, Grayling, Kaltag,
43 Nulato, Koyukuk, Galena, Ruby, and in the Koyukuk River
44 drainage, Huslia, Hughes, Alatna, Allakaket, Bettles,
45 Coldfoot, and Wiseman.

46

47 District 5, another long district,
48 extends up to the Canadian border and includes the
49 communities of Tanana, Rampart, Stevens Village,
50 Beaver, Fort Yukon, Circle, Eagle, and on the

1 Chandalar River, Venetie, and on the Black River,
2 Chalkyitsik. It also includes Birch Creek and Central.

3
4 District 6 includes the Tanana River
5 drainage, and includes the communities of Manley,
6 Minto, Nenana, Fairbanks, Delta Junction, Healy, Dot
7 Lake, Tanacross, Tok, and Northway, to name a view.

8
9 Okay. Next slide, please, and we're on
10 No. 3. I'll spend a little time explaining this graph.

11
12
13 On the Y axis we have number of Chinook
14 salmon. It goes from zero to 70,000. On the X axis we
15 have years from 1975 through 2008. The black line
16 indicates that annual total harvest of the Yukon area.
17 The bars, black bars indicate the five year average
18 except for the first period. The red bars are the
19 Upper Yukon harvest totals, annual. And the lines, the
20 horizontal lines are the five-year averages. The blue
21 lines are the lower Yukon.

22
23 And I also want to point out that
24 harvest totals from 1975 through 1987 are not
25 comparable to the harvest total after '87, because
26 there was a change in methodology to actually build
27 charts. However, I believe think they can be used to
28 connote trends.

29
30 Overall the overall and area harvests
31 have been fairly stable 1980s at about 50,000 fish per
32 year. The Upper Yukon area harvest is about 30,000,
33 while the Lower Yukon harvest is about 20,000, as you
34 can see in that -- in the last, the period, the 2004 to
35 2008, they're just about right on there.

36
37 Next slide, please. And this is slide
38 -- uh-oh. 4. Okay.

39
40 This is a graph, the same graph, but
41 it's proportions instead of numbers of fish. And on
42 the Y axis you have zero to 80 percent and on the X
43 axis you have the years 1975 through 2008. And overall
44 the upper river, Upper Yukon has consistently harvested
45 more Chinook salmon than the lower river with the
46 exception of 2000 and 2001. For the most recent five-
47 year average for which data are available, the 2004 to
48 2008 period, the Upper Yukon has harvested 60 percent
49 of the total while the Lower Yukon has harvested about
50 40 percent.

1 Next slide, please, No. 5.

2

3 These two graphs, they're side by side.

4 The one is, on the left, Lower Yukon area by district,
5 their harvest. They go from zero to 25,000, on both
6 graphs the Y axis. And on the X axis you have '97 --
7 or '75 though 2008 on the Y axis. And the bars
8 indicate five-year averages for the periods indicated.

9

10 And you can see that District 5 on the
11 right-hand graph, the red lines and the red bars, ranks
12 No. 1 in harvest of Chinook salmon, and has
13 consistently ranked No. 1 with harvest usually over
14 15,000 with some recent harvest in 2003 and 2007
15 approaching 20,000 Chinook salmon. District 4 on that
16 same right-hand graph in the blue ranked second with
17 recent harvests averaging over 13,000. District 2 on
18 the left-hand graph in the pink ranks third with
19 harvest less than 10,000. Districts 1 and Districts 3
20 are just about 6 and 5,000. They rank next. And
21 District 6, the Tanana River in the green on the right-
22 hand graph ranks last at about 1500 Chinook salmon.

23

24 Next slide, please.

25

26 Okay. This graph represents only the
27 five-year averages. It takes out the bars and instead
28 of the lines, I've used the points to indicate the
29 five-year averages.

30

31 On the Y axis we have numbers from zero
32 to 20,000, and on the X axis we have the periods that
33 the average corresponds to, and they're five-year
34 averages, except for the first one which is a four-year
35 average.

36

37 You can see trends that are in this
38 graph. And as I said before, District 5 ranks 1, had
39 an average harvest peak of about 19,000 Chinook salmon
40 in the '89 to '93 period, and that's the red line on
41 top, but has shown a declining trend since that through
42 the five-year average that includes many of the
43 disaster years, the '99 through 2003. During that
44 period District 5 averaged harvest about 14,000 fish.
45 Since then it's rebounded a bit up to 16,000 under the
46 2004 to 2008 period.

47

48 The next line, the blue line, District
49 4 has steadily increased over the entire period except
50 for that slight decrease in the '99 to 2003 period.

1 The most recent average harvest for District 4 is
2 13,000 salmon.

3
4 The next line, District 2, has also
5 displayed a decrease -- or a steadily increasing
6 harvest trend through the '99/2003 period. It's
7 climbed slightly through the most recent period, the
8 2004 to 2008, with an average harvest of about 9.3
9 thousand Chinook salmon.

10
11 Districts 3 and 1, displayed by the
12 blue line with the black dot and the black line with
13 the stars, have remained relatively stable with
14 2004/2008 average harvest of 6 and 5,000 Chinook salmon
15 respectively.

16
17 District 6 has declined since the --
18 that's the green line, has declined since the '89/93
19 period with less than an average of 1500 Chinook salmon
20 harvested during the most recent five-year period.

21
22 Okay. Next graph.

23
24 This is a similar graph to the number
25 graph, expect it's proportions on the left-hand axis,
26 the Y axis. We have zero to 50 percent or .5
27 proportion. On the X axis you have years again. Bars
28 are annual harvest proportions and the lines are the
29 five-year average.

30
31 During the most recent five-year
32 average, on the right-hand graph in the red line,
33 District 5 has taken over 30 percent of the entire
34 Yukon area harvest with District 4 taking 26, that's
35 the blue line on the same graph, followed by District
36 2, on the left-hand graph in the pink. Districts 1 and
37 3 in the dark blue and the black are 11 and 10 percent
38 respectfully. And District 6 taking less than about 5
39 percent of the Yukon area harvest.

40
41 Next slide, and I believe we're on
42 slide No. 8.

43
44 Again this graph looks at just the
45 five-year averages. It's less cluttered, so you can
46 see trends. We have proportions on the Y axis and
47 years on the -- or periods rather on the X axis, the
48 five-year periods on the X axis.

49
50 This graph, District 5 exhibits a

1 decreasing trend through '99 to 2003, about 29 percent
2 of the Yukon harvest, and then a slight increase to 31
3 percent in the most recent five-year average. District
4 4 exhibits a slightly increasing harvest proportion
5 trend from '89 through '93, and through 2004 to 2008
6 increasing up to 26 percent. District 1, the harvest
7 proportions display increasing trends from '99 to 2003
8 to the 1999/2003 period, and then a decreasing trend
9 since then, 18 percent. Districts 1 and 3 are
10 basically stable with District 6 showing a decreasing
11 harvest proportion, less than 5 percent in the most
12 recent five-year average.

13

14 Okay. Next slide. And this is slide
15 No. 9.

16

17 This graph displays the mean 2004 to
18 2008 Chinook salmon harvest by community. You'll note
19 that the diamond shapes on the graph, regardless of
20 color indicate main stem Yukon or Tanana River
21 communities. The triangle shapes, like if you look at
22 Shageluk there and Venetie and the Hughes, Huslia,
23 they're all tributary communities.

24

25 The community harvest ranges from about
26 -- okay. And also there's the coastal villages in
27 pink. District 1 is in that light blue, District 2 is
28 in the red. District 3 is in the black with Shageluk.
29 District 4 is in the light blue on the main stem, and
30 then the Koyukuk communities in the triangle dark blue.
31 District 5 main stem is in the red triangles. District
32 5 tributary communities are in that golden triangle.
33 And District 6 in the green diamonds off to the right.

34

35 The median harvest by community is 818
36 salmon. And what that means is that of all the
37 communities, 50 percent harvest more than 818 salmon
38 and 50 percent of the communities harvest less than 818
39 salmon. The range goes from about 4,000 in the Village
40 of Tanana to about less than 1 fish in Bettles. On the
41 average.

42

43 Next slide, please.

44

45 Now, this graph depicts the number of
46 fishing households for the whole Yukon area and also
47 for the Upper Yukon and Lower Yukon areas indicated by
48 the red bar for the Upper Yukon and the blue bars for
49 the Lower Yukon with the horizontal lines indicating
50 five-year averages. And on the Y axis you go from zero

1 to about 1600, and on the X axis you go from 1988 to
2 2008. That's when data was collected for this type of
3 fishing household information.

4
5 Historically the Upper River has had
6 the most fishing households except for 2000, 2001 and
7 2002. However, during the most recent period, the
8 number of fishing households in the upper river and
9 lower river are nearly identical, and that's why you
10 only see one line in that 2004 to 2008 period. They're
11 basically right on top of each other. There's only a
12 separation of two fishing households from the upper
13 river to the lower river.

14
15 Okay. Next slide, slide No. 11.

16
17 And you've seen these types of graph
18 before. This is looking at number of fishing
19 households by district, by lower river, by upper river.
20 So on the Y axis you have the zero to 350 on both
21 graphs, and on the X axis you have the years from 1988
22 to 2008.

23
24 And you can see that on the left-hand
25 graph, District 2 has the most fishing households in
26 the Yukon area with the most recent average at about
27 316. District 4 on the right-hand graph, the blue has
28 about 303. Districts 1 and 5 have nearly identical
29 average numbers in the most recent five-year period,
30 254 and 256 respectively. And District 6 has slightly
31 more fishing households than District 3 at 113, and
32 District 3 has 103. So there's some similarities and
33 some pretty good differences here in numbers of fishing
34 households by community.

35
36 Next slide, and that's No. 12.

37
38 And again this is the five-year
39 averages depicted, looking at trends. That number of
40 fishing households on the Y axis, years on the X axis.

41
42 And it appears that District 2, 4, 1
43 and 3 show an increasing trend in numbers of fishing
44 households while District 6 shows a marked decrease in
45 the average number of fishing households. And this is
46 probably due to a pretty drastic decline of the number
47 of Fairbanks personal use permits being fished,
48 probably because of the disaster years and more
49 recently, too. District 5 has been relatively stable,
50 except for a noticeable decline during the period '99

1 through 2003, which contains again many of the disaster
2 years.

3

4 Next slide, please.

5

6 Now, I'm going to spend a little bit of
7 time on this graph so we can breeze through the other
8 ones.

9

10 Now, this is looking at number of
11 fishing households by community over the time period
12 1989 through 2008 in five-year increments. And they're
13 ranked from 1 to 44. And the numbers ranked here, 1 to
14 6 and 7/11, indicate the top 25 percent communities.
15 These communities overall have the most fishing
16 households in the Yukon area. And you can see that
17 number is Hooper Bay in the coastal area. And most of
18 these have an increasing number of fishing households,
19 except for maybe Alakanuk which is -- I mean, it's
20 basically stable. Over on the right-hand graph you can
21 see that dramatic decrease in the number of fishing
22 households in Fairbanks, and again I attribute this to
23 the disaster years, and people just not fishing for
24 personal use on the Yukon.

25

26 Okay. Next slide, please. This is
27 slide 14.

28

29 And this ranks the second quartile or
30 the second 11. So we had saw from the top, the 1 to
31 11, now we're seeing from 12 to 21 as far as ranks go.
32 The axis are going to stay the same for comparative
33 reasons. So we can look at in comparison and see what
34 the differences is from say the first quartile to the
35 last quartile.

36

37 And you can see that they're mainly,
38 you know, either stable or slightly increasing.

39

40 Next slide, please. This is No. 15.

41

42 And this is the third quartile, ranks
43 from 23 to 33, and you can see that some villages show
44 a decline, like Nenana, it's ranked 24, and most of the
45 other ones are either variable or fairly stable.

46

47 Next slide, please. Number 16.

48

49 This is the fourth quartile. This is
50 the lowest 11 as far as numbers of fishing households

1 in the Yukon. And you can see that Minto has declined
2 from the 1994 to 1998 period through the current
3 period. And also the Village of Rampart, their numbers
4 of fishing households has also declined.

5
6 The next slide, please.

7
8 Okay. This is fishing households by
9 community, numbers of fishing households by community.
10 And again we're looking at the diamonds being color-
11 coded by district, but they are the main stem, and then
12 the triangles off the main stem. You can see that the
13 villages are all listed on the X-axis with number of
14 fishing households listed on the Y-axis.

15
16 And this is only the 2004 to 2008 mean
17 number. The median number of fishing households per
18 community is about 20. And again that means that the
19 number of fishing households at more than 20 is more
20 than 50 percent and communities that have less fishing
21 households per community, 50 percent are less than that
22 number.

23
24 You can see that the coastal district,
25 District 1, District 2 and District 3 primarily are all
26 above the line with one village in District 2 being
27 below. District 4 for the most part, four out of seven
28 are above, except for the Koyukuk River drainage, and
29 they're basically all below the line. In District 5 we
30 have a number of villages below the line, with four
31 above the median line, and both tributary villages are
32 below. And District 6 we have two above the line, one
33 basically on the line and two below.

34
35 Next slide, please.

36
37 Okay. This is the Chinook salmon
38 harvested per fishing household, and you've seen these
39 graphs before. They're all color coded towards
40 districts, and with the Lower Yukon on the left, the
41 Upper Yukon on the right. Numbers go from zero to 100,
42 and the years on the bottom from '98 -- or '88 through
43 2008.

44
45 And you can see that District 5 has
46 taken the most share of salmon per fishing household.
47 The 2004 to 2008 average harvest for District 5 fishing
48 households is approximately 63. Next is District 3 and
49 an average of 50 on the left-hand graph with the black
50 bar. District 4, switching over to the right-hand

1 graph with the light blue is an average of 43.
2 District 2 is fourth with an average of 29 on the left
3 bar, that purple. And District 1 is ranked 5th with 23
4 salmon per fishing household. And District 6 ranks
5 last with an average of 15 salmon per fishing
6 household.

7

8 Next slide, please.

9

10 And this is a slide looking at the
11 number of fishing households, using the five-year
12 average. District 5 again ranks first with a declining
13 stable trend in the number of fishing households.
14 District 3 has shown a market consistent decline in
15 average harvest -- in average numbers of fishing --
16 average harvest per fishing household through the
17 recent period. And District 4 in that blue is
18 basically stable with a slight increase and with
19 District 2 being stable, District 1 being fairly
20 stable, and District 6 also being fairly stable over
21 the time period.

22

23 Next slide, please.

24

25 And this is Chinook salmon harvested
26 per fishing household. We're looking at proportions.
27 And the proportions of the average number of Chinook
28 salmon per fishing household by district is relative to
29 the total Yukon area harvest and other district
30 proportions. It's pretty stable in District 5 along
31 with Districts 2 and 1. District 3, fishing households
32 show a decrease in harvest proportion which District 6
33 show an increasing to stable trend in harvest
34 proportion pre fishing household.

35

36 Next slide, please.

37

38 And we've seen these graphs before.
39 Now this is looking the actual village change over time
40 in Chinook salmon harvested per fishing household, and
41 again it's ranked from 1 to 44, and it's broken down
42 into quartiles. For your ranks 1 through 11, this
43 graph shows the top 11 communities that harvest the
44 most Chinook salmon per fishing household throughout
45 the Yukon area. Note that 9 of the 11 communities show
46 an overall are stable or decreasing trend in their
47 harvest except for Anvik and Eagle. And they're --
48 that's rank No. 5 for Anvik and No. 9 for Eagle in the
49 right-hand graph. It looks like Fort Yukon.....

50

1 Okay. Next slide, please.

2

3 This shows the second quartile, and
4 we're looking at maybe an over-all decreasing or stable
5 trend. Marshall exhibited an increasing trend through
6 the '99/2003 period, but has declined since then.
7 Birch Creek and Venetie probably exhibit decreased
8 harvest during the '99 to 2003 period because of
9 reduced run size during the disaster years.

10

11 Next slide, please.

12

13 The third quartile, again we see a
14 trend of stable or decreasing in some cases, somewhat
15 variable harvest per fishing household.

16

17 Next slide, please.

18

19 In the fourth quartile, this is to 44,
20 again it's most are either stable or decreasing
21 somewhat. Some are variable.

22

23 Okay. The next slide.

24

25 Now this is the share of salmon
26 harvested per fishing household by community, and we're
27 looking at the 2004 to 2008 mean. The median value,
28 again 50 percent of the households are above the median
29 and 50 percent are below, but it's about 33 salmon per
30 fishing household.

31

32 The range is from about 105 in Rampart
33 and 98 in Tanana to less than 1 in Bettles in the
34 Koyukuk, and about 15 on the Alakanuk -- in Alakanuk on
35 the main stem Yukon River. Note that we also have
36 other District 5 communities, Minto and Fairbanks,
37 harvest about .8, 6 and 13 Chinook salmon per fishing
38 household in those communities on the Tanana, so
39 they're very low, too.

40

41 Next slide, please.

42

43 I looked at the number of people per
44 fishing household, and it varies a little bit
45 throughout the Yukon. The median number is 3.3 people
46 per fishing household. That means 50 percent of the
47 fishing households had more than 3.3 people and 50
48 percent less 3.3 people.

49

50 I also want to note the number of

1 people per fishing household are unavailable for 2006
2 and 2007. Those data are not available yet.

3
4 I want to also note that in the red
5 triangles and in some of the -- some of the red
6 triangles and some of the green triangles, you'll see a
7 P in the middle, and that denotes the number of people
8 on the permit, and these are permit areas, that were
9 issued. Now, I don't have the data or the number of
10 permits that were fished and returned, but since more
11 than half of those permits fished, I think it was a
12 pretty good surrogate for the number of people within
13 those fishing households.

14
15 All communities from the coastal
16 district up through District 3 have numbers of people
17 per fishing household that are greater than the overall
18 median value of 3.3. In District 4 we've got 3 of 7
19 that had a higher number of people in their fishing
20 households than the median. The Koyukuk villages all
21 have less than the median value. District 5, we have
22 one village out of 10 that has an average number of
23 people per fishing household greater than the median.
24 And in District 6 we have two of five that are greater
25 than the median.

26
27 Next slide, please.

28
29 Now, this is Chinook salmon harvested
30 per person by community, and again you've seen these
31 graphs before, so I'm not going to dwell on them. But
32 I will say that the median value is 8.1 Chinook salmon,
33 and the range goes from about 35 in Tanana to about 2.7
34 Chinook harvested per person in Alakanuk. We also have
35 very low in the Koyukuk, especially in Bettles where we
36 have -- they took about one salmon per person. We have
37 100 percent of the coastal district and District 1
38 communities well below the median harvest of 8.1. In
39 District 2 we have 20 percent, 1 out of 5 in the main
40 stem fishery have an average harvest less than -- or
41 more than the median value of 8.1. In District 3 we
42 have one above and one below. In all main stem
43 communities in District 4 and 5 are above the median
44 value. All Koyukuk communities are below the median
45 value. And Venetie on the Chandalar is above while
46 Chalkyitsik on the black is below.

47
48 Next slide, please. If you have slide
49 28 and 29, could you skip those, please. Go to slide
50 30, and the title of this slide is origins of Chinook

1 salmon in subsistence and personal use harvest by stock
2 of origin or stock grouping.

3

4 Now, there's three stocks on the Yukon.
5 Pretty general stocks. There's the upper river stock,
6 which is the Canadian stock. There's the middle river
7 stock, which includes the Tanana and there's the lower
8 river stock which includes the lower river tributaries.

9

10 Next slide, please.

11

12 This map, I just want to point out
13 where these stocks are located. The lower river stock
14 is from the mouth all the way up through on the main
15 stem to just about Illinois Street. There's a
16 tributary up there called the Tozitna River, and that
17 is included in the lower river stock. And the lone
18 tributary, the Gisasa River, on the Koyukuk River,
19 that's considered also lower river stock. The middle
20 river stock includes the Upper Koyukuk River
21 tributaries, the Chandalar River, which is near the
22 Porcupine in the upper right-hand corner of the map,
23 and also the Alaska portion of the Porcupine, which
24 includes the Sheenjek River and the Tanana River. So
25 the Upper Koyukuk, Chandalar, Sheenjek, and the Tanana
26 all comprise the middle river stock.

27

28 Next slide, please.

29

30 This is a map of the Canadian portion
31 of the Yukon River drainage, and the upper river or
32 Canadian river stock includes those Chinook salmon that
33 originate in the Canadian portion of the Yukon River
34 drainage.

35

36 Next slide, please.

37

38 This is a slide of the proportions that
39 each stock contributes to the entire Yukon area
40 subsistence and personal use harvest. You can see that
41 the Canadian stock contributes just about 60 percent.
42 I believe it's 58 percent. The middle river stock,
43 indicated by that dark blue contributes a variable
44 contribution, but recently it's been carrying about 33
45 percent. And the lower river stock, again it has been
46 variable, but it's never been over the average above 25
47 percent, and that's contributing now for the most
48 recent period about 9 percent.

49

50 It's kind of interesting, you know, I

1 don't know why the lower river stock fell so
2 dramatically and the middle river stock increased, but
3 I was thinking that maybe people are fishing earlier
4 and harder and maybe taking more middle river stock
5 than they took in the past, or it could be that lower
6 river stock has reduced productivity and that there's
7 not that many lower river fish in the run any more. So
8 that's something to look at.

9

10 Next slide, please.

11

12 Now this slide looks at the lower river
13 stock only and what districts are taking the lower
14 river stocks. Of course, the lower river stocks are
15 harvested by Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4. They are
16 unavailable to fishermen in the Tanana River and
17 unavailable to fishers in District 5. So you can see
18 that the harvests are fairly low. They're all less
19 than -- or about 4,000 fish or less on the average, and
20 most recently all the districts are harvesting less
21 than 2,000 fish for each district.

22

23 Next slide, please.

24

25 Okay. Now we'll look at the middle
26 river stock, and it's the average, most recent average
27 harvest has been about 17,000.

28

29 Next slide, please.

30

31 And this looks at the middle river
32 stock harvest by district. Again the Y axis remains
33 zero to 20,000. And you can see there's an increase in
34 District 4's take of the middle river stock. They're
35 taking on the average the 2004 to 2007 average, about
36 6,000 fish.

37

38 I also want to indicate that there's
39 preliminary data in this from ADF&G. 2006 and 2007 are
40 preliminary region of origin data.

41

42 You can see that District 5 has
43 harvested fish in the most recent period, and that's
44 because we found that the Chandalar and Sheenjek are
45 fairly substantial contributors to the Chinook salmon
46 run in the Yukon, and with the genetic stock
47 identification that we initiated in 2007, we can
48 identify those fish in the District 5 harvest. They
49 were probably in the District 5 harvest throughout the
50 periods, but that is our only data point right now. So

1 they harvest about 3,000 middle river fish.

2

3 District 6 was the primary harvester
4 back in '84/89 basically all the way through '95/99,
5 but they're low now, where there's decreased harvest in
6 the Tanana River.

7

8 Next slide, please.

9

10 Now we'll look at the upper river
11 stock, which the harvest has been recently over 30,000
12 fish.

13

14 Next slide, please.

15

16 And this shows the harvest of the upper
17 river stock, or the Canadian stock, by district. You
18 can see that District 5 takes the majority of the fish,
19 or much higher than any other district, and it's just
20 about 14,000 for the last two periods of records.
21 District 4 is somewhat increasing the harvest of
22 Canadian-origin fish, and the other districts are
23 basically stable. District 6 does not have access to
24 these fish, so they don't harvest any Canadian-origin
25 fish, but in the main stem 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, they all
26 have access to Canadian-origin fish.

27

28 But, remember, District 6 does not
29 harvest any lower Yukon fish, and has little access to
30 the middle river's fish, so basically it's the only
31 stock that they harvest. That's obvious.

32

33 This is a proportion graph, looking at
34 the harvest of that Canadian stock by district
35 proportion wise. And you can see that District 5 in
36 some years in averages have harvested over 60 percent,
37 but in recent years that's come down to about 45
38 percent. District 4 is harvesting about 21 percent,
39 and has increased over the years. The rest of the
40 districts basically are remaining fairly stable.

41

42 Next slide, please.

43

44 Okay, in summary, as you're looking at
45 the 2004 to 2008 average harvest, the average harvest
46 for the Yukon area is about 50,500 Chinook salmon.
47 Average districts harvest range from about 16,000 in
48 District 5 to about one and a half thousand in District
49 6.

50

1 Average harvests by community range
2 from less than one Chinook salmon in Bettles to nearly
3 4,000 in Tanana. The median value is 818 salmon per
4 community.

5
6 Average number of fishing households by
7 district range from about 316 in District 2 to 103 in
8 District 3 in lower, and the upper river are just about
9 equal now.

10
11 Next slide, please.

12
13 Average number of fishing households by
14 community range from about 118 in Hooper Bay and 101 in
15 Mountain Village, which is on the main stem, to less
16 than one in Bettles. The median value is about 20
17 fishing households per community.

18
19 The average Chinook salmon district
20 harvests per fishing household range from about 63 in
21 District 5 to about 15 in District 6. That's the
22 Chinook salmon harvest per fishing household.

23
24 And the average district harvest per
25 fishing household by community range from about 1 in
26 Bettles to over 100 in Rampart. And the median value
27 is 33 salmon per fishing household.

28
29 The average number of people per
30 fishing household by community range from about 6 in
31 Hooper Bay and 5.8 in Kotlik to less than 1 in Bettles.
32 The median value is 3.3 people per fishing household.

33
34 Next slide, please.

35
36 The harvest per person by community
37 ranges from less than 1 in various District 6
38 communities to 32 in Tanana with the median value of
39 8.1 salmon per person.

40
41 The Canadian stock contributes an
42 average of over 30,000 salmon or over 58 percent to the
43 total Alaskan harvest. It is the major contributor.

44
45 Average harvest proportion of the
46 Canadian stock by district range from 45 percent in
47 District 5 to 0 percent in District 6, and on the main
48 stem, Districts 3 and 1 at about 9 percent apiece.
49 Note, however, that District 5 does not have an
50 opportunity to harvest lower river stocks and have very

1 limited opportunity to harvest middle river stocks.

2

3 Mr. Chairman. That's the end of my
4 presentation. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: May I have my mic
7 back, please.

8

9 Thank you. Are there any questions for
10 Mr. Sandone from the Council. Anyone else. Mr.
11 Roczicka has got a question for you, Mr. Sandone.

12

13 MR. SANDONE: yes

14

15 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Thanks,
16 Gene. I'll say one thing that popped out at me, of
17 course, as you were going through that and I'd like to
18 maybe get a read on it, is that communities with the
19 least amount of people per household also were catching
20 the most amount of fish per household, primarily up
21 there in District 5, or per person, per household. And
22 knowing how statistics work, with perhaps low numbers
23 of people, can you offer some explanation as to why
24 that might be occurring? And, of course, it leads me
25 into the support of the concerns that were raised about
26 a few people catching a lot more fish than they
27 actually need, and perhaps conducting significant
28 commercial enterprises with them when you would expect
29 the people with the most in a household would be
30 catching the most fish to feed them.

31

32 MR. SANDONE: Well, Mr. Chair, Mr.
33 Roczicka. You know, i'm just presenting the data as it
34 is, and, you know, I don't know what they need. And to
35 be perfectly frank, you know, they do catch fish with
36 fishwheels and the fishwheel fish are probably smaller
37 than the fish that are caught in large mesh gear
38 throughout the river. So that may have some impacts on
39 the number of fish they actually need. But I'm not
40 going to speculate as to why they need, you know, more
41 fish than the lower river fishers do.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Gene.
44 Any further questions. Mr. Brown.

45

46 MR. BROWN: After the fish are migrate
47 2,000 miles, what's the condition up there in Canadian
48 border?

49

50 MR. SANDONE: I'm sorry, I couldn't

1 hear the question.

2

3 MR. BROWN: Canadian border.

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: He didn't hear your
6 question.

7

8 MR. BROWN: That's my question. I just
9 want to find out what's the condition of the fish by
10 the time they migrate Canadian border.

11

12 MR. SANDONE: Mr. Chair. I heard the
13 question as what is the condition of the fish at the
14 Canadian border. You know, they did have a commercial
15 fishery in Dawson, and they used to take a lot of fish.
16 And I know that they used to sell them to the
17 restaurants there, and, you know, I think they're not
18 as bright as Lower Yukon fish, and they had a number of
19 marks once they hit the border, but people do use them
20 for human consumption, and they don't use them for
21 anything else. I mean, they just catch the fish for
22 human consumption, so I would suspect that they're
23 definitely edible and they're probably good.

24

25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay, Mr. Brown?

26

27 MR. BROWN: (Nods affirmative)

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Charles.

30

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

32

33 Gene, I see on your graphs you used
34 District 1 to 6, but you also use lower river, middle
35 river and upper river, and I'm lost on those areas.
36 Where do they start and stop?

37

38 MR. SANDONE: Okay. Mr. Chair. Mr.
39 Charles. I'm sorry I didn't explain that when I went
40 through the graph, but if you can go back to that slide
41 No. 2 on the graph, the lower river encompasses
42 Districts 1, 2 and 3. The upper river encompasses
43 Districts 4, 5, and 6.

44

45 When I talk about the middle river
46 stock, and I think you had a question towards that, you
47 know, I'm talking about the different stock groupings
48 of Chinook salmon that spawn in the entire Yukon River
49 drainage. The lower stock basically is below the
50 Gisasa River on the Koyukuk. The middle river stock

1 includes the Upper Koyukuk River-origin salmon, the
2 Tanana River-origin salmon, the Chandalar and the
3 Sheenjek-origin river salmon. The upper river stock
4 grouping, or the Canadian stock grouping includes those
5 fish that originate in the Canadian portion of the
6 drainage.

7

8 Mr. Chair.

9

10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Gene. I
11 think -- any further questions of Gene.

12

13 (No comments)

14

15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If not, thank you
16 very much for your report, Gene. And we'll be seeing
17 you down the road somewhere.

18

19 MR. SANDONE: All right. Thank you,
20 Mr. Chairman. It's pleasure giving the report. I
21 thank you.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are now down to
24 Item 1 on the agenda, Yukon Delta Refuge. Does the
25 Refuge have a report.

26

27 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. This is Alex
28 Nick, coordinator.

29

30 I spoke with Mr. Doolittle with the
31 Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge before I left
32 Bethel, that morning, and he indicated that they are
33 doing a moose census in the area, and that if they have
34 time they would stop by. But unfortunately the weather
35 conditions are not good today.

36

37 Mr. Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
40 Alex. I don't believe Togiak Refuge is here either.
41 Mr. Nick.

42

43 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Excuse me. Mr.
44 Chair. Togiak Refuge usually provides a bulletin in
45 almost every one of your scheduled meetings. They did
46 not provide a bulletin this winter.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
49 Nick.

50

1 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Next on the agenda
4 is Migratory Birds. Is anybody going to cover the
5 Migratory Birds.
6
7 (No comments)
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's no one
10 here. We're down to Item C. Bureau of Land
11 Management. Anybody here from the Land Management for
12 a report.
13
14 (No comments)
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No BLM. Alaska
17 Department of Fish and Game. Any reports.
18
19 MR. PAPPAS: (Shakes head no)
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No reports
22 according to Mr. Pappas.
23 MR. PAPPAS: (Shakes head no)
24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'll get that name
26 right yet. Okay. Mr. Tim Andrews, are you still on
27 the teleconference.
28
29 MR. T. ANDREW: Yes, I am. I'm still
30 here.
31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. You are up
33 next, Mr. Andrews.
34
35 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you very
36 much. My name is Timothy Andrew. I'm the director of
37 natural resources for AVCP.
38
39 As I referred to earlier, we have
40 several resolutions that we would like to present to
41 the Y-K RAC for your consideration. One is a
42 resolution that I referred to earlier. It's two-fold
43 in nature. The first element is the tribal
44 consultation and then the next adding the public
45 members to the Federal Subsistence Board to represent
46 rural subsistence users.
47
48 Excuse me.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Tim.

1 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. I hope everybody
2 was provided a copy of the resolutions.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, everybody was.

5
6 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. I'm not going to
7 read through the entire document; I'm just going to go
8 to the sort of the now therefore be it resolved.

9
10 Now therefore be it resolved that the
11 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council
12 recommends that the Federal Subsistence Board include
13 in his recommendations to the Secretaries that the
14 voting membership of the FSB should include tribal
15 representation; and

16
17 Be it further resolved that the Yukon-
18 Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council recommends
19 that the Federal Subsistence Board and OSM help
20 facilitate and fund a meeting of tribal leaders from
21 throughout Alaska to discuss among themselves and make
22 recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board on how
23 government-to-government consultation should be
24 conducted with tribes in Alaska, and that this should
25 be done as soon as possible and prior to OSM developing
26 a draft tribal consultation policy for the Federal
27 Subsistence Board.

28
29 And I'd like to refer to my earlier
30 comments on the two public members on the Federal
31 Subsistence Board.

32
33 But as far as the tribal consultation,
34 we had a Federal Subsistence Board meeting in
35 Anchorage, but it was not very well attended by tribes.
36 We had perhaps maybe about three or four tribal people
37 from our area, and the remainder was members of the
38 CDQ. The Yukon -- yeah, the Yukon Delta Fishery
39 Development Association. They had a pretty good sized
40 contingent there, but as far as tribal representation
41 at that meeting, it was pretty low.

42
43 So AVCP's recommending to the Federal
44 Subsistence Board and the Federal subsistence
45 management system in Alaska that we gather as tribes to
46 determine how are we going to develop this consultation
47 process with the Federal Subsistence Board.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Tim.
50 What is the feeling of the Council on this resolution

1 of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council
2 regarding the tribal consultation and adding public
3 members to the Federal Subsistence Board to represent
4 rural subsistence users.

5
6 (No comments)

7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It was passed out
9 this morning. What does the Council.....

10
11 MR. T. ANDREW: Are there any questions
12 about any parts of the resolution?

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there -- that
15 was my next question. Is there any questions for Tim
16 on the resolution. Mr. Roczicka.

17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
19 And, Tim, I would -- as I read through these, and the
20 meeting that you're meeting that you're recommending
21 that OSM help facilitate, is that one that's referenced
22 in the attached flyer on the proposed meeting to
23 coordinated in Nome prior to the North Pacific
24 Fisheries meeting up there?

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Tim, did you hear
27 the question?

28
29 MR. T. ANDREW: I'm sorry, Greg, I
30 couldn't quite hear you clearly. If you can maybe move
31 towards where the telephone is at, maybe I can hear you
32 a little better. I heard the people giving
33 presentations real clearly at that location.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All right then.
36 Okay.

37
38 MR. T. ANDREW: Or if you could put the
39 phone or the receiver of the phone to near the speaker,
40 it might help.

41
42 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. Yeah. Fred just
43 moved it a little closer. Is this better?

44
45 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah, that's better.

46
47 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. I just wanted to
48 confirm that the meeting suggested in your resolved
49 that you're asking for support on or for our
50 recommendation to assist on was the same one that's in

1 the flyer referring to the meeting in Nome in early
2 June?

3

4 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah.

5

6 MR. ROCZICKA: Uh-huh. Okay. Yeah.
7 Mr. Chairman. Just to speak to the resolution then --
8 well, first I'll go ahead and make a motion to adopt so
9 we can have a discussion in the form of a motion.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
12 made to adopt the resolution that was read. Do I hear
13 a second to the motion.

14

15 MR. ONEY: Second.

16

17 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
18 Oney. Discussion.

19

20 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. To speak
21 to my motion. It reflects one of the concerns that I
22 brought up when we discussed it in the context of the
23 letter that was put forward to us in our packet in that
24 I would like to make sure that we have that opportunity
25 to look over what OSM is going to come up with before
26 it's a final draft, which may or may not reflect the
27 concerns that we have and certainly as tribal entities.
28 And to have a meeting of this nature that was
29 specifically focused on it and especially with the
30 level of interest and concern that's going to be
31 occurring in the North Pacific Council process with
32 that meeting in Nome, and the bycatch issues that are
33 involved, you should have a really good attendance and
34 I think it would be very productive. So I think this
35 is worth -- this resolution is worth adopting.

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
38 discussion on the resolution. Any further discussion
39 on the resolution.

40

41 (No comments)

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Call for the
44 question. The Chair will entertain a motion to call
45 somebody to call for the question.

46

47 MR. CHARLES: Question.

48

49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The questions been
50 called by Mr. Polty. Mr. Secretary, please take the

1 role.
2
3 MR. POLTY: That was James.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, that was James.
6 Mr. James Charles.
7
8 Go ahead, Mr. Secretary, take the role,
9 please.
10
11 MR. J. ANDREW: William Brown.
12
13 MR. BROWN: Yes.
14
15 MR. J. ANDREW: James Charles.
16
17 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
18
19 MR. J. ANDREW: Noah Andrew.
20
21 MR. N. ANDREW: Yes.
22
23 MR. J. ANDREW: Evan
24
25 MR. POLTY: Yes.
26
27 MR. J. ANDREW: Harry Wilde, Sr.
28
29 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
30
31 MR. J. ANDREW: Raymond Oney.
32
33 MR. ONEY: Yes.
34
35 MR. J. ANDREW: Mary Gregory, excused.
36 No. 8, vacant. Lester Wilde, Sr.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
39
40 MR. J. ANDREW: Aloysius Unok.
41
42 MR. UNOK: Yes.
43
44 MR. J. ANDREW: Greg Roczicka.
45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
47
48 MR. J. ANDREW: Robert Aloysius.
49
50 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.

1 MR. J. ANDREW: John Andrew, yes,
2 myself. 11 yes, one vacancy, one excused.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion carries.

5
6 Anything else, Tim.

7
8 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
9 Chair.

10
11 Another resolution we'd like for you to
12 consider is a resolution of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
13 Regional Advisory Council regarding chum bycatch in the
14 Bering Sea pollock fishery. And I'm not going to go
15 through the whole thing, but well go to the now
16 therefore be it resolved.

17
18 Now therefore be it resolved that the
19 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council
20 recommends that the Federal Subsistence Board work with
21 the affected Regional Advisory Councils, tribes and
22 communities to develop a position from among the
23 alternatives before the North Pacific Fishery
24 Management Council to regulate chum bycatch. The
25 Federal Subsistence Board position should seek to
26 minimize chum bycatch to the greatest extent
27 practicable, and thereby ensure healthy fish
28 populations and subsistence and small scale commercial
29 fisheries. The Federal Subsistence Board should
30 officially convey this position to the North Pacific
31 Fishery Management Council before and during the North
32 Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in June of
33 2011.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've heard the
36 resolution. What is the feeling of the Council
37 resolutions -- let's label these. The first resolution
38 regarding the representing rural subsistence, we label
39 that 2011-01. And label resolution of Yukon-Kuskokwim
40 Delta Regional Advisory Council regarding chum bycatch
41 as 2011-02. That way we can know which one we're
42 speaking of.

43
44 Resolution 02 is before the Council.
45 What is the feeling of the Council. Mr. Aloysius.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: This is not our
48 resolution. The numbers have to come from the Advisory
49 Council.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, this will
2 become our resolution, because it's tak.....
3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: I mean, it's from that
5 -- whoever the author is.
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: These are
8 resolutions that will be presented through us, so these
9 are actually our resolutions. Dated on the bottom,
10 Chairman, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional
11 Advisory Council.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any further
16 discussion. Mr. Oney.
17
18 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Mr. Chairman, I move
19 to adopt for discussion.
20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion's been
22 made by Raymond Oney -- Mr. Oney, I'm sorry, to approve
23 Resolution, Federal -- I'll get it straight yet.
24 Resolution Y-K Delta Regional Advisory Council
25 resolution 2011-02. Do I hear a second.
26
27 MR. BROWN: Second.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
30 Brown. Any further discussion. Mr. Oney.
31
32 MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
33 Chairman.
34
35 You know, over the years, you know, we
36 haven't been having a fall fisheries on the Lower Yukon
37 for a number of years. This is one area where the
38 commercial fisheries, you know, get their money if they
39 don't make it in the king fishery, then they, you know,
40 look forward to the fall fishery. And we need some way
41 to, you know, bring this attention to the trawl fishery
42 that this is affecting our resources here on the Yukon,
43 too.
44
45 And also on the presentation that was
46 made earlier, you know, 700,000 is a lot of fish that
47 was taken as bycatch, you know, chums, so we need to be
48 concerned about that and address that issue.
49
50 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
2 Oney.
3
4 Do I hear any further discussion on
5 this.
6
7 MR. UNOK: I have a question.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Unok.
10
11 MR. UNOK: Can anybody answer the
12 question what Bob was saying, it's not our resolution?
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, that's okay.
15 He'll be fine.
16
17 MR. UNOK: Okay. That's good.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Save us some work.
20
21 (Laughter)
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any other
24 discussion on the Resolution 02.
25
26 (No comments)
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.
29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The question's
31 called for. Mr. Secretary, you'll take the role,
32 please.
33
34 MR. J. ANDREW: William Brown.
35
36 MR. BROWN: Yes.
37
38 MR. J. ANDREW: James Charles.
39
40 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
41
42 MR. J. ANDREW: Noah Andrew.
43
44 MR. N. ANDREW: Yes.
45
46 MR. J. ANDREW: Evan Polty.
47
48 MR. POLTY: Yes.
49
50 MR. J. ANDREW: Harry Wilde, Sr.

1 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.
2
3 MR. J. ANDREW: Raymond Oney.
4
5 MR. ONEY: Yes.
6
7 MR. J. ANDREW: Mary Gregory, excused.
8 One vacancy. And Lester Wilde, Sr.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
11
12 MR. J. ANDREW: Aloysius Andrew.
13
14 MR. UNOK: Yes.
15
16 MR. J. ANDREW: Greg Roczicka.
17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.
19
20 MR. J. ANDREW: Robert Aloysius.
21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
23
24 MR. J. ANDREW: Myself, John Andrew,
25 yes.
26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The motion passes
28 unanimously.
29
30 Any further discussion. Anything else
31 to report, Mr. Andrew.
32
33 MR. T. ANDREW: Yes. I do have a brief
34 report. And I would make it as possible. It started
35 earlier as four pages, but I'm going to try to reduce
36 it down in consideration of your time.
37
38 And thank you, Mr. Chairman and members
39 of the Council for your vote on the resolution. We
40 will move in that direction and try to let the
41 resolutions become reality.
42
43 I don't know if I introduced myself
44 earlier. I'm Timothy Andrew, I'm the director of
45 natural resources for AVCP. I've been with this
46 organization for almost 16 years.
47
48 And throughout the years I've seen
49 quite a bit of changes that occurred within our
50 resources, our subsistence resources in the are. But

1 one of the biggest changes I've seen happened more
2 recently, since 1998, and that's the state of our
3 salmon on the Yukon River and it's movement down toward
4 the Kuskokwim River.

5
6 I'd like to thank the eloquent
7 testimony on the salmon from Mr. Mike James of
8 Alakanuk, Mr. Francis Hess of Mountain Village, Mr.
9 Alexie Walters of Mountain Village, Mr. Stan Shepperd
10 of I believe he's from St. Mary's now, but he's
11 originally from Mountain. Mr. Raphael Jimmy from
12 Mountain Village, my anaan, Marie Koutchak, and also
13 I'd like to thank Duncan Fields for his contribution
14 yesterday.

15
16 And many other people are extremely
17 concerned about what's happening with our fish. After
18 all, 60 percent of our diet is fish and 80 percent of
19 the 60 percent is salmon. So it's a really, really
20 important element in our lives, and without our salmon,
21 our family-driven fish camps would likely go away.

22
23 And it's really scary to take a look at
24 what's been happening. It's been about 50 years since
25 the State of Alaska managed the fisheries and look
26 where it is now. And now the Federal subsistence
27 management system is in Alaska, what's going to happen
28 to our salmon?

29
30 In 2008, if you can remember observing
31 the river, even probably from many of our villages, it
32 was a dead river. There was nobody out there. Nobody
33 moving. Nobody going to fish camp. Nobody fishing.
34 And I hope and pray that this is not indicative of
35 what's going to happen to our salmon resources in the
36 future. So we must all try and conserve our salmon to
37 make sure that our future generations are able to enjoy
38 what we enjoy today.

39
40 As I indicated the continuous decline
41 had started in 1998, and it's continued today. And
42 we've got to take into consideration some management
43 measures that we can likely put our fingers on. You
44 know, the ocean conditions, the environmental
45 conditions, those are things that we cannot do anything
46 about. They'll happen regardless of whatever we say.

47
48 But Gene had touched on the customary
49 trade issue earlier. And it's an area that has -- that
50 I feel that has grown considerably in the recent years.

1 And one of the questions that keeps
2 playing in my mind was, you know, ANILCA was adopted
3 with a rural priority provision which allowed for
4 anybody and everybody that lives in the rural areas to
5 basically subsist. But in times of resource shortages
6 like, for example, our Yukon king salmon, where in the
7 world does a person that moved in from New York to the
8 Yukon River or to the Kuskokwim River gain a tradition
9 of customary trade. It's not within his heritage.
10 It's not with time, and that was something that was not
11 passed down from generation to generation. How does
12 that person become eligible for customary trade.

13
14 You know, this customary trade has been
15 a long-held Alaska Native tradition in various areas
16 for trading purposes between various villages, perhaps
17 various regions, but has never been a significant
18 commercial enterprise. And it's becoming that today.
19 And people feel that it's their God-given right to
20 harvest fish with no regulation, with no number to
21 consider. And one of the questions that people on the
22 Lower Yukon River are starting to ask is, why am I
23 giving up fish, giving up my subsistence fishing
24 opportunity, or my legitimate commercial fishing
25 opportunity to allow for somebody else to catch
26 unregulated and unsubstantiated data from these
27 commercial fisheries.

28
29 And like what Mr. Alexie Walters had
30 indicated yesterday, it's like bootlegging. It is
31 becoming an issue and it needs to be looked at. It
32 needs to be considered. It needs to be thoroughly
33 looked at between the two different regions of the
34 Yukon River, and we have to come up with a solution
35 that will allow for our salmon to escape into their
36 essential spawning grounds.

37
38 We had an increased -- or a decreased
39 commercial opportunity in the lower part of the Yukon
40 River. We haven't had a commercial Chinook directed
41 fishery for a number of years. It's been pretty
42 sketchy for the last 13 years.

43
44 But one of the most important things of
45 all is the decreased subsistence fishing opportunity.
46 As I had indicated earlier, you know, families are
47 starting to give up fish camping. They're starting to
48 come into their communities and process fish. And
49 they've been doing it for quite some time, but there's
50 still some families that are out there, but that

1 opportunity is also starting to go away to a certain
2 extent. I can't substantiate the numbers. Those are
3 all anecdotal. But it's starting to happen, and it's
4 a really important element of our customary and
5 traditional way of life, and I do not want to see it go
6 away for our future generations.

7
8 The decreased production, decreased
9 returns started in the Nome subdistrict a number of
10 years back, back in the late 1970s or early 1980s. Now
11 it's moved down to the Yukon River. And now we have a
12 Kuskokwim River situation. We have decreased king
13 salmon production or decreased, inability to meet
14 escapement goals in the Kwethluk and the Tuluksak
15 Rivers.

16
17 What's going to happen next? Are we
18 going to keep moving our decreased returns down the
19 Kanektok River, Alatna River, Nushagak, Kvichak, Cook
20 Inlet, Southeast Alaska? Why is this happening?

21
22 You know, we've heard from Mr. Fields
23 yesterday that the pollock fishery is decreasing their
24 take. 9,000 in 2010. You know. Is it global warming?
25 Is it overharvest? We don't know. Is it the
26 escapement goals? You know, prior to the State
27 becoming a State or before Federal management, you
28 know, we never had escapement goals, but we had a
29 healthy return of salmon. We've had it continuously.
30 One of my grand uncles, the late Alexander Isaac said
31 that two fishwheels used to feed the entire community
32 of Ohagamiut. That's including feeding the people also
33 providing dog food for the dogs. And ever since we've
34 had escapement goals, ever since we had management and
35 ever since we've had the fisheries develop in the
36 Bering Sea, our salmon resources have gone down
37 considerably. We have to look at it. We have to be
38 diligent about it to protect it to the maximum extent
39 possible.

40
41 The other area that the RACs should be
42 looking at, and also the Federal Subsistence Board, is
43 what's happening with the Area M interception of our
44 chum salmon. In 2009 they harvested 1.7 million chums
45 during their red salmon directed fishery. In 2010
46 almost 1.4 million were harvested there. You know,
47 these are sizable harvests compared to the 400,000
48 maximum that the Bering Sea pollock trawl fishery had
49 harvested. We have to look at the State-managed
50 fisheries as well.

1 And whatever happened to the
2 extraterritorial jurisdiction provision of ANILCA? I
3 know that didn't go away, and nobody has used it to
4 date to try and protect our subsistence fisheries.

5
6 The other area I would like to look at
7 is -- the other area I would like to address is the
8 Mulchatna Caribou Herd. Back in 1996 we had 220,000
9 caribou roaming this area all the way from here down to
10 Bristol Bay. And that was under State and Federal
11 management, and that has gone down to about 30,000
12 today.

13
14 You know, we're starting to lose our
15 resources. Our moose are doing pretty well on the
16 lowest part of the Yukon River, and Unit 18 remainder,
17 we're starting to build the moose population. And in
18 the Lower Kuskokwim corridor area, Unit 19, moose are
19 starting to build.

20
21 But let's learn from the mistakes that
22 we have made in the past. Why did we have a decline of
23 moose in Unit 19 and the decline in the Mulchatna
24 Caribou Herd production? We have to look at those
25 closely. We have to learn from the mistakes that we
26 have made and keep those populations healthy. Because
27 without the vibrant subsistence resource management in
28 the area, you know, our way of life, our hunting
29 traditions will go away. And I would not want to see
30 that.

31
32 And we have to look at what happened
33 when the resources start going away. We see what
34 happened on the Yukon River. We saw what happened in
35 Nome. You know. People start fighting amongst each
36 other. They start claiming, this portion is more, this
37 portion is my salmon. I have a right to this.

38
39 And it didn't only happen now, but if
40 you take a look at the monarchies of Europe, the kings
41 of England, the emperors of France, Spain, the tsar of
42 Russia, the colonists of the United States, the former
43 Soviet republics, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Vietnam,
44 India, South Africa, and now just recently Egypt. And
45 when there's an extreme defiance between the rich and
46 the poor, and also a limited amount of resources,
47 revolutions always happens. And it's also starting
48 today with the Norwegian.

49
50 You know, back in that 2008 we had the

1 Marshall protest fishery. There was also small protest
2 fisheries that we didn't know about. You know, the
3 people that got cited from Alakanuk, from Scammon Bay
4 and other areas that did their little protest
5 fisheries, and, you know, the shortages keep going. We
6 have other people harvesting our salmon. We have
7 further divided into rich and the poor. You know, it's
8 just going to keep rolling and rolling and rolling.

9

10 And now just came to my ears, Desa
11 Jacobson started another hunger fast over the Federal
12 Subsistence Board attempt to eliminate our subsistence
13 way of life through the allocation of our resources to
14 non-traditional hunters and fishermen while true
15 customary and traditional gatherers suffer.

16

17 You know, protests are coming up, and
18 they will keep coming up. You know, it's going to
19 happen probably this summer, future days.

20

21 And we have to try and work together to
22 develop some kind of management scheme, some kind of a
23 management solution to address these resource declines
24 and resource crises that we are facing today. After
25 all, you know, our Alaskan Native tribal people have
26 the greatest to lose in the management of our
27 resources.

28

29 Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I tried to
30 make that as brief as possible, but if you have any
31 questions, I'd be more than happy to answer them.

32

33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Tim.
34 Any questions for Timothy. Mr. Andrew.

35

36 (No comments)

37

38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
39 you must have got across pretty well, Tim. Thank you
40 very much.

41

42 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Thank you.

43

44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: At this time we're
45 going to go into -- we've got a couple more people that
46 wanted to testify before us. We'll go ahead and
47 suspend the rules, if it's all right with the rest of
48 the Council to hear these two people.

49

50 (Council nods affirmatively)

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We have Mr.
2 Raphael Beans on sport and recreation activities.

3
4 MR. R. BEANS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You've got to come
8 up here and sit in front of the table, turn on one of
9 that speakers so she can record you.

10
11 MR. R. BEANS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman. My name is Raphael Beans. I'm a resident of
13 Mountain Village. I've lived in Mountain Village all
14 my life with the exception of two years when I got
15 drafted into the army.

16
17 My concern is sports hunters, moose
18 sports hunters hunting in my subsistence area. They
19 are filtering in slowly, but surely, and they will get
20 more of them.

21
22 Our main source of meat, what we hunt
23 and store for the long winter ahead of us is whatever
24 we happen to catch. If we catch at least on moose, we
25 store it away. We don't waste none of it.

26
27 And the areas these sport hunters are
28 hunting might belong -- are my forefathers' hunting
29 areas. And they are not officially welcome into my
30 area, or subsistence hunting area. And I am against
31 that. If they are allowed to come in here, they will
32 slowly, surely wipe out the moose population like they
33 did upriver in Paimiut area. A lot of those sport
34 hunters took a lot of moose from up there.

35
36 And I don't mind Native subsistence
37 hunters coming in to hunt the moose, but these sports
38 hunters, I don't like the idea of them coming into our
39 area.

40
41 That was my concern. Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ray.
44 Any questions for Ray.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Just a
49 minute, Ray. You know, prior to the time that the
50 remainder of Unit 18 was open, we were assured by the

1 Refuge manager that there would be no sports hunting in
2 our subsistence area. And I think it's about time that
3 we take an active role to try and put a stop to that,
4 because I know there's a lot of people, even there is a
5 lot of moose out there, it's still not that easy to go
6 out and get our meat, and especially with the weather
7 the way it is, I can concur with your observation and
8 I'm totally behind your statement. And thank you for
9 bringing that up.

10

11 MR. BEANS: Yeah. Thank you, Mr.
12 Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And we'll make sure
15 that Staff gets ahold of the Refuge and see what the
16 status on that sports hunting in our subsistence area
17 is now and we'll make sure that you guys are made aware
18 of what's happening.

19

20 MR. BEANS: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
21 Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Ray.
24 Next is Mr. Paul Beans.

25

26 MR. P. BEANS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 I think I know most people in here except for a couple
28 of them.

29

30 I think Ray did a good job in
31 explaining his concern.

32

33 Now, I have this testimony in Anchorage
34 during the Federal Subsistence Board meeting they had.
35 It's regarding an incident that happened down at Thirty
36 Mile about September 20. My younger brother is here,
37 but he claims he's got a bad cold, so I'll tell his
38 story.

39

40 You know, moose hunting is open here
41 about that time, and he was hunting in Horseshoe Lake
42 in Thirty Mile. The people that are on Yukon know
43 where it is. And it's about like 25 miles downriver.
44 But a plane landed, you know, in Horseshoe Lake, and he
45 went over to it. He had his family on board his boat.
46 And there's two people in that Beaver. It was
47 stationed in Bethel. It's a DeHaviland Beaver. And he
48 knew that there's a big bull right in that area, you
49 know, and I guess that plane had spotted that, and then
50 he went over to them and then talked with them. And he

1 told them that's our hunting area, and then, you know,
2 people have hunted there, in my testimony in Anchorage.
3 You know, people, not only Mountain Village use that,
4 but people downriver and upriver to hunt in that area,
5 that Thirty Mile area.

6

7 Now, he told them that they were on
8 trespass on like traditional hunting area. They in
9 turn told him and his family they're on trespass, this
10 is Federal land. We checked on the map, it is Federal
11 land.

12

13 Okay. If sport hunting is allowed on
14 Federal or State land, they must not be allowed to use
15 planes for hunting and spotting game. They must use
16 the same gear as we do and hunt from a village and go
17 by boat only. Sport hunters should not be allowed to
18 camp anywhere in Unit 18 subsistence area. We do not
19 want our precious land to be destroyed or littered with
20 trash from outside sport hunters.

21

22 And then we haven't met regarding this,
23 you know, after that meeting in Anchorage, but what we
24 will probably ask is one of two things when we do meet
25 here in the village. Prohibit sport hunters in certain
26 traditional areas. You know, most villages, you know,
27 not only Mountain Village, in the delta, State of
28 Alaska, they have hunting areas they use for like
29 traditional hunting areas. And those should be
30 respected.

31

32 And then, you know, if need be, you
33 know, if we meet here in Mountain Village, we can
34 request a proposal, a regulatory proposal.

35

36 Another thing they can do here is
37 consult with -- you know, if sport hunting is going to
38 be allowed, they should consult with the tribes.
39 Tribal consultation. I think that was mentioned over
40 in Anchorage as well. And then request tribal
41 consultation by Federal Subsistence Board and the
42 Refuge manager. You know, that has to be decided by
43 the Mountain Villagers.

44

45 You know, 20 years ago there was no
46 moose in this area, and then what the Delta people
47 decided was they'd do a five-year moratorium on sport
48 -- I mean, subsistence hunting. So it just closed for
49 five years.

50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: For seven. It was
2 for seven.

3
4 MR. P. BEANS: Whatever it was. Seven
5 years. Did you say seven years?

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, it was
8 actually five. We went to five and then the villages
9 in here volunteered for two more years, so it was a
10 total of seven.

11
12 MR. P. BEANS: And then right now I
13 think they have counted over 3,000 moose just down
14 river from Mountain Village. And then we hunt like
15 everyone else in the Delta. Some are lucky, some are
16 not. And even in this winter hunt there's some people
17 still out hunting. They're still trying to get that.
18 And then what we don't want is compete with sport
19 hunters in this area. Not only here, but also the
20 Kuskokwim and so on.

21
22 And that's my testimony. Quyana.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yep. If you would
25 like to make a proposal, the lady sitting right there
26 behind you, her name is Pippa. She'll be more than
27 happy to help you write a proposal for whatever
28 proposal you would like to make concerning moose.

29
30 MR. STARKEY: Mr. Chairman.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Who's that on the
33 phone?

34
35 MR. STARKEY: Hello, Mr. Chairman.
36 This is Sky Starkey on the phone. I've been listening
37 for a while and I didn't want to interrupt.

38
39 I was wondering if I could beg your
40 indulgence just for a short moment for public
41 testimony.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What was that
44 again? I didn't quite get that, Mr. Starkey.

45
46 MR. ROCZICKA: He wanted to make a
47 statement.

48
49 MR. STARKEY: Excuse me. This is Sky
50 Starkey. And I wonder if I could just make a quick

1 comment to the Council.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You're more than
4 welcome to. Go ahead.

5

6 MR. STARKEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7

8

9 First of all I want to thank the
10 Council for adopting those resolutions on chum bycatch
11 and tribal representation and consultation. Thank you
12 for doing that.

13

14 The other thing is I just wanted to
15 advise the Council and the tribal leaders who might be
16 on the phone or attending to contact me at any point in
17 time and let me know your thoughts for this tribal
18 roundtable discussion that we're going to have in Nome
19 in June during the North Pacific Fishery Management
20 Council meetings. The purpose of that roundtable is to
21 try to start to gather consensus and recommendations
22 from tribal leaders about what direction the tribes
23 need to start moving in Alaska so that they can be more
24 a part of fishery and natural resource decisions.

25

26 For example, one of the ideas that will
27 be discussed is getting a tribal seat on the North
28 Pacific Fishery Management Council. There are tribal
29 seats for the Pacific Management Council for those
30 tribes where those down there actually sit and vote on
31 fishery management issues with the other Council
32 members. So one of the issues that would be explored
33 is seeking that same kind of provision for Alaska
34 tribes.

35

36 So that's it, Mr. Chairman. I just
37 wanted to make that announcement, and invite anyone to
38 contact me. My phone number, email is on that flyer
39 that I hope you all got a copy of, and just drop me a
40 comment.

41

42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
43 Starkey. And we'll take that into consideration.

44

45 We have at this time a letter to the
46 RAC. It just states to the RAC, and I think it would
47 be a good time to read it into the record, because
48 we're talking about moose.

49

50 This note is from Mathew J. Waskey, Sr.

1 in Mountain Village. He's got his home address and
2 phone number here. It's addressed to the RAC. It
3 doesn't state what RAC, but it just simply says to the
4 RAC.

5
6 Moose has been our staple diet and will
7 continue to be today, tomorrow, into the next
8 generation, to generations to come. When we catch our
9 moose, none of the animal goes to waste. The meat we
10 eat. Skin is used for clothing. The antlers are made
11 into various tools. That is how it should be here, and
12 everywhere around us.

13
14 The sports hunters should not be
15 allowed to hunt aided by airplanes guides if they hunt
16 in this region, Unit 18. They first should register
17 with a private organization and be taken out by someone
18 from the village with a boat. No camping for sports
19 hunters in all traditional subsistence fishing and
20 hunting areas. That includes all tributaries, streams,
21 lakes and rivers in Unit 18.

22
23 That was from Mathew J. Waskey.

24
25 Since that is read into the record,
26 before we go on, I might forget to make this
27 announcement, so I better do it while I'm still
28 remembering it. There's going to be an Eskimo dance
29 tonight. Open at 6:30 and it starts at 7:00 o'clock
30 here in this community hall. And there will also be
31 another fundraiser at the Head Start Building that we
32 had yesterday. They promised you that it's not going
33 to be spaghetti this time; it's going to be something
34 else. So it would be good to go up there and check to
35 see what that something else is.

36
37 And while I'm on this, I'd like to
38 thank George Pappas for all the fruit that you brought
39 up. We enjoyed everything, and I enjoyed my gavel
40 also.

41
42 And I would also like to acknowledge
43 the son of our late refuge manager who is now working
44 for the Refuge, and I would like to let him know that
45 this Council is in full support of the work that you're
46 doing and the work that you're carrying on that you
47 father's done before. And we wish you all the good
48 luck that you have in the position that you now hold,
49 Spencer. And thank you for coming and being a part of
50 this meeting.

1 We are now down to Item No. -- yes,
2 ma'am.
3
4 MS. ARMSTRONG: If I could, I just
5 wanted to ask Tim Andrew if he could email me
6 electronically those three items that he sent to us, if
7 I could while he was still on the phone.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Tim, are you there?
12
13 MR. T. ANDREW: Yeah, I'm here. Who is
14 this?
15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry, Helen
17 Armstrong. Could you email those to me, please?
18
19 MR. T. ANDREW: Absolutely.
20
21 MS. ARMSTRONG: The two resolutions and
22 the one that Sky Starkey wrote on the tribal council
23 meeting. And if you could sent it to my personal email
24 so I could get it here. It's
25 helenarmstrong54@gmail.com. That would be great.
26
27 MR. T. ANDREW: @gmail?
28
29 MS. ARMSTRONG: gmail, yep.
30
31 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay.
32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thanks so much, Tim.
34
35 MR. T. ANDREW: And is that -- are they
36 all underscored? I mean.....
37
38 MS. ARMSTRONG: All one word. All
39 lower case.
40
41 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. It's
42 helenarmstrong, one word.
43
44 MS. ARMSTRONG: Yep. And then 54 after
45 the helenarmstrong.
46
47 MR. T. ANDREW: Okay. Shall do.
48
49 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.
50

1 MR. T. ANDREW: And actually those
2 resolutions and the invitation were written by Sky, but
3 I can get them to you.

4
5 MS. ARMSTRONG: Well, ask Sky to send
6 them to me then. Is he still on?

7
8 MR. T. ANDREW: He may still be
9 listening.

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thanks.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Continue on with
14 our agenda. Who's pointing to what?

15
16 MR. ROCZICKA: I wanted to talk to
17 these guys. These guys that just gave their testimony.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do what?

20
21 MR. ROCZICKA: I wanted to speak to
22 their testimonies.

23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, okay. Go
25 ahead, Greg.

26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Thanks, Mr. Chair.

28
29 For Paul's testimony and the letter
30 that you just read into the record, I wanted to mention
31 to you guys, the two of you, putting these proposals
32 together, we had the same kind of situation going on in
33 the Middle Kuskokwim on the Holitna River back when
34 that population was very healthy. And what was done
35 there, and you might want to consider looking at here,
36 is having a no fly zone along the river corridor so
37 that you wouldn't have that conflict going on between
38 the local boat users and the fly-in hunters.

39
40 I do know that for the commercial
41 guided people the Refuge really severely limits that.
42 They only allow like I think it's two or four people
43 altogether that are allowed on for here, and they are
44 under specific direction that they are not to land.
45 They cannot -- they're pointed out on a map where they
46 can land their planes. They're not supposed to be on
47 the main river at all, or any place where they would be
48 -- meet up with a boat hunter.

49
50 And so you can put a proposal together

1 like that, and do it in for the State as well, because
2 there are corporation grounds, and that is also coming
3 up. The deadline for that's going to be at the end of
4 April this year, and the regulatory meeting I believe
5 is in Barrow this year. That will take place this
6 fall, this coming November. So your timing's good on
7 that. And then get one in on the Federal side as well.
8

9 And what Mathew mentioned in his letter
10 there about having people who wish to come in and hunt
11 on the traditional hunting grounds to register with the
12 tribes or with the local villages, you could set that
13 up. And it's been thought about by a couple folks
14 before, but nobody's ever really moved on it, is
15 actually you get yourself a six-pack license or
16 something of that nature, and you could be charging
17 these guys 10,000 a crack to go in there and shoot, and
18 you can put every condition in the book. If they're
19 coming onto your tribal land, your corporation lands,
20 private lands, you can tell them that you've got to pay
21 10,000 bucks to pull that trigger, and you can only
22 take 50 pounds of meat. The rest goes to our old folks
23 here in town. And they'll be happy to do it. I mean,
24 there's half a million to a million dollars a year for
25 each village out here with the population that you have
26 that you could take a look at. And they'd certainly
27 have to register with your council and your village.
28

29 MR. P. BEANS: Yeah. Thank you, Greg.
30 I met a guy from the Middle Yukon. You know, there was
31 a lot of sport hunting up there, too. You know,
32 sometime back. And then I asked him, I seen him about
33 a month ago over in Anchorage I guess Lester knows
34 him, too. That's Stanley Ned. I asked him about the
35 moose up in that Koyukuk area, and he said, you know,
36 there were sport hunter there, but they're gone along
37 with that moose, too, and they're going to another
38 area. And then I told him there's quite a bit of moose
39 and we're starting to have a problem with sport hunters
40 down here, too. So they took that big moose with them.
41 They're gone up there. Well, they were up in the
42 Middle Kuskokwim, too, in Paimiut, and now they're
43 working on -- they're going to start working on the
44 Lower Yukon too.
45

46 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah.

47
48 MR. P. BEANS: Quyana.

49
50 MR. H. WILDE: Lester.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Harry.
2
3 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. Mr. Chairman.
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Turn on your mic.
6
7 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman. There was
8 no moose around this area and down below us. We start
9 Councils, these villages all the way down. There was
10 no moose. Without no help from Federal or State, we
11 Councils, mayors get together and start to open up the
12 -- tried to open up to increase the moose. Yeah,
13 increase. People they go out there and hunt. They get
14 more food for their families in the winter time.
15
16 Now, today, I hear that people coming
17 into Mountain Village, they all them come drop off.
18 Drop off. They hunt, one of the people, sport hunter,
19 he said, we are out here to hunt with the big horn, big
20 moose, that's what we're hunting. Big moose is the most
21 increasing. We don't hunt the big moose out here,
22 because we are looking at those big moose giving us
23 more moose in our area. That's why we don't hunt big
24 moose. We have to do our best to take care of our
25 people down here. That's what we done.
26
27 I used to be back and forth fish,
28 collecting in the Yukon when I was young. I never seen
29 no moose, nothing. Now, after we get together and talk
30 on moose hunting.
31
32 There's places in the Lower Yukon where
33 the people go out hunting subsistence and all that, we
34 fish. People come around to them. Well, I don't know
35 who brought them over here, but we call them drop off.
36
37 I'm not supporting no drop off or no
38 hunting moose in our own people subsistence area,
39 because all these people from Scammon Bay, Hooper Bay,
40 all together, they worked to try to increase the moose.
41 Now it's increased. We work hard. We didn't have no
42 help from Federal and State, but we do our best, and
43 now we have moose. You look at all over, they're
44 spreading all over.
45
46 Give our people to have something to
47 eat. It's very important.
48
49 Thank you.
50

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Harry.
2 Just for the record, those large moose, we don't hunt
3 those, and they're our breeding stock. The large moose
4 are what is used along this area for breeding, and
5 that's the reason why we usually hunt the smaller
6 animals, they're more tender anyway and they taste like
7 moose anyway.

8
9 (Laughter)

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: My train of thought
12 just went by.

13
14 We're going to have to continue with
15 our agenda. One more statement on moose. Go ahead.

16
17 MR. UNOK: Yeah.

18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I can't think any
20 more.

21
22 (Laughter)

23
24 MR. UNOK: Are we going to talk about
25 this moose harvest later?

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.

28
29 MR. UNOK: No, not today?

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Not today. We'll
32 see what time is. If you want to go ahead and make a
33 statement on this, go ahead while we're on the subject.

34
35 MR. UNOK: Okay. My statement on
36 moose, we could put regulations working with the sports
37 hunters with subsistence users. Put wording in there
38 somehow. When the moose is declining, sports hunters
39 can't come back in, but when they come back up they can
40 come in.

41
42 And what Mr. -- what's name? The guy
43 with the hat.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Walters.

46
47 MR. UNOK: Who?

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Walters.

50

1 MR. UNOK: Oh, Mr. Walters said
2 yesterday when animals are overpopulated, he said they
3 go up and all of a sudden they fall fast when the
4 population is too much. That means they're eating too
5 much of their food. And I suggesting maybe falltime we
6 could catch one cow for subsistence users only. When
7 moose is going down, they could go back to one bull per
8 family.

9
10 I don't know. I'm just suggesting
11 that. Would that work?

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you for
14 leading me right into the fact this is the opportunity
15 that this Council will have at this meeting to draft up
16 proposals for game, and we should do it at this
17 meeting, because if we don't draft up any proposals any
18 concerns that you have concerning moose, we're going to
19 have to wait two years for the cycle in order to draft
20 them. So if somebody would like to make, draft a
21 proposal to that effect, we need to get that done today
22 before this meeting. So while we're continuing with
23 the rest of our agenda, you might want to think about
24 that and come up -- if you feel that some proposal
25 should be created at this meeting, then we'll call for
26 that just prior to the end of the meeting.

27
28 But right now we are down to our
29 reports, back to our reports. Is there anyone here
30 from the Yukon River Drainage Fishermen's Association.

31
32 (No comments)

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No one's from
35 there. Do we have Yukon Inter-Tribal Watershed
36 Council.

37
38 (No comments)

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No one from there.
41 How about the tribal representatives. Orutsararmuit
42 Native Council, Natural Resources. Mr. Orutsararmuit,
43 you got a report.

44
45 MR. ROCZICKA: Nothing in writing. I
46 guess I could give a brief overview of where we're at.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, go ahead, if
49 you must, if that's it. It's your report, your
50 opportunity.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Just right off the top
2 of my head I guess. First I guess one thing I'd
3 mention is that from a statement that was made earlier
4 that we have access to more resources and so forth of
5 being in Bethel, and actually we don't have any more
6 access to anything more than anyone else. If you've
7 got a telephone and you've got a computer with internet
8 access, you've got access to what we have there.

9
10 Perhaps you've got a guy that never graduated high
11 school and doesn't have a college degree of any kind
12 running the program, but when I got to be around 40
13 years old I started going to meetings and got an
14 education there. Learned it since and learned that
15 language. A new one.

16
17 Anyway, we do have -- as I've mentioned
18 in the past, we do run several programs, mainly dealing
19 with fisheries now, and conducting projects through
20 contract with both State and Federal programs that used
21 to bring in people from out of the region, and we've
22 got our own people doing those now. Last year we
23 wrapped up a cooperative project with the genetics lab
24 on coho salmon, gathering the fin clips and the studies
25 to get that done. That was with the U.S. Fish and
26 Wildlife Service genetics lab out of Anchorage.

27
28 We continue with our in-season harvest
29 monitoring as well as doing collection of the ASL data.
30 And all that information is brought on a weekly basis
31 to the Kuskokwim Working Group, and they use that for
32 in-season management decisions.

33
34 The post-season project that again used
35 to be imported we now run for Bethel. And last year
36 actually a really great crew working out there. The
37 person we have, a young intern, that we've got in the
38 fisheries program wants to pursue a degree in the field
39 along with just another lucky find I guess, but these
40 guys got the survey and most complete survey that's
41 ever been done for that household. And we got I think
42 it's roughly 2600 in the town of Bethel. Anyway, they
43 did a great job.

44
45 And for the coming year we look to
46 continue those. We do have authorized funding for
47 continuation of both the post-season and the in-season
48 harvest monitoring section out through the next three
49 years. And, of course, it all depends on if the
50 funding does come through from the Congressional level

1 on that authorization.

2

3 We do have proposals in to continue our
4 Partners biologist program. We won't know the answer
5 for that. Actually now we just heard -- usually they
6 tell us by the end of April. Now we won't hear until I
7 think it's August or September is just the most recent
8 word that came down on that.

9

10 We have an additional project that I
11 put together and put it in as a tribal wildlife grant,
12 which is a national program and pretty heavy
13 competition, but they do try to break it out so that
14 different regions throughout the country all get a
15 piece of the pie. And that is to do a net selectivity
16 study on the Kuskokwim over the next three to four
17 years, reflecting what's been brought up in the working
18 group before that a lot of people are actually looking
19 to move to smaller mesh nets because they catch more
20 fish using less gas and less time out there to do it.
21 And, of course, what people can tell you in 10 minutes
22 we've got to spend three or four years of putting
23 papers together to get people to actually believe it
24 when it comes to action.

25

26 But the main purpose behind this is to
27 get the word out and make it more of a public knowledge
28 type of thing so that we don't end up having
29 regulations imposed on the Kuskokwim as has happened on
30 the Yukon and maintain the Kuskokwim as the last river
31 in the whole State of Alaska that doesn't have
32 substantial subsistence restrictions. That's kind of
33 the ulterior motive or goal for this program.

34

35 And that's pretty much it for the
36 fisheries natural resource side of things.

37

38 We also run an environmental program
39 that's fairly comprehensive. We do an agricultural
40 program.

41

42 Oh, I should mention, and I always
43 forget, but I do want to always give a large thanks to
44 the Emmonak Tribal Council and recognize them as well
45 as Grant Aviation. For the last several years now
46 since the moose population has been larger on the
47 Yukon, we have through a partnership with Emmo Tribal
48 Council, they designate young folks to go out and catch
49 moose for us, or designate a hunter within their
50 village, and Grant Aviation flies the meat back for

1 free and it's used for our Senior Center. It's a very
2 great help to our budget, and so I really wanted to
3 make that thank you as well from ONC.

4
5 Doi.

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any questions for
8 Mr. Roczicka.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being now, is
13 there anyone here from the Kuskokwim Native
14 Association. Mr. Robert Aloysius, you got a report?

15
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: I don't have a report
17 but I just have some comments I'd like here.

18
19 KNA is very fortunate in that it has
20 several joint programs with the Federal and the State
21 agencies. We have monitoring programs on six rivers --
22 I mean, four rivers, I'm sorry. Four rivers. We have
23 a sonar in Aniak River, a weir in George River, a weir
24 in Tuluksak River, and a weir up in the Takotna.

25
26 KNA is very active. They have an in-
27 service program for high schools and they also have an
28 in-service program for college students who actually go
29 out there and partake in the programs on the weirs and
30 the sonar. And they also have a very active elementary
31 and high school program on fisheries, and natural
32 resources with the Kuspuk School District. And a lot
33 of that money comes from the State and OM -- what are
34 they called? OMS?

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: OSM.

37
38 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah, OSM. Yeah. I'm
39 tired.

40
41 Anyway, they're really active. And
42 they have a really dedicated staff of young people.
43 And I'm involved with them, because I'm in the very
44 western edge of Unit 19, and also the very, western
45 edge of the Kuskokwim Native Association, and also the
46 very, very western end of the Central Kuskokwim
47 Advisory Committee.

48
49 And I'm really proud of KNA. They go
50 out and they really look for money so that their young

1 people can be involved. It is amazing to see, you
2 know, elementary learning about fish and game, and the
3 high school students being out there taking part in the
4 activities. And our own -- not only college students
5 from our area, but, you know, we bring in college
6 students from other areas to be role models for our
7 young people. So it's very important and it has a lot
8 of good benefits and puts our young people work, gives
9 them an opportunity to look at goals and careers, and
10 keep them out of mischief. And I really enjoy it.

11

12 Quyana.

13

14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Bob.
15 Any questions for Bob.

16

17 (No comments)

18

19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There being none,
20 we are down to -- is there any representative from the
21 municipal government that would like to have any
22 concerns. Yes, ma'am. Now is your time.

23

24 MS. ANDREWS: Hi. Good afternoon. My
25 name is Anita Andrews. I'm the city manager for the
26 City of Mountain Village.

27

28 I just want to take this time to thank
29 you for coming to Mountain Village and having you
30 meeting here and giving our residents and our tribal
31 members an opportunity to voice their concerns on our
32 subsistence issues.

33

34 I'm a little nervous right now, I
35 didn't expect to say anything, but I wanted to thank
36 you for coming here and giving us time to -- giving
37 your time to listen to us here in Mountain Village.

38

39 One of the things that I wanted to
40 mention, and I've been hearing quite a bit of this past
41 year is regarding our bycatch fishing. Mr. Harry Wilde
42 has mentioned it quite a few times. And I hope that
43 our Federal and State agencies hear him out. I was
44 raised to believe that when our elders speak and make a
45 request, that they should only do it one time. And so
46 it's an issue that Mr. Harry Wilde has brought up more
47 than once, and I hope that the agencies from the
48 Federal and State governments listen to him, because I
49 was raised to believe that our elders should be treated
50 with respect. And for me to hear him have to repeat

1 himself regarding this issue, not only him, but our
2 other elders throughout the State bring up their
3 concerns regarding the bycatch, it really offends me.
4 So the representatives from the State and from the, you
5 know, Federal, I hope that they take his words and our
6 other elders in the State, you know, take their words
7 and listen, and take action for their benefit, because
8 they're doing it only because they have concern for
9 their children and grandchildren and the future
10 residents and tribal members.

11
12 So with that being said, I just wanted
13 to thank you, thank you for coming, and I appreciate
14 your time here.

15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Just a minute. On
17 behalf of the Council, I'd like to thank you and the
18 city council and the people that have welcomed us here,
19 and also for all the help that you've given us. I'm
20 sure that each one of the Council members will agree
21 that this is probably one of the first villages that
22 supplied taxi cab service for our members.

23
24 (Laughter)

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And some of our
27 members, you know, have problems with their appendages,
28 like I do, and it's really appreciated. And we'd like
29 to thank the City of Mountain Village and you,
30 especially, for all the help that you've given us.
31 Thank you very much.

32
33 MS. ANDREWS: Okay. You're welcome.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to
36 ANCSA village corporations. Anyone from the village
37 corporation who would like to say anything. Were you
38 raising your hand back there? No? Okay.

39
40 (No comments)

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are down to
43 Bering Sea Fisheries Association. Is somebody here
44 present.

45
46 (No comments)

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's no one
49 here. We are down to Item 18.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes. Mr. Roczicka,
4 go ahead.
5
6 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Before we leave
7 this section here, well, actually it -- I don't know,
8 but before leave here, we need to finalize on the
9 annual report to the Secretary.
10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. We need to
12 do that, and we also need to, before we have our
13 closing comments, we need to make sure if there are any
14 suggestions on a proposal concerning the harvest of
15 wildlife. Has anybody on the Council thought of any
16 proposals that they need to have written.
17
18 (No comments)
19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's go
21 down to the -- I forgot we had that, I'm sorry, Greg.
22 Go ahead with that.
23
24 MR. ROCZICKA: Pass it out.
25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, passed out.
27
28 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Qu yana, Mr.
29 Chairman. And again I apologize. I initially had
30 this, and I did this off the top of my head last night,
31 but I had it incorporated into the whole form that Alex
32 had put out.
33
34 I don't know if you would like me to
35 just read it into the record as far as.....
36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, it would be
38 good if you did. Go ahead.
39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: So what I would have
41 from the draft that Alex put out yesterday, this is
42 what I would have as the issue No. 1, and then what he
43 currently has is issue 1 would be crossed out down as
44 far as to where he mentions the predator management,
45 and then his issue 2 would be to speak specifically to
46 the Mulchatna situation and requesting that the
47 agencies take action on that. Strike the item B, it
48 would become redundant in there, and then have the
49 issue 2 spoken to through the recommendation as he had
50 it, as written. And issue 2, of course, would become

1 issue 3 and so forth.

2

3

4 And actually before I do go any
5 further, because of a vote that was taken yesterday, I
6 am going to have to ask -- get a reconsideration vote
7 occur, because the word rural occurs in what I'm about
8 to present. And the vote yesterday said that the word
9 rural would be replaced with remote, and as we heard
10 today that is an absolute ruling by the court that has
11 very strong connotations.

12

13 And an additional recommendation I'm
14 going to have is that this portion of our annual report
15 be forwarded to the remaining Regional Councils,
16 requesting their consideration for inclusion in their
17 annual reports as well. And if we have the word rural
18 replaced with remote, it's going to be -- they're going
19 to feel like we're trying to exclude them.

20

21 But the main point is that I can't call
22 for a vote of reconsideration on that, because I was
23 not on the prevailing side, so I would have to request
24 one of the individuals who were to make that motion so
25 that we can clear the record.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

28

29 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, what if a
30 person do what Mr. Roczicka is requesting, that we
31 bring the motion back up or do we make another motion?
32 Which is the proper procedure to call for a
33 reconsideration of a vote on a motion that was passed?

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The prevailing
36 side.....

37

38 MR. ROCZICKA: Only someone on the
39 prevailing side can call for a reconsideration. I
40 don't know if I could make a motion to rescind it, but
41 I'd just call for a reconsideration would be the -- but
42 I cannot make the motion to do so.

43

44 MR. ALOYSIUS: Have a motion to
45 reconsider the previous vote on a motion that was
46 passed.

47

48 MR. ROCZICKA: That's correct, and I
49 cannot do that, because I was on the losing side of the
50 vote. Only someone who was on the prevailing side can
51 raise a motion for reconsideration on a prior vote in

1 the same meeting.

2

3 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Motion. Mr.
4 Chairman.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I know, we're all
7 getting a little tired. Go ahead.

8

9 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, I move
10 that we reconsider the vote regarding the removal of
11 the word rural and replacing it with remote in a
12 previous motion that was.....

13

14 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I have to
15 bite my tongue. I was just informed by the recorder
16 that that was requested to be reviewed, that actual
17 vote, and a vote was recorded wrong, and actually I am
18 on the prevailing side and the word rural was retained.
19 The recorder had specifically looked into that. Maybe
20 for the record, could you?

21

22 REPORTER: What?

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: I just repeated what you
25 said, that the vote on the remote versus rural, would
26 you please clarify that for us?

27

28 REPORTER: All right. Okay. On your
29 vote yesterday when you voted on the rural and the
30 remote. When John took the vote, one of the votes was
31 recorded wrong. And I was asked to relisten to it last
32 night, which I did. And so it actually doesn't change
33 the word to remote, it would still retain rural. The
34 vote was recorded wrong yesterday by your Secretary.

35

36 MR. ALOYSIUS: So actually the
37 Council.....

38

39 REPORTER: So it was defeated.

40

41 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So in the
42 record.....

43

44 REPORTER: Yeah, it did not pass. It
45 was defeated. So you said it passed, but it didn't
46 pass, because it was written down wrong.

47

48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Recorded wrong.
49 Okay. So there's no need to.....

50

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: So all that.....
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Hold on, sir.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS:rigamole.....
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: To retract a vote.
8
9 MR. ALOYSIUS:was for nothing.
10
11 REPORTER: Right.
12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Mr.
16 Roczicka.
17
18 MR. ROCZICKA: So, yeah, what I had to
19 get at the issue of management, I'll just go ahead and
20 read it into the record, is our Issue 1 that would be
21 inserted into the draft that was given to us.
22
23 Issue 1. The actual management of
24 wildlife populations on public lands to provide for
25 subsistence needs continues to contradict Presidential
26 and Secretarial declarations as well as the spirit,
27 intent, promise and primary purpose of Title VIII of
28 ANILCA. This Council and others have raised this issue
29 on several occasions in the past, but have continued to
30 receive ambiguous response, which can well be perceived
31 as stonewalling attempts at avoiding any productive
32 progress in this matter. Continuing the current status
33 of managing only the human harvest and simply
34 monitoring rather than managing for healthy wildlife
35 populations, which includes predator management, and to
36 provide for adequate subsistence needs, utterly
37 circumvents the spirit, intent and purpose of Title
38 VIII of ANILCA.
39
40 We are consistently assured that
41 deference to the Regional Councils is given through the
42 Federal Subsistence Board process, provided that the
43 three criteria of, No. 1, application of sound
44 management principles; (2) are supported by substantial
45 information; and (3) are not detrimental to providing
46 for subsistence harvest needs, are met. Although
47 resource management, along with providing for
48 subsistence uses, is included under the Council/Board
49 and Title VIII purview, it appears that the management
50 agencies, and especially the U.S. Fish and Wildlife

1 Service, through conflicting administrative
2 interpretation -- or, I'm sorry, administrative
3 interference based on presumptive ideological choice
4 instead of biological science, somehow feel that they
5 are either exempt from this deference standard, or have
6 latitude to opt for priority consideration and
7 deference to abstract or other, and I put in quotes,
8 use interests.

9
10 We are informed that this matter is a
11 subject of conflicting legislation, yet in researching
12 the referenced standards, and then the National
13 Environmental Policy Act and bio-diversity concerns are
14 the two main ones, we find none with the priority
15 standing specifically accorded to providing for
16 subsistence uses in rural Alaska, nor anywhere that it
17 could not be actively accommodated in favor of
18 providing for subsistence uses and needs. Instead,
19 management policy is interpreted with standards of the
20 48 contiguous states that have little in common, either
21 biologically, socially or economically with rural
22 Alaska subsistence practices. And this was most
23 blatantly exhibited by the Unimak caribou decision last
24 summer, wherein all the relevant deference criteria
25 information was fully in place and had been for some
26 years, yet the delays were continued, and subsistence
27 users were essentially told that they could wait an
28 untold number of additional years before their
29 subsistence uses could recur, if ever.

30
31 We request the Secretary clearly state
32 the following to his management leadership regarding
33 this matter by: No. 1, issuing a management directive
34 that refuges, reserves and any other similar areas
35 established with the United States government's promise
36 to Alaska's tribal governments, Subsistence Councils
37 and others, of the subsistence priority, must be
38 accountable and subject to the due deference criteria
39 cited within Title VIII of ANILCA; and, No. 2, that in
40 any areas where a Federal Tier II situation or an area
41 closure exists and where habitat is not a limiting
42 factor, that an immediate plan be developed and
43 implemented to expedite recovery and maintenance of a
44 population healthy enough to provide for the adequate
45 subsistence harvest needs, and incorporate this
46 standard into all future Tier II or potential closure
47 situations; and, No. 3, stating specifically to us
48 where, or indeed if, conflicting legislation actually
49 exists to preempt more appropriate and timely response
50 and action in the future to protect subsistence uses,

1 so that Council members may bring them to the people we
2 were appointed to represent, that they may be
3 corrected.

4

5 And, Mr. Chairman, I wrote that as I
6 did, and what I mentioned earlier is that I would like
7 to also request, direct, whatever would be the
8 appropriate thing, that this section of our annual
9 report be forwarded to the other Subsistence Councils
10 that have not yet met. And I believe all except the
11 Seward Peninsula are still pending, that they consider
12 including this in their annual report. So I've written
13 it.

14

15 And eight out of those Regional
16 Councils have already, some more aggressively than
17 others, but have stated this, and the Seward Peninsula
18 was one of them, too, stated this as one of their major
19 concerns. And the Kodiak region now with what happened
20 to them in Unimak, makes it 9 out of 10 of the Regional
21 Councils.

22

23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

24

25 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
26 Mr. Roczicka, the Seward Peninsula finalized their 2010
27 annual report last week. It has been finalized. So
28 maybe if you want to go ahead and suggest this to be
29 incorporated in their next year's -- or rather this
30 year's annual report, I could bring that forward to
31 them.

32

33 MR. ROCZICKA: What I'm asking here is
34 that this be brought to the other Regional Councils who
35 have yet to meet. I mean, it would be nice if we could
36 get all 10 of us, but you've got to -- I guess we're
37 fortunate this time that we're meeting far enough ahead
38 that we're not halfway through the mix and half of them
39 have already met, but certainly I believe Eastern or
40 Western is meeting next week. Bristol Bay is yet to
41 go. And so there is time to do that. And we would
42 need to make these corrections back there and get it
43 electronically so we can get it on to the other
44 coordinators once we return to our offices.

45

46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

47

48 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.
49 Roczicka. That brings a question on Issue No. 1 of
50 your 2010 annual report. Would the recommendation

1 under Issue No. 1 change as well?

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: The recommendation is
4 essentially the last paragraph. It's stated as a
5 request, but a request/recommendation are the same
6 things. It would not change what you have in as your
7 Issue No. 2, and the recommendation is there. What it
8 is going to change is that this kind of becomes
9 redundant, because it's covered under what I have as
10 the Issue 1 now. And then the Issue 2 is speaking
11 directly to the Mulchatna Caribou, would become our
12 Issue No. 2 with the recommendation following.

13

14 MR. NICK: Okay. Mr. Chair. When we
15 go back to Bethel we could work on this together. Mr.
16 Roczicka and I.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any objections by
19 the Council.

20

21 MR. ALOYSIUS: Would you please remind
22 people to be quiet?

23

24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah. Could we
25 request that -- we're trying to deal with some issues
26 here. Could we request that if you have something to
27 say to us, we'll listen, but give us the same courtesy
28 we gave you. We listened to you when you wanted to
29 speak. We're trying to get our business done here.
30 Could you hold on your conversation until we're done.
31 Thank you very much.

32

33 Go ahead, Mr. Andrew.

34

35 MR. N. ANDREW: Who, me?

36

37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there any
38 objections to the addition that was put into the letter
39 by the Council members.

40

41 MR. UNOK: I have a question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: A question. Go
44 ahead and ask.

45

46 MR. UNOK: I have a question to Mr.
47 Secretary there. On this caribou -- on subsistence
48 practices, how did that got on there and we have
49 problem with the king salmon in the Yukon. Why wasn't
50 it added on.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I don't even know
2 what he asked you. Could you try it again.
3
4 MR. ROCZICKA: That would be a separate
5 issue. I wouldn't be included in this issue. If you
6 wanted to have it in the report, it would go in as a
7 totally separate issue. It wouldn't be involved in
8 this one.
9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay?
11
12 MR. UNOK: Yes.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any objections to
15 the addition of this by the Council.
16
17 MR. UNOK: We've got to make a motion.
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: If the Council
20 feels that this is what you need in that letter, yes,
21 you can make a Council to that effect -- a motion to
22 that effect if you want.
23
24 MR. UNOK: I move that correction, is
25 that right?
26
27 MR. ROCZICKA: The addition.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The addition.
30
31 MR. UNOK: What's addition.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Which letter was
34 this now. This letter, the .402 letter. What was this
35 letter for again.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: This is to replace the
38 Issue I in our annual report.
39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Issue 1.
41 The motion is to include this into our annual report.
42
43 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, to replace the
44 Issue 1.
45
46 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman, there's no
47 need for a motion, because you asked if there was any
48 objections, and there was none.
49
50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. All right.

1 I'm sorry. I stand corrected. So that is what you're
2 going to be working on to complete and you and Mr. Greg
3 Roczicka. We'll get back in line yet. It just takes
4 us time to reorganize here.

5
6 Any other discussions that we went over
7 before we get into confirm our all 2010 Council meeting
8 date.

9
10 (No comments)

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Alex Nick.

13
14 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15
16 Last meeting you chose September 29 and
17 30 for your fall 2011 meeting and the location was to
18 be announced. What you need to do is you need to
19 confirm those dates for your next -- rather this fall's
20 meeting, and then you need to also choose the location.

21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any suggestions.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. I object
25 to 29 and 30, because that's the tail end of our moose
26 hunting season up in 19.

27
28 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Was that firm?
29 That wasn't firm, the 29th and 30 date, was that firm?

30
31 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Those were the
32 dates the Council chose for fall 2011 meeting. This is
33 your opportunity whether to confirm that date or to
34 change the date.

35
36 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: It's up to the
37 Council if you feel that you want to change that date,
38 then fine. If not, then we'll just go ahead and
39 confirm those dates.

40
41 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.

42
43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

44
45 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we have our
46 fall meeting of 2011 on October 6 and 7.

47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Are those open? 6
49 and 7 of October.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: That would be
2 conflicting with AVCP convention.
3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That would be
5 conflicting with the AVCP convention.
6
7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair. I
8 was a little too fast. And those two dates are --
9 which ones, excuse me?
10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: He said 6 and 7.
12
13 MR. NICK: Okay. 6 and 7, fall 2011,
14 those were the dates that the.....
15
16 MS. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, Mr.
17 Chair. The problem is that would put three meetings in
18 that week, and it's very difficult for us to manage
19 three meetings, mostly because we -- just for Staff,
20 trying to get Staff coverage and court reporter
21 coverage. So we have a goal of only having two
22 meetings in a week. We just can't handle three.
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What dates are you
25 talking about.
26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: He wanted to change it
28 to October 6th and 7th. If you look at Page 82 of your
29 book, there's a calendar, and you can see in that
30 calendar what meetings have already been selected and
31 which ones have two in a week.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: What is the desire
34 of the Council. Mr. Oney.
35
36 MR. ONEY: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
37 Chairman. I think we should keep the dates as 29, 30.
38 We did that last fall and there was no problem with
39 that. So I recommend that we keep the dates September
40 29 and 30.
41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Recommended to keep
43 those dates on the 29th and 30th of September.
44
45 MR. UNOK: Second.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Oney, did you
48 make a motion to that effect.
49
50 MR. ONEY: If that's the case, then I

1 move. I mean, we have family members that can go out
2 and moose hunt on those two last days, you know, two
3 last days of the moose season. So I recommend we keep
4 those dates, September 29, 30. I move.

5
6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made.

7
8 MR. UNOK: Second.

9
10 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded. Any
11 further discussion. Robert. No?

12
13 MR. ALOYSIUS: It's nine to one.

14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All in favor of the
16 motion to hold our next meeting on the 29th and 30th of
17 September signify by saying aye.

18
19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed by the
22 same sign.

23
24 (No opposing votes)

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
27 Where are we going to meet.

28
29 MR. UNOK: Bethel.

30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Bethel.

32
33 MR. ALOYSIUS: No. No.

34
35 MR. ROCZICKA: How about Quinhagak.

36
37 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: There's either --
38 we need to meet. Is the rule still in place where we
39 must meet in hubs.

40
41 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, members of the
42 Council. The CCR requirement is still in place and it
43 will be in place. What it means is that when we work
44 with potential vendors like for paying for your lodging
45 or meeting place like this, the organizations, tribal
46 council, Native corporation or city government in a
47 village has to be registered in CCR, Central
48 Contractors Registration I believe. And if they don't
49 have it, then we won't be able to do business with
50 them.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do you have a list
2 of the villages that qualify.

3
4 MR. NICK: It's fairly easy to look up
5 the villages. But there's one thing that based on my
6 personal experience trying to work with a couple of
7 villages in the past, I think what I'm trying to say is
8 some do try to meet the requirement by doing their
9 part, registering in CCR, and some try, but have
10 difficulty registering in CCR.

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead, Helen.

13
14 MS. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
15 I just want to add this is a national requirement.
16 It's not something that Office of Subsistence
17 Management does. If we had our way, we wouldn't,
18 because it is a nightmare for us in Alaska to get.
19 It's not just communities. It's hotels. You know, if
20 we go to some communities, and we have to find housing,
21 and it could be a hotel, getting them to register.

22
23 But it's not that difficult a process
24 to register, so even if a community might not be on it,
25 you know, we can have our people call and say, hey,
26 would you like to have this meeting there? Can you
27 register? And our Staff works very hard to walk them
28 through the registration over the phone. I think it
29 takes about a half an hour, maybe a little longer. So
30 for those who are interested in having us come, then
31 they'll usually go ahead and register.

32
33 So to say if they're registered or not,
34 you know, I think it's -- we're willing to work with
35 communities to try to have those meetings there, if
36 that's the wish of the Council and the OSM supports it.

37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

39
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair.

41
42 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Greg.

43
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Helen, I
45 don't know if you'd be able to answer it. One of the
46 reason's Quinhagak came to mind is because they've got
47 the new fish plant down there, and, of course,
48 Platinum's coming on line as well. And I wondered if
49 it would perceived as a conflict or some sort of
50 impropriety if perhaps coastal villages offered to host

1 a meeting, or something of that nature. Would we be
2 wading into gray legal waters there, possibly taking
3 some of a gratuity for government service, you know,
4 getting any words along those lines that you're aware
5 of?

6
7 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't believe so. I
8 would just suggest having a back-up of Bethel in case
9 we can't get them to registered.

10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah.

12
13 MS. ARMSTRONG: Or, you know, with
14 decreasing budgets, it also becomes harder for us to
15 have meetings in communities. And also have asked if
16 there's a particular issue, so there's a reason why you
17 want to have a meeting in a community, that would be
18 good to also present.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Any preferences by
21 the Council members.

22
23 MR. UNOK: Question.

24
25 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry, go
26 ahead.

27
28 MR. UNOK: It's not a question. It's a
29 suggestion to the Staff, if they can have some kind of
30 paper showing us, what do you call that before you go
31 to the village? I'm getting tired, too.

32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Invitation?

34
35 MR. UNOK: I had it in my head.
36 Regulations -- requirements. Yeah, requirements to go
37 into that village, can we have if we could, the Board
38 can have.....

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We're not a board.
41 We're a Council.

42
43 MR. UNOK: Oh, the Council, excuse me.
44 I'm getting tired like everybody else. Can we request
45 to see that on our table so we'll understand what's the
46 requirements to have meetings in other villages or
47 rural villages or cities.

48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

50

1 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.
2 Unok. OSM explained to the Councils, Regional Advisory
3 Councils a couple of years ago that we will try to meet
4 in hub villages for the reasons that, you know, we're
5 discussing right now. But if you decide, if the
6 Council decides to meet in a non-hub community, then we
7 would have to provide a very strong justification of
8 why we want to have that meeting in that non-hub
9 community.

10
11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You know, we tried
12 to have our meetings one on the Yukon, one on the
13 Kuskokwim, and one time we had one down on the coast,
14 but has any other village -- I know Kwethluk gets --
15 participates a lot in our meetings, that area, the
16 upper river. We haven't had a meeting in the upper
17 river for a long time. Would it be possible to call
18 one of the upper villages to see if they would be
19 interested in hosting our Council in their village?

20
21 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. I would
22 recommend that you choose a community and/or an
23 alternate, and then I will contact those people. I can
24 work with them.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Sounds like a
27 winner. Any preferences for a Kuskokwim village. Let
28 me -- he had -- go ahead. He said go ahead.

29
30 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
31 One time somebody alternating Yukon and Kuskokwim or
32 Bethel and Yukon or Kuskokwim site, and meet in Bethel,
33 I don't remember, every other year or -- I mean, every
34 other meeting. I think it was that way, but I don't
35 remember exactly how it was, but alternating in the
36 Yukon and Kuskokwim. I think that was the suggestion
37 of one of the RAC members one time for when we decide
38 about meeting place. Even Bethel can be alternate for
39 Kwethluk. If we can't make Kwethluk, we select Bethel
40 for alternate. Bethel has been alternate always
41 anyway.

42
43 Thank you.

44
45 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.

46
47 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yeah. I thought
48 yesterday there was a concern and then a person stated
49 that it was the desire of the Council to meet in Bethel
50 during the winter, because it's easier on everybody.

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, we're talking
2 about the fall meeting.

3
4 MR. ALOYSIUS: I realize that, and so
5 since we're on the Yukon River in the wintertime and
6 the next meeting is in the falltime, you know, it makes
7 sense to me that we have it in the Kuskokwim for the
8 fall. And I recommend Kalskag.

9
10 MR. CHARLES: Again?

11
12 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Kalskag.

13
14 MR. CHARLES: We were there.

15
16 MR. ALOYSIUS: You were in Lower
17 Kalskag, you were not in Kalskag.

18
19 (Laughter)

20
21 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Let's get
22 back to order. There's a recommendation for Kaltag.

23
24 MR. ALOYSIUS: Kalskag.

25
26 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay.

27
28 (Laughter)

29
30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: A recommend for
31 Kalskag.

32
33 MR. ROCZICKA: And Quinhagak.

34
35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And Quinhagak. Or
36 Kwethluk.

37
38 MR. POLTY: Mr. Chair.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Evan.

41
42 MR. POLTY: Yes. You were discussing
43 about the regulation and the -- where the hub, and some
44 of those regulations, that we can.....

45
46 REPORTER: You mic. Turn your mic on.

47
48 MR. POLTY: Excuse me. The regulation
49 indicate that we're to have it it's more accessible.
50 And for fall meeting, I wouldn't mind recommending

1 Aniak.

2

3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: That's out of our
4 region.

5

6 MR. POLTY: Yeah, it's out of your
7 region. Well, if it's out of your region, I recommend
8 what Bob was talking about. Quinhagak, Aniak, Kalskag.

9

10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Kasigluk

11

12 MR. POLTY: Kasigluk. Okay.

13

14 (Laughter)

15

16 MR. POLTY: Kalskag.

17

18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Kaltag.

19

20 (Laughter)

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Let's vote on it.
23 Let's put it into -- pick whatever village you want on
24 the Kuskokwim and we'll leave it up to our coordinator
25 to take care of all the ground work.

26

27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman. The
28 reason I suggested Kaltag, because it has running water
29 and flush toilets and very close proximity to the
30 airport. And the hostesses are very, very good.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is that in the form
33 of a motion, Mr. Aloysius.

34

35 MR. ALOYSIUS: No, it's just a
36 suggestion, because you asked for suggestions, not
37 motions.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, let's get
40 down to making a motion to the place where you would
41 like to meet. Then we could either vote it down or
42 vote it up. We've got to move forward on this as we
43 don't want to be discussing this all afternoon.

44

45 MR. J. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. I move
46 that we have our next summer meeting at Hooper Bay.

47

48 (Laughter)

49

50 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, we were

1 discussing one on the Kuskokwim. I wouldn't mind
2 having a meeting down in Hooper Bay. Don't let them
3 hear you down there.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

8
9 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. What Mr. Charles
10 was remembering is Mr. Manumik's recommendation last
11 meeting. What he recommended was, because there are so
12 many issues brought up to your table, you choose to
13 meet either in Yukon or Kuskokwim, wherever the issues
14 are more. I think that's the way I understood Mr.
15 Manumik when he recommended that meetings should be
16 alternated between the two rivers.

17
18 Mr. Chair.

19
20 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Well, there's been
21 several suggestions. We need to come up with at least
22 one that we could vote on.

23
24 MR. H. WILDE: Meeting at Bethel.

25
26 (Laughter)

27
28 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chairman. There was two
29 suggestions. We never get to winter. Mr. Aloysius'
30 suggestion winter in -- no? Fall? Okay.

31
32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: You know, we went
33 through all the village. Really there's things that we
34 need to make a decision on. Now we can't even come up
35 with a place to meet. That seems a little bit
36 different.

37
38 MR. J. ANDREW: I made a motion.

39
40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Is there a motion
41 on the floor?

42
43 MR. ROCZICKA: It died for lack of a
44 second.

45
46 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, there was, it
47 died for lack of a second. Go ahead, Mr. Andrew.

48
49 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah, nobody seconded
50 it, I'll retract. I'd like to retract it anyway.

1 MR. ALOYSIUS: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Aloysius.
4
5 MR. ALOYSIUS: I move that we have our
6 next meeting in Bethel, Alaska 99559.
7
8 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do I hear a second
9 to the motion.
10
11 MR. CHARLES: Second
12
13 MR. BROWN: Second.
14
15 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by whom?
16 Seconded by Mr. Brown.
17
18 All in favor of the motion signify by
19 saying aye.
20
21 IN UNISON: Aye.
22
23 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed same
24 sign.
25
26 MR. J. ANDREW: Aye.
27
28 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chairman. I make a
29 motion.....
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you take a
32 roll call, Secretary, please, just to make sure we got
33 the numbers right.
34
35 MR. J. ANDREW: What's the motion
36 again.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion was to meet
39 in Bethel for our fall meeting.
40
41 MR. J. ANDREW: William Brown.
42
43 REPORTER: John.
44
45 MR. BROWN: Yes.
46
47 REPORTER: John.
48
49 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Turn on your mic,
50 John. Turn on your mic.

1 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. William Brown.
2
3 MR. BROWN: Yes.
4
5 MR. J. ANDREW: James Charles.
6
7 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
8
9 MR. J. ANDREW: Noah Andrew.
10
11 MR. N. ANDREW: Yeah. I'm trying to be
12 silent here.
13
14 MR. J. ANDREW: Evan Polty.
15
16 MR. POLTY: Yes.
17
18 MR. J. ANDREW: Harry Wilde, Sr.
19
20 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah.
21
22 MR. J. ANDREW: Raymond Oney.
23
24 MR. ONEY: Yes.
25
26 MR. J. ANDREW: Mary Gregory, excused.
27 One vacancy. Lester Wilde, Sr.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes.
30
31 MR. J. ANDREW: Aloysius Unok.
32
33 MR. UNOK: Yes.
34
35 MR. J. ANDREW: Greg Roczicka.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.
38
39 MR. J. ANDREW: Okay. Okay. Robert
40 Aloysius.
41
42 MR. ALOYSIUS: Aye.
43
44 MR. J. ANDREW: Aye. And John Andrew,
45 no. So you've got nine yes, one no, one excused, one
46 vacancy.
47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The next meeting
49 will be held in Bethel for the fall.
50

1 Now, select winter 2012 Council meeting
2 date and location.
3
4 MR. UNOK: Mr. Chairman, excuse me,
5 sir. We didn't select alternate. We did?
6
7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No.
8
9 MR. UNOK: I make motion a motion to
10 have Kalskag for alternate.
11
12 MR. ALOYSIUS: second.
13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's on the
15 floor to have Kalskag as the alternate.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do I hear a second
20 to the motion.
21
22 MR. ALOYSIUS: I already seconded it.
23
24 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Oh, you did second
25 it?
26
27 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes.
28
29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I'm sorry. All in
30 favor signify by saying aye.
31
32 IN UNISON: Aye.
33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
35
36 (No opposing votes)
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
39
40 Now we're down to select winter meeting
41 date and location.
42
43 Since we had our fall meeting in
44 Bethel, how about holding our next meeting down at
45 Emmonak for the winter meeting.
46
47 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair. Seward Peninsula
48 is the only one that, only RAC that choose 2012 winter
49 meeting date. They chose February 14 and 15 in Nome.
50 So the meeting window for winter 2012 is wide open.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Roczicka.
4
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. Mr. Chairman,
6 these dates kind of worked out good I think so sticks
7 with the same, either 22, 23.
8
9 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Of February?
10
11 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah. And leaving it
12 open at present as far as where it might be. We can
13 just render that in the fall, but set the dates for 22
14 and 23 right now. And I so move.
15
16 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's been made
17 for the winter meeting to be held February 22, 23. Do
18 I hear a second to the motion.
19
20 MR. ONEY: Second. Second.
21
22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Seconded by Mr.
23 Oney. Any discussion.
24
25 MR. ALOYSIUS: Yes, sir. Could you
26 consider 23 and 24, tie it in with a weekend, because
27 they go dancing in Emmonak, not only (In Yup'ik), but
28 (In Yup'ik), too.
29
30 MR. ROCZICKA: I'll take that as a
31 friendly amendment.
32
33 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 23 and 24 then at
34 Emmonak.
35
36 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay.
37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Do I hear a second
39 to -- there was a seconder to that motion, was there?
40 Yes. Okay. All in favor of the motion say aye.
41
42 IN UNISON: Aye.
43
44 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: All opposed.
45
46 (No opposing votes)
47
48 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion's carried.
49
50 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, is it 22, 23 or

1 23, 24?

2

3

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: 23, 24.

4

5

MR. NICK: Okay. Thank you.

6

7

MR. ROCZICKA: In Emmonak.

8

9

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: In Emmo.

10

11

MR. ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Yeah, of all the people that -- of the villages that had an opportunity to call in, Emmonak Tribal Council has been very active in attending our meeting both at times by in person and telephonic, so I think it would be a good idea to have a meeting down there at least once.

There is no other business. We will have closing comments starting with Mr. Oney. Do you have any closing comments.

MR. ONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do. Very short.

First of all I would like to acknowledge two former Council members who have passed away this past winter. Recently John Hanson -- John Thompson, excuse me. John Thompson and the other is Joe Mike.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Joe Mike.

MR. ONEY: From Kotlik. Those two have been on the Board for a number of years, and they've contributed a lot of knowledge and information to this group. So I'd like to acknowledge them this year from this Board. Even a thank you letter from the Staff to those families.

Another issue that I'm concerned about, I just received a letter appointing me for a one-year term. I know all the seats that are on this Council serve a three-year term. And I'd like to know why I was only put on for only one year. And if probably somebody from the office can give me an answer to that.

CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Nick.

1 MR. ONEY: Maybe when I'm done here,
2 maybe you could bring that up.

3
4 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Could you respond
5 to the request.

6
7 MR. NICK: Through the Chair. Mr.
8 Oney. If you want us to go ahead and relay that to
9 OSM, we will do that, but we don't have any control
10 over who's appointed and the terms of office they are
11 appointed for. So we certainly will check on that, Mr.
12 Oney.

13
14 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Go ahead.

15
16 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman. Thank you.
17 Thank you, Alex.

18
19 And again I'd like to thank the North
20 Pacific person, Duncan Fields, to be here during our
21 meeting. And also the newly appointed BIA regional
22 director. Like I mentioned at the beginning, this is
23 the first time we've had people high up in office
24 coming to our meetings and to listen to our concerns.
25 And hopefully you had an earful from this body, not
26 only from this body, but from the people from the
27 community and surrounding villages. And hopefully
28 we'll get, you know, some answers tot he questions that
29 people have concerns for, and to relate that on to the
30 Federal Subsistence Board, people that are made up of
31 those BLM and what not.

32
33 And I'd like to see, you know,
34 cooperation between the users up and down the Yukon,
35 all players. If we're going to rebuild our Chinook
36 stocks, that everybody come to the table and try to
37 iron out the issues that we have concerns for. That's
38 the only way we could rebuild the Chinook stocks is
39 that everybody come to the table and hear our concerns
40 and find ways to resolve those issues that are
41 continuing to hurt us all up and down the Yukon.

42
43 If this is going to be my last year, I
44 thank the Staff, everyone, the Board and everybody that
45 I share with. I've learned a lot while sitting on this
46 Board and I want to encourage all the people out there
47 to continue to apply for these position, because
48 there's a lot of concerns that we have to fact and
49 address, and try and find ways to resolve those. So
50 keep the pressure on, let's keep the pressure on those

1 people out there to listen to our concerns and find
2 some ways to resolve them.

3

4 And that's all I have. Thank you.

5

6 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: I just have one
7 question. I thought all our terms were three-year
8 terms, and why was there an exception made with Mr.
9 Oney. Would you be willing to answer that.

10

11 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't know the
12 specifics, because I'm not part of that decision-making
13 process, but I believe that possibly what happened -- I
14 mean, what -- let me start over. In the beginning when
15 we first had Councils, we wanted to make sure that not
16 everyone was new at the same time so that you had
17 always experienced people. So the first year some
18 people had a one-year term, some had a two-year term,
19 some had a three-year term. But then after that had
20 happened, people could apply for three-years terms. But
21 if the particular term he was fulfilling, it might have
22 been from someone who had left before they were done
23 for their three-year term, and so it might have only
24 been a one year. But he can always apply again for
25 another term. And I'm hoping that I'm correct as to
26 why that happened. I don't know. But if you would
27 like me to find out from OSM, I can ask.

28

29 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Would you for him?

30

31 MS. ARMSTRONG: I will for you. We'll
32 connect afterwards and I'll find out what the situation
33 was. But always reapply if you're still interested. I
34 would not take that to mean that, you know, you can't
35 reapply.

36

37 MR. ONEY: Thank you.

38

39 MS. ARMSTRONG: If anybody -- am I
40 correct on that, what I said? Do you know, Alex, why
41 it was a one-year term?

42

43 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Alex Nick.

44

45 MR. NICK: For the record, Alex Nick,
46 Council coordinator.

47

48 During the Council process, or the
49 nomination process and, Pat Petrivelli could correct me
50 if I'm wrong. What happens is once the applications

1 are submitted to the Federal Subsistence Board,
2 applications are counted, you know, from each region,
3 and then a review panel is appointed by the agency.
4 And then the appointed.....

5
6 MS. ARMSTRONG: No, go ahead, but I
7 think that I have another answer.

8
9 MR. NICK: Okay.

10
11 MS. ARMSTRONG: I'm sorry.

12
13 MR. NICK: After review panel is
14 appointed by the agencies to review applications,
15 interview was done. And I was just explaining to one
16 of the Council members today that it also depends on
17 what you put on your application. For example, if a
18 given Regional Advisory Council member assumes that we
19 have the information that is submitted three or four
20 times when you reapplied and just put maybe just a
21 little information on each question, they probably
22 won't give enough information to the panelists. That's
23 just an example. And from what I observe, the way RAC
24 members are appointed to a term, it's based on the
25 knowledge that they put on their application.

26
27 MS. ARMSTRONG: Mr. Chair. Maybe I can
28 add something. If you look on Page 4 in your book
29 where it has the date that the term ends, so you can
30 see how those varied, like I was saying, that some are
31 going to be ending in 2012, some are ending in 2011,
32 some are ending in 2013, and so depending on where the
33 vacancies will -- and sometimes vacancies can occur
34 because someone choose not to be on the Council any
35 more or was asked to be no longer serve for various
36 reasons, maybe an in attendance, not coming. So it
37 would depend on -- you know, you maybe took the slot,
38 the seat of one that only had one year left.

39
40 The other thing we look for is
41 geographic -- a balance in geography, so we have a
42 balance between the Yukon and the Kuskokwim and the
43 coastal, and so we don't have everybody from -- you
44 know, too many people from Bethel, for example, or too
45 many people from one area, and so, you know, there's
46 some kind of -- there's a look at that, as well.

47
48 But in your particular case I don't
49 know. Those are kept confidential, and we're not privy
50 to why people are put into one-year position or two or

1 something like that.
2
3 Does that help a little bit?
4
5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Does that help?
6
7 MR. ALOYSIUS: No.
8
9 MR. ONEY: I'll just wait for an
10 answer.
11
12 MS. ARMSTRONG: Okay. I'll find out.
13
14 MR. ONEY: I'm sure you're going to get
15 that. Thank you.
16
17 MR. ALOYSIUS: It doesn't help me,
18 because I notice that he started his career in 2001.
19 And evidently -- was there a break in his term? It
20 doesn't make sense, you know, the way I look at, his
21 term should expire in '13.
22
23 MS. ARMSTRONG: There is a break in the
24 term, but people reapply and they get reappointed.
25
26 MR. ALOYSIUS: Did he have a break?
27
28 MS. ARMSTRONG: You know, maybe just
29 for expedience.....
30
31 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Six years.
32
33 MS. ARMSTRONG: I don't want the answer
34 is, but I'll find out and I'll talk to him, because I'm
35 not sure what the deal is.
36
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Nine years.
38
39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: No, that's the year
40 that he came in. I got distracted here. What were you
41 discussing now.
42
43 MS. ARMSTRONG: You didn't miss
44 anything. I said I would check. I just need to find
45 out, yeah.
46
47 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Is that the
48 end of your comments?
49
50 MR. ONEY: (Nods affirmative)

1 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. And as he
2 suggested, would Staff write up a letter for my
3 signature or for the signature of the Council members
4 to sign thanking the families of Joe Mike and also
5 Johnny Thompson for the service that they rendered for
6 the people of this area. Is there a letter that Staff
7 can work up so it could be for my signature to that
8 effect.

9
10 MS. ARMSTRONG: We'll make sure it gets
11 done. Thank you.

12
13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Does
14 that help.

15
16 MR. ONEY: (Nods affirmatively)

17
18 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Okay. Mr. Andrew,
19 do you have any closing comments.

20
21 MR. J. ANDREW: Yeah. Thank you.
22 First of all I'd like to thank our Staff for your
23 technical help, and without them we cannot meet. (In
24 Yup'ik) And then the municipality and the tribe, the
25 Native Village of Mountain Village, I thank them for
26 their hospitality and putting up with us. And I'd like
27 to recognize Raphael Jimmie.

28
29 Raphael Jimmy, (In Yup'ik)

30
31 And on the issues, not only on the
32 Yukon we're having a problem with our salmon fisheries.
33 Kuskokwim, every year we see less and less Chinook,
34 reds, chums, pinks and coho coming up our river. And
35 it's mirroring the Yukon River problems they have with
36 the subsistence fisheries. And the last two years on
37 my tributary river, on the Kwethluk River where I live,
38 we had no adequate king salmon or Chinook salmon
39 escapements.

40
41 And every year, more and more every
42 year we see lots of sport fishing going up our river.
43 On a good fair weather weekend we always see 40, 50
44 boats go by every day. I think a couple of sport fish
45 operators out of Bethel. And we see them transport
46 people up our river and come down, even meet rafters.
47 Since we're having problems with our Chinook or king
48 salmon escapements, we'd like to see more restriction
49 or closure of our river to preserve our Chinook stocks.
50 That's one area.

1 In the last few years they've been
2 informing us the Tuluksak River is having the same
3 problem.

4
5 And there are a couple of abandoned
6 mines that nobody have really addressed. One is on
7 Platinum, it drains out to the Chuckaman Bay, another
8 one is up in Iyak. And just in Iyak alone a Fish and
9 Wildlife staff report that they torn up 35 to 40 miles
10 of river destroying the spawning creeks and rivers
11 along that area. They have lost their spawning areas up
12 in their river.

13
14 And also we had received reports about
15 the old Red Devil Mine up there. And all those
16 abandoned mines, they have never done any reclamation
17 work of restoring the area where they worked on.
18 Tuluksak alone has lost a lot of spawning area for the
19 Chinook and chums up the river.

20
21 And those are just some of the issues
22 that needs to be addressed in our area.

23
24 That's all I have to say for now.
25 Quyana. Thank you.

26
27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
28 Andrew. Mr. Andrew, do you have closing comments.

29
30 MR. N. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr.
31 Chairman. First of all I would like to thank the
32 Boards here for.....

33
34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Council.

35
36 MR. N. ANDREW:learning me.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: We are a Council.
39 One of the things you've got to learn is we're not the
40 Board. We're the Council.

41
42 MR. N. ANDREW: No, I know.

43
44 (Laughter)

45
46 MR. N. ANDREW: I'm giving you an
47 example of what I learned here.

48
49 (Laughter)

50

1 MR. N. ANDREW: The next is what I
2 learn. When I learn that I'm a RAC member, it seemed
3 like I'm one of the black singers, you know.

4
5 (Laughter)

6
7 MR. N. ANDREW: But I'm learning, and
8 I'm really catching on. And I appreciate you knowing
9 that, Mr. Chairman.

10
11 But nevertheless, we are facing a lot
12 of problems as previously mentioned by my colleague
13 here. These are long-term things that we need to look
14 as the Board and for the Staff to look into. Tuluksak
15 is an example of a main river getting into a very
16 shallow situation and becoming a problem, and very soon
17 would not be a tributary for spawning rivers.

18
19 I'll quickly bring this up, Mr.
20 Chairman. Over the years, over the few years, large
21 gravel has been dumped into the river above Tuluksak
22 River. Tuluksak River has reported some numbers of
23 salmons going up to spawn. Today we're losing it. One
24 of the problems, Mr. Chairman, is this: You can
25 visually see what is happening. Of course, as said
26 earlier mining has a result to that effect. But the
27 main problem we're now beginning to have is beaver
28 problem. Beaver damming. The tributaries of Tuluksak
29 River needs to be visited. Many of rivers, we want to
30 preserve not only Tuluksak River, we want to preserve
31 the spawning rivers. This is going to be a very
32 serious problem down the road if we don't. I wanted to
33 bring that out one more before my closure.

34
35 The beavers in Kuskokwim River are
36 beginning to send of their drum by (drum beat on table)
37 there by the Kuskokwim River is beginning to be shallow
38 and lets us try to dam it. They're beating their drum,
39 ladies and gentlemen. This information I give to you,
40 because they're true.

41
42 And the words, that's something that I
43 learn here, Mr. Chairman, is this: We need to begin to
44 work together with -- the Staff needs to listen to us.
45 From what I've been hearing, the Staff has done this
46 and that, and the Board had recommendation that. They
47 need to begin to work with us seriously, with you, Mr.
48 Chairman, specifically, and we won't have this much
49 problem any more.

50

1 My very first meeting and I've seen
2 some problem has arisen. I didn't want to bring that
3 out, but I had to, because I am now part of this
4 Council. And I will work with the Chairman and the
5 rest of my colleagues here. In spite of all the things
6 I have written here, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate this
7 comment.

8

9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Noah.
12 Mr. Roczicka, do you have any comments, closing
13 comments.

14

15 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, just to add my
16 appreciation to Mountain Village folks. Good job
17 putting us up. I'd add an extra special thanks and
18 recognition for Anita over. She certainly helped me
19 out last night by opening her office late after hours,
20 after supper, and getting me all set up and basically
21 giving me the run of the place, although you had the
22 cops still around there, the VPSOs, to keep an eye on
23 me. So that was good. And Staff as well.

24

25 Other than that, every meeting you
26 learn a little something, it gets no easier.

27

28 Other than that, good job yourself.

29

30 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you.

31

32 MR. ROCZICKA: See you next time.

33

34 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you very
35 much. I, myself, I think will take my time this time
36 instead of going around them and then come to me last.

37

38 (Laughter)

39

40 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: So I'll take my
41 turn. And I'd like to first of all thank the Staff for
42 everything that you've done. You make -- you know, we
43 had some decisions that we had to make, but if it
44 wasn't for the Staff, it would probably have been a lot
45 longer in discussing some of the problems that we have
46 and solving what we think is at times easy, but it
47 turned out to be a little more detailed than expect
48 them to be, but I appreciate the Council. They have a
49 lot of patience with me at times, and I just feel that
50 with the work that's before us, we really do need to

1 get together. And I appreciate the work, all the help
2 that Staff has done and the patience that you've shown
3 in some of the deliberations and some of the problems
4 that we've had where you got involved in. And I want
5 to thank you all for your help. I also want to thank
6 the City of Hooper Bay for sending me and Mountain
7 Village for receiving me.

8

9 (Laughter)

10

11 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: And those are my
12 comments. Thank you very much.

13

14 Mr. Unok.

15

16 MR. UNOK: I'd like to thank the Staff
17 and especially to the City of Mountain Village on their
18 second week of hosting organizations. It must be
19 pretty hard for her to -- or maybe she had a few days
20 of rest.

21

22 And also I'd like to thank all the
23 Council that showed up even if you have to leave your
24 families to take care of problems.

25

26 And especially to Mr. Wilde, our
27 Chairman, it's pretty hard. He almost gave up in
28 middle of the meeting.

29

30 (Laughter)

31

32 MR. UNOK: Maybe even he didn't
33 recognize me all the time, I'd like to thank him.

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 MR. UNOK: Good Chair.

38

39 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Mr. Wilde, do you
40 have any closing comments.

41

42 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah. I want to thank
43 you guys come over to Mountain Village. Every time
44 when we're going to have a meeting, I go to three
45 organizations: City, corporation and tribal
46 corporation. Make sure that what's going to be on
47 agenda. That's what I've been doing with the help of
48 corporation, city and tribal. I do my best. For quite
49 a while now, I've been with these organizations,
50 Federal and State. I think we do our best, and we do

1 have a meeting and our three organization, we try to
2 let them know what's the most important thing on
3 agenda's going to be.

4

5 Mr. Chairman, that's all.

6

7 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Mr.
8 Wilde. Mr. Polty.

9

10 MR. POLTY: (In Yup'ik)

11

12 What I was saying was that I appreciate
13 my first hospitality to the Community of Mountain
14 Village for keeping us warm and where we have a place
15 to stay, and give us ride, and stomach fed, and those
16 that have testified concerning their subsistence way of
17 life for the next generation to come, to help them
18 sustain so that way they could talk from bottom of
19 their heart for future for our people. And those that
20 came from other villages and organizations, they made
21 an effort to come to listen to us, what our concerns
22 are. They need to bring those things back and let them
23 know that we're concerning about their way of life and
24 subsistence here along the Yukon, even in Kuskokwim and
25 other areas. And I'd like thank those organizations
26 and tribal and other that keep us -- help us with where
27 -- to keep our things and help these, and the Council
28 here that help me to give opportunity to learn and
29 continue working with them, with the bottom of my heart
30 that what they mainly work on. And I'd like to thank
31 all of you for all your hospitality.

32

33 Thank you very much.

34

35 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
36 James Charles.

37

38 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
39 I want to thank everybody for the meeting here. Even I
40 was surprised when Bob told me last month we were going
41 to meet at Mountain Village. I thought it was going to
42 be at St. Mary's all the time. I had my calendar
43 marked for St. Mary's meeting. But he told me it was
44 going to be at Mountain Village. But I thank everybody
45 who put us up over here, and nice place to have a
46 meeting. And I thank Alex Nick for making all the
47 arrangements, airlines and the meeting place and so he
48 work hard. And I want to thank the Staff and people
49 from Mountain Village.

50

1 Quyana.
2
3 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. Mr.
4 Aloysius.
5
6 MR. ALOYSIUS: You have 55 minutes?
7
8 (Laughter)
9
10 MR. ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
11 Like everybody else, I sincerely thank the Village of
12 Mountain Village. The Village of Mountain Village,
13 wow. And their illustrious city manager. And please
14 relay my personal thanks to our driver. Without him,
15 I'd probably be stuck in some snowbank.
16
17 (Laughter)
18
19 MR. ALOYSIUS: And really enjoy the
20 people who came up here and testified, not only from
21 here, but the guys who came up from other places. It
22 really makes you feel good that those guys really care
23 about what's going on. And this is their opportunity
24 to share what they have.
25
26 And I would encourage all of the Y-K
27 fishers to start writing a proposal, very strongly
28 worded, that, you know, you call for a five-year
29 moratorium on the Bering Sea pollock fisheries. I
30 mean, let's look at it this way. The Lower Yukon --
31 the lowest Yukon had no moose. They wanted protein, so
32 they formed an entity to propose a five-year and
33 eventually extended to an eight-year moratorium on
34 moose so that their moose populations can go up. And
35 now they have the healthiest moose population in this
36 area.
37
38 And also encourage the Lower Yukon
39 hunters to get after the powers that be who against
40 their wishes and against the wishes of this RAC, and
41 opened up the transporters in this area. We were
42 against it, because the people of this area were
43 against it. And I don't know if it's possible to close
44 that again or make it more restrictive, because it
45 doesn't make sense where the people have to sacrifice
46 for years and bring the moose population back up and
47 then the State turns around, and the Feds okay it, to
48 open up moose hunting to everybody.
49
50 I could go on and on, but it's very

1 frustrating to me that the people -- everything is
2 supposed to start at the grassroots level, like
3 everything else. We voice our opinions, we go the A.C.
4 meetings, we go to A.C. meetings, gather information
5 and they make proposals. The same thing with the area
6 councils. And yet when it goes to the top where the
7 decisions are supposed to be made to benefit the
8 people, the users of the subsistence foods that we
9 hunt, fish, trap and gather, it stops there. It
10 doesn't make sense to me.

11
12 One of the things that is really
13 upsetting, too, is the simple fact that everything is
14 going up. The price of every commodity that we need is
15 going up, and our resources is going down. We are one
16 of the richest areas as far as natural resources, you
17 know, non-renewable resources, but we are security
18 poor. We have no way to defend ourselves against big
19 business coming in, because money talks, money buys,
20 money buys, and money buys. And we do not have the
21 resources to stop the removing of our renewable
22 resources like moose, and fish, caribou. And those
23 things are renewable. They naturally rejuvenate their
24 populations. But with money, like I said yesterday
25 morning, every westernized person looks at everything
26 as money, a potential to make money. And that is what
27 is really hurting our land. And we have no way to
28 defend ourselves.

29
30 The influx of people moving from a
31 village to the urban areas is horrendous, because the
32 price of everything is going up, and it's easier and
33 cheaper to live in Anchorage than it is to live in a
34 village. Families are breaking up time and time again,
35 because it's too hard for maybe even one family member
36 working trying to support, because the price of
37 everything is so high that there's no way for them to
38 hold on.

39
40 Statistic of 280,000 chum salmon
41 destined for the Yukon being caught out in the ocean.
42 280,000 chums destined for the Yukon River being caught
43 out there by the trawlers. That's 40 percent of the
44 700,000. And we can't even imagine what the numbers
45 are for the False Pass fishery is -- I don't know what
46 they call it, the hijacking fishery that is wiping out
47 -- not wiping out, but taking up a lot of our salmon,
48 all five species of salmon that come up the Yukon and
49 the Kuskokwim.

50

1 So I just want to encourage people to
2 keep on fighting for what's yours. Nobody else is
3 going to do it for you. We have Staff to help you
4 write proposals, so I encourage you to write proposals.
5 And make sure you have backup. Go out there and find
6 people who have your same attitude, the same mind, and
7 the same heart. You know, there's power in numbers.
8 Find people who are of the same mind as you are. Let
9 them be heard. Let yourselves be heard, and encourage
10 people to, hey, we need to band together to make
11 something change for the better and for the
12 preservation and return of our rightful heritage. The
13 heritage of fish and game. Those were given to us. We
14 inherited that, those resources. And we took care of
15 that for 10,000 years.

16
17 I'll give you an example. The Aniak
18 River and the Kuskokwim River where I was raised. In
19 the summertime the Aniak runs that color. You see that
20 white, and that really white. That was the color of
21 the Aniak River during the spawning of the salmon, and
22 the air would smell so bad, but it was perfume to the
23 old people. And we asked them why, why do you think
24 it's perfume? It's telling us in three or four more
25 years the salmon are coming back.

26
27 The Kuskokwim River at the peak of the
28 run years ago, it rise three and four feet because of
29 the number of salmon coming up. We don't see that any
30 more.

31
32 A couple years ago, Fish and Game had a
33 sonar up there somewhere in the Aniak River. And they
34 said, oh, we had a record run. 1.2 million passed
35 their sonar. And I asked them, well, what color was
36 the water? Oh, it was clear. Did the air smell? No.
37 Well, you didn't even have a record, you didn't even
38 have a normal run. But they don't believe us, because
39 it's not on paper.

40
41 You know, I lived up there at Aniak and
42 Kalskag area the majority of my life, so I know what
43 I'm talking about. And I saw and I know and I
44 experienced all these things.

45
46 But don't give up. Lower Yukon fishers
47 and hunters, band together, make sure that you get your
48 salmon back and retain your heritage of moose.

49
50 Well, I'll leave you guys 15 minutes.

1 Thank you.

2

3 (Laughter)

4

5 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you, Bob.
6 Mr. Brown, do you have any closing comments.

7

8 MR. BROWN: Yeah. I have no comments,
9 but I'd like to thank the people of Mountain Village
10 for providing the hospitality and rides to our hotel.
11 Thank you.

12

13 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Thank you. At this
14 time prior to our adjournment, at the last meeting we
15 started a practice that prior to our closing we say a
16 prayer for the protection of returning home. And if my
17 brother, Mr. Wilde, would you like to give us a
18 benediction. Harry, would you, please.

19

20 MR. H. WILDE: (Gives benediction)

21

22 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: The Chair will now
23 entertain a motion for adjournment.

24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Move to adjourn.

26

27 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Motion made to
28 adjourn. All in favor say aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 CHAIRMAN L. WILDE: Meeting's adjourned
33 at -- what time is it?

34

35 REPORTER: 6:18

36

37 (Off record)

38

39 (END OF PROCEEDINGS)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

I, Salena A. Hile, Notary Public in and for the state of Alaska and reporter of Computer Matrix Court Reporters, LLC, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 151 through 328 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING, VOLUME II, taken electronically by our firm on the 24th 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 9th day of March 2011.

Salena A. Hile
Notary Public, State of Alaska
My Commission Expires: 09/16/14