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1 YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA
2 SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
3 PUBLIC MEETING

4

5 VOLUME I

6

7 March 6, 2003

8

9:00 a.m.

9

Chevak, Alaska

10

11 COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Harry Wilde, Sr. Chair

14 Mary Gregory

15 John Hanson

16 Nick Andrew, Sr.

17 James A. Charles

18 Philip Moses

19 Lester Wilde, Sr.

20 John Thompson, Sr.

21

22 Regional Coordinator, Alex Nick

23

24 Sophie Evan, Interpreter

25 Joseph "Trim" Nick, Interpreter

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PROCEEDINGS

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(Chevak, Alaska - 3/6/2003)

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(On record)

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CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Come to order. Roll call. Jerry -- oh, okay.

(In Yup'ik)

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Call to order and roll call.

MR. NICK: Harry Wilde.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Here.

MR. NICK: John Hanson.

MR. HANSON: Yeah.

MR. NICK: Mary Gregory. I believe Mary was excused for part of the morning.

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, she went to clinic to get some medicine.

MR. NICK: She'll be back. Nick Andrew, Sr.

MR. ANDREW: Here.

MR. NICK: Raymond Oney. Mr. Raymond Oney asked to be excused due to health reasons. Robert Nick. Mr. Chairman, Robert Nick indicated yesterday that he may or may not make it to this meeting. Billy McCann. Mr. Chair, Billy McCann also asked to be excused due to clinic appointments. James Charles?

MR. CHARLES: Here.

MR. NICK: Mike Savage. Mr. Chair, Mike Savage also asked to be excused due to work-related training. Phillip Moses?

MR. MOSES: Yeah.

MR. NICK: Lester Wilde.

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1 MR. L. WILDE: Here.

2

3 MR. NICK: John Thompson.

4

5 MR. THOMPSON: Here.

6

7 MR. NICK: Alternate. Thaddius Tikiun,
8 alternate. Thaddius, Mr. Chairman, asked to be excused
9 also to go to National Guard Armory camp.

10

11 Mr. Chair, we have -- just a moment.
12 Seven present. Eight present, I'm sorry.

13

14 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Quorum?

15

16 MR. NICK: We have a quorum, Mr.
17 Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, thank you. Now
20 we will continue our meeting. I ask John Thompson to
21 give us invocation. Stand.

22

23 MR. THOMPSON: I'll do it in Yup'ik.

24

25 (In Yup'ik)

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Amen. Quyana. Yeah,
28 this morning I'd like to recognize our new and renew
29 members. These renew members are reappointed. Myself
30 and Mary Gregory and also John Hanson and Phillip Moses.
31 Yeah, we welcome you back to our Council this morning.
32 And also for those that wouldn't been here, and you're
33 welcome also.

34

35 And also I'd like to introduce staff.
36 Don, we welcome you to Chevak, and be with us. I know
37 you have been working hard to try to let us be here. And
38 also, Jerry, we welcome you here. And our.....

39

40 MR. NICK: Meredith.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

43

44 MR. NICK: Meredith.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Meredith, we
47 welcome her. And our two translators over there. Pete
48 DeMatteo down there, we welcome you here. And the person
49 from AVCP, what's your name?

50

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1 MR. WALTMEYER: Dave Waltmeyer.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Okay. And
4 the rest of you, the visitor here, we thank you. And
5 I'll try to speak English so everyone will understand
6 even though I'm not very good speak English, even I talk
7 to you people, I wouldn't speak very good either, so we
8 will continue -- your name?

9

10 MR. HANDER: Hi, Harry. I'm Ray Hander.
11 I'm with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in
12 Fairbanks.....

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

15

16 MR. HANDER:fishery office, and I'm
17 Russ Holders, I'm his assistant fishery management
18 biologist for the Yukon River. Thank you.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Well, it look like
21 we've got some people just came in. Will you introduce
22 yourself to put on the record who you are, where you're
23 from?

24

25 MR. NOTTI: Dario Notti with AVCP,
26 Natural Resources.

27

28 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

29

30 INTERPRETER: (In Yup'ik).

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik).

33

34 And now, Carl Jack, glad to have you
35 here, and we've got announcement here.

36

37 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, we have a few
38 announcements to make before we begin. We need to know
39 how many people attending this meeting will need to eat
40 breakfast and lunch at the school. We need to have you
41 check with Morris or Greg. I think they're supposed to
42 be in the building. Maybe they might have stepped out.
43 Local people could point those two people out to you.
44 You need to let those two people know if you want to eat
45 lunch at the school today, and also if you need to eat
46 breakfast and lunch tomorrow. So we need to have you
47 contact Morris and/or Greg.

48

49 Also those of us who are new to Chevak,
50 we need to be advised that even though we have airline

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1 reservations to return, we need to let the agents know
2 when -- with what airline we're moving -- rather what
3 airline we're returning to either Bethel or elsewhere.

4
5 And also I had personal experience last
6 month when I came to Chevak. I understand that even
7 though I have an airline ticket, if I don't bring my
8 airline ticket to the ticket agent, I may not get on
9 airline, unless I have ticket handed over to airline
10 agent at least one hour before the arrival of the
11 airline, so be aware of that.

12
13 Also, I was advised by people who works
14 here, the furnace room must not be closed, because the
15 fumes will be coming into the room, and you will begin to
16 spell and probably get sick from the fumes that are
17 leaking through the system or whatever, so please keep
18 the furnace room open.

19
20 And for those of you who needs translat
21 -- or rather receivers, I believe they're up front and
22 the fresh batteries are on the table where the
23 interpreters are, so make sure if your receiver appears
24 to become weak, there's extra batteries over there you
25 may use.

26
27 And one more thing just for the record,
28 all the members of the Regional Council has been
29 contacted at least three times to confirm their
30 attendance of the meeting. And that's the extent of my
31 announcements, Mr. Chairman.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, quyana. Thank
34 you.

35
36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

39
40 MS. GREGORY: I want it to be noted that
41 I'm present right now.

42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, you're here.

44
45 MR. JACK: (In Yup'ik)

46
47 INTERPRETER: Carl Jack is asking whether
48 there are more outstanding members that are coming in.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, okay, Carl, if

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1 they come in, we'll recognize them, who they are and.....

2

3 I think right now we could go over our
4 agenda, review our agenda. Right now review of agenda,
5 and notice any changes can be made right now, because
6 usually changes always be in the middle of agenda or not.
7 If you're going to go back before the meeting finish,
8 this is a good time to move where you want to be on the
9 agenda, what part. So any changes can be made, or
10 otherwise we will follow the agenda the way it is.

11

12 Number 5, approval of the draft minutes
13 from the March 6 and 7, 2000, March 22, 2002 and October
14 10 and 11, 2002 Regional Council meeting, Alex Nick.

15

16 And six, Regional Council members
17 concern, topics. You could find it on Tab A on your
18 booklet. A. Chair report, 805 letter, and B. other
19 Regional Council members reports and concerns, topics.

20

21 Seven, public testimony. Notice, this
22 opportunity continues throughout the meeting. And please
23 be recognized by the Chair or complete and submit the
24 testifier form that back in the table over there, are
25 available from the sign-in table is over there where the
26 table is when you come in.

27

28 Eight, wildlife regulatory proposal
29 review and recommendations, Alex Nick. You could find it
30 under Tab B on your booklet. And presentation procedures
31 as follows. I may go over presentation procedure right
32 now. Introduction of proposal and analysis. Alaska
33 Department of Fish and Game comments. And other
34 organizations' comments. Four, fish and game local
35 advisory committee comments. Five, summary of written
36 public comments. Six, public comments for specific
37 proposals. Seven, Regional Advisory Council deliberation
38 and justification and action.

39

40 And statewide proposal, it's quite
41 lengthy proposals.

42

43 Proposal 1, provide for harvest of
44 religious ceremonies, staff.

45

46 Proposal 02 provides for designated
47 hunting provision for most species and hunts, staff.

48

49 Regional and crossover proposals. My
50 understanding Proposal 22 is dropped, is that right? So

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1 Proposal 22 is dropped.

2 Proposal 24, establish a winter moose
3 hunting in Unit 17(A), Pete DeMatteo.

4

5 Proposal 26,remove wolf hunting harvest
6 limit in 9 and 17, Pete DeMatteo.

7

8 And Proposal 27, Remove beaver trapping
9 harvest in Unit 9 and 17, Pete DeMatteo.

10

11 And Proposal 28, delete requirement to
12 remove skin of skull and the claws from a brown bear
13 before taking a skin from the Western Alaska Brown Bear
14 Management Area. Tom Kron is supposed to be here, but I
15 don't know who going to take that. So Proposal 29, align
16 Federal regulations with the State regulations to include
17 meat-on-bone restriction for moose in part of Unit 18,
18 Pete DeMatteo.

19

20 And Proposal 30 and 34, align Federal
21 regulations with the State to include meat-on-bone
22 restriction for caribou and moose in Units 21 and 24,
23 Pete DeMatteo.

24

25 And 31, Proposal 31, align season and
26 harvest limit for moose in Unit 19(A) with the State
27 regulation, Pete DeMatteo.

28

29 And Proposal 33, review C&T use
30 determination for moose in Unit 21(E), Pat McClenahan.

31

32 Proposal 36, align coyote hunting season
33 and harvest limit with State regulation in Units 19, 21,
34 24, Pete DeMatteo.

35

36 Proposal 38, increase wolf hunting limit
37 in Unit 24, Pete DeMatteo.

38

39 And then 9 goes into fisheries. A.
40 Results of the Federal Board actions on 2003 fisheries
41 regulatory change proposal, Jerry Berg.

42

43 B. Report on meeting with the North
44 Pacific fisheries Management Council staff and others.

45

46 C. Alaska Board of Fisheries (ACR's)
47 subsistence fisheries schedule. (1) Yukon River BOF ACR,
48 Tom Kron. Somebody will take that. And (2) Yukon and
49 Kuskokwim BOF ACR, Jerry Berg and Tom Kron. (3) call for
50 Alaska Board of Fish proposals for 2004.

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1 D. Yukon River and Kuskokwim River. (1)
2 Preliminary 2003 outlook and preseason management plan,
3 joint State/Federal presentation. (a) Yukon, State and
4 Federal Managers. (b) Kuskokwim, State and Federal
5 managers.

6

7 E. U.S. Canada salmon agreement.

8

9 F. Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association,
10 Yukon Drainage Fishermen Association staff.

11

12 G. Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program
13 reports. (1) Status report on funding monitoring
14 projects. (2) Special presentations by fisheries project
15 investigations. (3) Update on Partners in Fisheries
16 Monitoring.

17

18 10. 2002 annual report review and approve
19 by Alex Nick.

20

21 11. Office of Subsistence Management
22 report, leadership team. You could find it on Tab D on
23 your booklets.

24

25 A. Customary trade update, written
26 briefing.

27

28 B. Statewide rural determination, written
29 briefing.

30

31 C. Regulatory coordination protocol,
32 written briefing.

33

34 D. Changes in Regional Council membership
35 for 2003 appointments.

36

37 E. Call for Federal subsistence fisheries
38 proposals.

39

40 12. Agency reports. You could find it
41 on your Tab E on your booklets. Briefing on timely
42 concerns/issues related to subsistence. Copies of key
43 points in the briefing would be appreciated.

44

45 A. Association of Village Council
46 Presidents Myron Naneng. (1) Yukon-Kuskokwim salmon
47 fisheries schedule.

48

49 B. Kuskokwim Native Association, Wayne
50 Morgan.

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1 C. Asa'carsarmiut Tribal Council, Greg
2 Roczicka.

3

4 D. Native tribal council representatives

5

6 E. Native village corporations
7 representatives.

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9 F. Written handouts.

10

11 G. Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

12

13 H. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (1)
14 Refuge. (2) Fisheries. (3) Others.

15

16 I. Bureau of Land Management.

17

18 J. Park Service.

19

20 13. Correspondence received.

21

22 14. Future meeting plans. You could find
23 it under Tab F. A. Time and location of next meeting.

24 B. Topics, issues.

25

26 15. Council closing comments, adjourn.

27

28 That's our agenda. Go ahead.

29

30 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, Jill Klein
31 called yesterday, and she would like to have her
32 presentation late this afternoon, of you have evening
33 session, this evening or tomorrow morning. She would
34 like to get your permission to give her presentation
35 either this evening or.....

36

37 MR. L. WILDE: She's already on the
38 agenda, Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

41

42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, and also Kuskokwim
43 Native Association representatives and Asa'carsarmiut
44 Tribal Council representatives canceled. So they may not
45 be here. They might not make it here.

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Adoption for
48 agenda.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: I move that we adopt the
4 agenda as amended, and that we add to it whenever there's
5 a possibility.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion. A second?

8

9 MR. HANSON: Second.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by John
12 Hanson. Discussion.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

15

16 INTERPRETER: Mary's indicating that she
17 made a motion for those that don't understand to accept
18 the agenda as is.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

21

22 MR. ANDREW: Okay. We ask question.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The questions been
25 called for. All who favor, say aye.

26

27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

30

31 (No opposing votes.)

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Next
34 on our agenda is approval on draft minutes from the March
35 6 and 7, 2000, March 22, 2000, and October 10 and 11,
36 2000 Regional Council meeting. Alex.

37

38 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, as I understood
39 from the last meeting in October, there were changes
40 requested to be made that some of the motions that were
41 incorrectly entered in the March 6 and 7, 2000 meeting,
42 and also March 22 meeting, including the time the chair
43 was turned over to Harry Wilde upon his arrival. Those
44 were reviewed. But as requested, on the transcripts and
45 during your meeting last October, unfortunately the
46 tapes, some of the tapes were so bad that I could not
47 hear, but Mary and I, we talked about this, and we
48 learned that in the afternoon of the day when Harry Wilde
49 arrived, the chair was turned over to Harry, for your
50 information. So those are being corrected.

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1 And also your October 10 and 11, 2000
2 meeting, I could not get the agenda -- rather, I'm sorry,
3 I could not get the draft minutes on time to turn in to
4 our technical staff, so it's not included, but there's a
5 copy here, and a copy of them are over on the table.
6

7 Mary Gregory reviewed part of the
8 minutes. She requested -- she made just minor changes on
9 it. They will be incorporated in the minutes.
10

11 Mr. Chair, some of the people that you
12 appointed to serve as the minute review committee were
13 contacted, and Mary assisted in some of the -- a portion
14 of the minutes, Mr. Chair. It's up to you if you want
15 the minutes to be read. It's up to you.
16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we have been
18 back and forth reading minutes, also we've got some
19 minutes that were already transcribed. I think this time
20 we're looking for a person to move to accept these
21 minutes, and if they need to be re-do or fix some words,
22 they could do it, because it's piling up.
23

24 It seems to me we had quite a big problem
25 on minutes. When I looking at your manual, I think it's
26 easier to follow manual with just six items when you
27 write minutes. It would be easier to follow them. It
28 don't have to be really word-to-word minutes of the
29 Councils, because they had already word-to-word minutes.
30 Go ahead, Alex.
31

32 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, is it my
33 understanding that you just want a summary of the
34 meeting?
35

36 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.
37

38 (In Yup'ik)
39

40 In reviewing the minutes from the October
41 10, 11 meeting, rather than reading the whole document,
42 if we could just outline the action items.
43

44 Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept
45 October 10 and 11 meeting.
46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)
48

49 MS. GREGORY: Just the October ones,
50 because I haven't seen the other ones. And -- (In

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1 Yup'ik) Recommend that we accept the October minutes.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So you make a motion
4 to accept.....

5

6 MS. GREGORY: Just the October 10 and 11.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: October's Regional
9 Council meeting's minutes. If there's any second to the
10 motion?

11

12 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion, Mr.
13 Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion and
16 a second. If there's any discussion. Alex.

17

18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, the only changes
19 requested for the March 6 and 7 and also March 22nd, 2002
20 was as I understood it, and Lester Wilde could correct me
21 on this, is that.....

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, point of
24 order. We're talking about October 10 and 11.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: Speak to the October 10 and
29 11 minutes only.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion has been
32 second. Any discussion to October minutes. Any
33 discussion to October minutes.

34

35 MR. L. WILDE: We just got them. We
36 didn't even read them.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: You can vote it down if you
39 want to.

40

41 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John.

44

45 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
46 Chairman. I've got a correction to make on the October
47 10, 11 minutes. It doesn't have the page number, but
48 it's almost to the back of the -- and about six pages
49 from the back where it says Boy assured Hanson. That's
50 supposed to be Boyd, Tom Boyd instead of Boy.

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1 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, that's just a typo.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, that must be
4 the typo. Any more discussion.Discussion.

5

6 (No discussion)

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Question.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question has been
11 made. All who favor say aye.

12

13 IN UNISON: Aye.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

16

17 (No opposing votes.)

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

20

21 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

24

25 MR. L. WILDE: Lester Wilde, Hooper Bay.

26 I have one request. I'd like to request that our minutes

27 be sent to us instead of being given to us at the

28 meeting, prior to meeting. Some of us like to read these

29 minutes.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Your request
32 granted.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, as far as

35 the.....

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

38

39 MS. GREGORY: As far as the other minutes

40 are concerned, Alex and I have been changing -- he sends

41 me the draft and i look through it and make changes or

42 make corrections and additions. We're working on them

43 right now. Make sure we'll have them out -- I'll make

44 sure he send them out to you guys as soon as we get them

45 done, Lester.

46

47 MR. L. WILDE: I haven't received my

48 copies.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. We just started last

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1 month.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: When you think would
4 be available those rest of the minutes.

5

6 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, I believe it was
7 Peggy Fox who requested that the draft minutes be made
8 available within -- is it within three weeks after the
9 meeting, Don? So we will try -- I will work with
10 whoever's available in our team to try to complete these
11 and send them to you within that time frame. But we must
12 understand that, you know, there usually some other
13 issues that we need to take care of sometimes, so we will
14 do the best we can for that.

15

16 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair, Alex. When Alex
17 gives me these minutes, I could send them directly to
18 Lester so that would could review the minutes and whoever
19 is in the minute review committee. So we can go through
20 them at the same time. If you send me your draft in the
21 draft in the e-mail, then I could print that and send it
22 to Lester and whoever's in e-mail, too.

23

24 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

27

28 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, just that committee
29 was formed just for these minutes, just to straighten out
30 these minutes.....

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

33

34 MR. L. WILDE:from March 6 and
35 March 22, right?

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: Okay. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That's right. so
42 right now minutes of March 6 and 7 and March 22.....

43

44 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: They're not ready.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:ready to

47 approve.

48

49 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, there's only minor
50 corrections that need to be made. In your October

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1 meeting booklet, the minutes are there. There were just
2 minor corrections that needed to be made, and then
3 they'll be made available.

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So do you have those
6 March 6 and 7 or March 22 minutes right now in your hand?

7
8 MR. NICK: We have -- I just brought just
9 one copy, my copy with me. I don't know if the Regional
10 Council members have that.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: What I was thinking,
13 if you guys to have those minutes, those maybe three
14 committees could on them, and we could approve it
15 tomorrow.

16
17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

18
19 MR. NICK: I have only one.

20
21 MS. GREGORY: One?

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, he got.....

24
25 MS. GREGORY: Not both of them?

26
27 MR. NICK: Just one. I mean, both
28 minutes you know from the last year.

29
30 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Because it's piling
33 up these minutes, I think we need to approve them, so I
34 could appoint Mary and Lester, you and maybe three of you
35 guys could.....

36
37 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Charles. (In

38 Yup'ik)

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

41
42 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles can be,

43 because.....

44
45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

46
47 MS. GREGORY:his recall memory is

48 good.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You could be with

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1 them, so it will be available to approve it tomorrow.

2 Yeah. Thank you.

3

4 At this time I want to introduce the ones

5 that just came, and, Judy Gottlieb, glad to have you

6 here.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: And, Mr. Chairman, can they

9 come in and introduce themselves so people will know who

10 they are? The audiences.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Okay. Judy.

13

14 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, if it won't

15 take too much long -- too long if everybody here would

16 introduce themselves so we know who they are.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, that's a good idea.

19 Yeah.

20

21 MS. GOTTLIEB: Thank yo, Mr. Chairman,

22 and members of the Council, I'm Judy Gottlieb, and I work

23 for the National Park Service, and I sit on the Federal

24 Subsistence Board. And because of all the issues that

25 seem to come up particularly in summertime related to the

26 Yukon and Kuskokwim, I wanted to come out to your region

27 and attend this meeting. And I apologize, I did bring a

28 little something for the Chair, but it's back in the

29 other building, so if I might bring that perhaps this

30 afternoon and speak to you one more time. But thank you

31 very much for your hospitality.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Judy.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, with your

36 permission, and when Mary directs me to do something, I

37 do it quickly.

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

40

41 MR. RIVARD: Don Rivard, I'm with the

42 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Subsistence

43 Management, and I'm a division chief for the office and

44 cover the three Yukon and Kuskokwim regions. Thank you.

45 It's good to be here.

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don.

48

49 MR. BERG: I'm Jerry Berg. I primarily

50 work on the Kuskokwim on fishery issues on the regulatory

00017

1 side in the Office of Subsistence Management out of
2 Anchorage.

3

4 MS. GREGORY: Can you come to the mike,
5 please?

6

7 MR. HANDER: Yes, ma'am. I'm Ray Hander.
8 I'm the assistant subsistence fishery management
9 biologist. I'm out of the Fairbanks Fish and Wildlife
10 fishery office, or field office. Thanks.

11

12 MR. COFFING: Good morning everybody. My
13 name's Michael Coffing. I'm with the Alaska Department
14 of Fish and Game. I work for the Subsistence out of the
15 Bethel Office. It's nice to see you all again. Thank
16 you.

17

18 MS. HILDEBRAND: Good morning, Mr.
19 Chairman, Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member to
20 the Federal Subsistence Board. It's good to see all of
21 you guys here.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Good to have you.

24

25 MR. WALTMEYER: And I'm David Waltmeyer
26 with AVCP as the Partners fisheries biologist. I was
27 just hired on this last week, and I'll be working
28 primarily the Yukon River drainage.

29

30 MS. SPANGLER: Good morning. My name is
31 Beth Spangler, and I work at the Office of Subsistence
32 Management in Anchorage with the Fisheries Information
33 Services, and I'm the newest addition. I'm a fisheries
34 biologist and also the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring
35 coordinator. Thank you.

36

37 MR. SCHLEUSNER. Good morning, Mr. Chair
38 and Council, my name is Cliff Schleusner. I'm a
39 fisheries biologist with the Office of Subsistence
40 Management in the Fisheries Information Service side, and
41 I work on the Yukon River. Glad to be here.

42

43 MR. DeMATTEO: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
44 members of the Council. I'm Pete DeMatteo. I'm with the
45 Office of Subsistence Management in Anchorage. I work on
46 the regulatory side of the office, and I'm the regional
47 wildlife biologist for the Interior regions and also the
48 Y-K delta.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.

00018

1 We're going to hold it for a while and this is very
2 important. I want to see how many people here want to
3 eat in the school. Will you raise your hands so we could
4 count you.

5

6 (Pause - counting hands)

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Okay.

9 Now.....

10

11 MS. GREGORY: Come on and.....

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Come on up here.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik).

16

17 MR. SLATZ: I'm with the Chevak Tribal

18 Court. Also a city council member.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana.

21

22 MR. JACK: Yeah. My name is Carl Jack,

23 native liaison. I have two functions in my capacity,

24 senior advisor to the Federal Subsistence Board and

25 provide staff support to the chairman, Mitch Demientieff.

26

27 MR. NOTTI: Dario Notti, AVCP Natural

28 Resources, and I do land mammals and migratory birds.

29 And Fred Armstrong from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

30 Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Management Council asked me to

31 make a presentation to you on the upcoming spring and

32 summer hunt if you wanted a presented on that topic.

33 They're whole staff was at three or four different, and

34 they only have four staff members.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you.

37

38 MR. TULUK: Peter Tuluk with Chevak

39 Traditional Council. I'm the president. I'll make sure

40 everything is in order.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Can you get those elders to

43 come up?

44

45 MR. TULUK: (In Yup'ik)

46

47 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

48

49 INTERPRETER: She's asking the local

50 elders, local citizens to also introduce themselves.

00019

1 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
2 recognize our tribal chief from Hooper Bay to come and
3 introduce himself.

4
5 MR. LAKE: Patrick Lake, president for
6 Native Village of Hooper Bay.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. Thanks for
9 coming.

10
11 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Scoot needs to tell us
12 his name. That old man. And there's a couple guys over
13 here.

14
15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

16
17 MR. NASH: (In Yup'ik)

18
19 INTERPRETER: He says he cannot walk very
20 well, so he's using the power of his voice to tell you
21 his name is Jacob Nash.

22
23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

24
25 Yeah, thank you. And we continue our
26 agenda. At this time I'm going to ask our coordinator,
27 because he could read better than me and faster....

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
30 request that Council introduce themselves to the people.

31
32 (In Yup'ik)

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

35
36 MS. GREGORY: Lester.

37
38 MR. L. WILDE: Lester Wilde from Hooper
39 Bay.

40
41 MR. HANSON: John Hanson, Alakanuk.

42
43 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

44
45 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory. She says she
46 loves to eat native foods, and that's why she's on this
47 Council.

48
49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Harry Wilde, Mountain
50 Village.

00020

1 MR. NICK: Alex Nick, originally from
2 Russian Mission, now living in Bethel. I'm Regional
3 Council coordinator.

4
5 MR. CHARLES: James Charles, Tuntutuliak.

6
7 MR. ANDREW: Nick Andrew. (In Yup'ik)

8
9 INTERPRETER: He's from Marshall and he's
10 very happy to be here and was welcomed to the village
11 very kindly. And up to this hour he has not been hungry.
12 Thank you very much.

13
14 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

15
16 INTERPRETER: And he sits on this
17 Council, even though he doesn't understand, and even
18 though he cannot read what is written, but that he's
19 almost embarrassed or shy to be sitting on this Council,
20 but he continues to be part of this Council. He's
21 Phillip Moses from Toksook Bay.

22
23 MR. THOMPSON: (In Yup'ik)

24
25 INTERPRETER: And he said he shares the
26 same feelings as Phillip, but that he does understand
27 some English, although he's cannot write. My name is
28 John Thompson, I'm from St. Mary's.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. Next on our
31 agenda is Regional Council members concern and topics.
32 Tab A you could find it. It's letter to me, report 805
33 letter. I'm going to let Alex Nick read that. He could
34 read better than me and faster.

35
36 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This
37 805 letter is addressed to Harry Wilde, Sr.
38 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory
39 Council, P.O. Box 32226, Mountain Village, Alaska 99632.

40
41 Dear Mr. Wilde: This letter is to inform
42 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Subsistence Delta Regional Advisory
43 Council of actions taken by the Federal Subsistence Board
44 at it's December 17 to 18, 2002 meeting. As you know,
45 the purpose of the Board meeting was to act upon proposed
46 changes to Subpart D regulations governing seasons,
47 harvest limits, methods and means of subsistence harvest
48 regulations of fish from Federal waters for the 2003 to
49 2004 regulatory year. The Board also acted on proposed
50 changes to Subpart C, regulations governing customary and

00021

1 traditional use determinations. For details on specific
2 actions and the Board's actual deliberation, I refer you
3 to the transcripts of the meeting, which are available
4 online at the Office of Subsistence Management website
5 www.r7.fws.gov/asm/transcpt.html, or by calling in a
6 request to the Office of Subsistence Management at
7 800-478-1456.

8

9 Proposal FP03-03 was submitted by the
10 Office of Subsistence Management. This proposal affected
11 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council and
12 was included as a consent agenda item. The Board adopted
13 this proposal by consent agenda at the conclusion of it's
14 meeting.

15

16 The following paragraphs provide an
17 explanation of the Board's recent actions on other
18 proposals in respect to issues specific to the
19 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council.

20

21 FP03-02 was submitted by the Association
22 of Village Council Presidents. This proposal would allow
23 the use of rod and reel to subsistence fish for salmon in
24 Yukon River tributaries. The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
25 Regional Advisory Council adopted the proposal. The
26 Eastern Interior and Western Interior Regional Advisory
27 Councils jointly supported the proposal with the
28 modification to include all federal waters in the Yukon
29 River drainage.

30

31 The Board adopted the proposal with
32 modifications to include all Federal waters in the Yukon
33 River drainage, consistent with the recommendations of
34 the Eastern Interior and Western Interior Regional
35 Advisory Councils. The proposal would provide an added
36 opportunity to harvest an occasional fresh salmon using a
37 rod and reel. This would apply throughout the Yukon
38 River drainage subsistence salmon closures, unless
39 restricted in-season by special action.

40

41 Statewide Proposal FP03-27 was submitted
42 by the Office of Subsistence Management. This proposal
43 would allow for the subsistence take of fish for
44 ceremonial/potlatch purposes. The Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta
45 Regional Advisory Council opposed this proposal. The
46 majority of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Council agreed that it is
47 not customary and traditional for the Yukon-Kuskokwim
48 residents to harvest fish for funerals, memorials, and
49 religious ceremonies, because fish are always available
50 to be harvested in the summer. Two Regional Advisory

00022

1 Councils, North Slope and Bristol Bay, supported this
2 proposal, while six support -- pardon me, while six
3 supported it with modification, Southeast, Southcentral,
4 Kodiak/Aleutians, Seward Peninsula, Eastern Interior and
5 Western Interior, and one had no recommendation,
6 Northwest Arctic.

7
8 The Board adopted this proposal with
9 modifications recommended by the Interagency Staff
10 Committee as follows. Quote, taking of fish from Federal
11 waters is authorized outside of published open seasons or
12 harvest limits if the harvested fish will be used for
13 food in traditional or religious ceremonies which are
14 part of funerary or mortuary cycles, including the
15 memorial potlatches, provided that: (A) The person, or
16 designee, or Tribal Government organizing the ceremony
17 contacts the appropriate Federal fisheries manager prior
18 to attempting to take fish to provide the nature of the
19 ceremony, the parties and/or clans involved, the species
20 and the number of fish to be taken, and the Federal
21 waters from which the harvest will occur. (B) The taking
22 does not violate recognized principles of fisheries
23 conservation and uses the methods and means allowable for
24 the particular species published in the applicable
25 Federal waters. I'm sorry, Federal regulations. The
26 Federal fisheries manager will establish the number,
27 species, or place of taking if necessary for conservation
28 purposes. (C) Each person who takes fish under this
29 section must, as soon as practical, and not more than 15
30 days after the harvest, submit a written report to the
31 appropriate Federal fisheries manager, specifying the
32 harvester's name and address, the number and species of
33 fish taken, and the date and locations of the taking.
34 (D) No permit is required for taking under this section;
35 however, the harvester must be eligible to harvest the
36 resource under Federal regulations.

37
38 The Board's actions recognized the
39 importance of fish with traditional ceremonial and
40 religious activities similar to it's recognition for the
41 taking of wildlife for similar reasons. It also provides
42 the necessary flexibility for subsistence users, while
43 maintaining the manager's authority to establish
44 conditions that ensure the conservation of fish stocks.

45
46 Statewide Proposal FP03-28 was submitted
47 by the Office of Subsistence Management. This proposal
48 would facilitate cooperation between Federal and State
49 fisheries managers and would ensure that in-season
50 regulations are coordinated. The Yukon-Kuskokwim

00023

1 Regional Advisory Council supported this proposal and
2 noted that the Yup'ik people work together when the
3 conservation of fish and wildlife resources become
4 necessary, by giving appropriate instructions to users.
5 The Eastern Interior and Western Interior Regional
6 Advisory Councils jointly supported this proposal with
7 the modification that it would only apply to the Yukon
8 and Kuskokwim drainages.

9

10 The Board adopted the Interagency
11 Committee recommendations to apply the regulations only
12 to the Yukon and Kuskokwim areas at this time. This
13 modification was consistent with the recommendations of
14 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Western Interior, and Eastern
15 Interior Regional Councils.

16

17 Once again, the Federal Subsistence Board
18 would like to express it's appreciation for the Regional
19 Advisory Council's active involvement and diligence with
20 the regulatory process. The 10 Regional Advisory
21 Councils continue to be the foundation of the Federal
22 Subsistence Program and the stewardship shown by the
23 Regional Advisory Council Chairs and their
24 representatives at the December Board meeting was
25 noteworthy.

26

27 Should you have any questions regarding
28 the summary of the Board's actions, please contact Alex
29 Nick, your Regional Council Coordinator, at
30 1-800-621-5804, extension 257, or directly at
31 907-543-1037.

32

33 Sincerely Mitch Demientieff, Chair,
34 Federal Subsistence Board.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,
37 Alex. This is inform letter, however, because we've got
38 some Councils that don't understand English, the reason
39 we read this.

40

41 I think as myself ever since I've become
42 Chair, I bring over proposals from this Council.
43 Sometime it's very hard. To me I go through. So concern
44 of these proposal, it is very important that Regional
45 Council provide a good justification for the proposal,
46 and we recommend that justification should be soon, that
47 the proposal would be better serve subsistence needs, and
48 would not threaten the health of the fish and wildlife
49 populations.

50

00024

1 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Council,
2 we represent all of the people in our region, not only
3 the people in our communities. Our region we present all
4 36 communities in Yukon-Kuskokwim in our region. Because
5 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Council represent large area, the
6 most important job Council have when they work on
7 proposals, we Council should always make sure that we do
8 our best recommendation for the people that we represent,
9 because the Federal Subsistence Board weighs the
10 recommendation very heavily when it makes their decision.
11 It's very important when you sit in front of the Council,
12 Subsistence Council, you've got to have really best of
13 recommendation that you carry for your people, because
14 our native people, we have law that's completely
15 different. You're here in Chevak. Chevak is completely
16 from other villages, too, because in Yukon itself today
17 I've got three nets. We catch every other day fish.
18 Here they don't have. They don't have. So it's
19 completely different, so it's just very important when we
20 do our Council proposal, if we do it best we can.

21
22 I do best as I can. Because I've got
23 broken English, I can read certain and limited. Even I'm
24 Yup'ik translating, I'm limited, but I do my best to
25 represent this Council.

26
27 This Council have a lot of work they has
28 been go through and they do -- I think to me, they do a
29 wonderful job every time when they work on a proposal,
30 because they think about other people. And they make
31 sure always the elders come first to talk and what
32 concerning about our proposal. Thank you.

33
34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

37
38 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

39
40 INTERPRETER: Mary said she'll be
41 speaking in English. She says she likes this letter from
42 Mitch Demientieff. And that contained in this letter, if
43 we are going to hold feasts, or ceremonial feasts, Mitch
44 Demientieff is our Federal Subsistence Board Chair. And
45 then she's thinking that maybe a letter should be sent to
46 Mitch from this Council for his continued diligence.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, (In Yup'ik)

49
50 I understand what you're saying. We will

00025

1 do that. So maybe our coordinator here, you understand
2 what Mary say, that we could -- to accept that.

3

4 So is there others Regional Council
5 members' report and concern? Some of you have been
6 representing councils in other meetings. Lester.

7

8 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE: I went to the meeting up
13 at Holy Cross while they were discussing customary and
14 traditional determination for the Lower Yukon villages,
15 starting from Russian Mission on down, and including the
16 -- at that time -- prior to that, we found that Hooper
17 Bay, Scammon Bay, and Chevak was excluded from the
18 request for use of customary and traditional use
19 determination of moose in 21(E). So at that time we
20 requested that Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay and Chevak be
21 included on the customary use determination for 21(E).

22

23 But we found that because of unreported
24 hunting by Chevak in 21(E), they were not able to be
25 included. The only documented harvest tickets that came
26 from this area were from Hooper Bay and Scammon Bay. So
27 Hooper Bay and Scammon Bay were able to be included in
28 that request for customary and traditional use
29 determination in 21(E).

30

31 The meeting I went to was a meeting held
32 by GASH, the advisory council consisting of Grayling,
33 Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross. They were having the
34 same problems it seems like of reporting of harvest in
35 moose in some areas, not just the problem we're having
36 here in Chevak, but also they were having the same
37 problem up at Shageluk. In their customary and
38 traditional use determination for moose in that area,
39 Shageluk, although they are right in the middle of it,
40 were negligent in reporting their harvest tickets.

41

42 So the GASH approved the request for
43 customary and traditional use determination for the Lower
44 Yukon Villages, including Hooper Bay and Scammon Bay, to
45 be included in 21(E). But they've changed the boundary
46 line to the lower end of 21(E) from -- two mountains. I
47 forgot. Molybdenum Mountain to -- it's on the lower half
48 of the Paimiut Slough there anyway. And GASH -- thank
49 you. The -- okay. Tabernacle -- the line that was drawn
50 for customary and traditional use for the Lower Yukon in

00026

1 21(E), the line that was drawn and agreed upon by a
2 committee that came from that upper area with Harry and a
3 couple other people from the Lower Yukon, they came up
4 with a line from Tabernacle Mountain, which is a little
5 above Paimiut Slough, over to Innoko, Paimiut Slough, the
6 Innoko Slough and Paimiut Slough where they meet
7 together, and then a line over to Molybdenum Mountain.
8 And GASH approved that request, the request for customary
9 and traditional use determination.

10

CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you.

12

13 MR. L. WILDE: That's all I have, Mr.
14 Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Lester.
17 Yeah.

18

19 (In Yup'ik)

20

21 MR. NASH: (In Yup'ik) Jacob Nash, Chevak
22 resident, an elder, has a statement to make.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

25

26 MR. NASH: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

27

28 INTERPRETER: I wanted to say to you
29 regarding not -- the issue of not submitting harvest
30 tickets. I ceased to submit these tickets during the
31 moose season after I received a letter. Since I hunt
32 from this area, it's been twice so far, I've gone with my
33 grandsons as my shooters when I went last year.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

36

37 The reason I stopped him, do you have
38 recorders, radios, whatever, for those of you who don't
39 understand Yup'ik, you should wear those, because they're
40 English translating over there what he's saying. Quyana.

41

42 MR. JACOB: I could speak in English, but
43 since I'm not proficient, since I'm an elder, I will
44 speak my language. And John Hanson knows I can speak
45 English fairly well.

46

47 When I would hunt in the Yukon River area
48 above Marsh, I'd go above Russian Mission. This boundary
49 has just been known. I went as far as Innoko River. I
50 reported my catch through the harvest permit, harvest

00027

1 ticket. I was told at some point that I did not need a
2 permit to hunt through Fish and Game. And I did not
3 submit these harvest tickets, because I have been told
4 that I did not need to. And I wanted to bring this
5 forward. Last year I just shot Canadian geese.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana.

8

9 MR. MOSES: Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Phillip.

12

13 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

14

15 INTERPRETER: I am grateful for my
16 translators, since I cannot be understood. The
17 translator are a big help.

18

19 When I listen to this discussion
20 regarding resources, I hear of conservation measures to
21 allow numbers to grow. Those before us hunted and fished
22 constantly and consistently without being regulated,
23 especially in the winter. It is a hard time as far as
24 harvest for resources. Up to this day fishing is
25 limited, especially in the winter. When resource or
26 foods get scarce, many times we have to go through the
27 cold -- battle the cold weather to try to catch what
28 little we can, because the subsistence lifestyle is all
29 we had. They strive to fee their children, and I of
30 recent years have heard of measures to, conservation
31 measures to increase the numbers of fish that are
32 migrating.

33

34 In our villages, in my understanding, a
35 lot of our people are becoming restricted by the land
36 holders or those with management authority. Committees
37 have been developed to manage fisheries. This will not
38 go along the ways of our Yup'ik people and traditions. I
39 hear of caps or limits on catch for fish, or limits.

40

41 The summertime was the peak season as far
42 as fisheries harvest for subsistence. Many who are
43 fishing take as much as they can manage, and whatever is
44 in excess is given to those around them. They shared,
45 because that is the way we do it.

46

47 The subsistence practices cannot be
48 restricted without consulting those that are the
49 consumers or users of the resource, because a lot of our
50 providers are men, hunters and fishermen do so with

00028

1 hardship. Many of those with management power are not
2 aware of this, of the hardship. And especially in winter
3 when the ice thickens, fish is not easily accessible, and
4 we need to keep that in mind for those in the fish and
5 game management.
6

7 In my observation, our people continually
8 and consistently subsist for these resources. Many do
9 not catch what they need, especially in winter when it is
10 cold. The summertime it's much easier, and methods and
11 means are much better, because some of our catch, the
12 availability of our catch is not always there.
13 Particularly in winter we continue to take what we can.
14

15 And also the migration of fish varies
16 from year to year. There's lower numbers in some year,
17 and the numbers seem to be diminishing from what they
18 used to be.
19

20 All resources, even the waterfowl are --
21 waterfowl numbers are coming down. And they are
22 regulated of late over the last number of years. In the
23 early days there used to be large vast amounts of birds,
24 and these were in the days when they were not regulated
25 or managed. I wonder why they continue to diminish now
26 especially with management. Some geese are disappearing.
27

28
29 I wanted to share this with you so you
30 understand our concept and our lifestyle of subsistence.
31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana, Phillip.
33

34 MR. NASH: Jacob Nash has something else
35 to say. Since I heard my cousin say these things, I
36 wanted to add a little bit more. Fish and game
37 management first started in this area. There were three
38 of us from this community that helped. My brother, Peter
39 Friday, and Mr. Peterson and himself were instrumental in
40 helping Fish and Game personnel. This was at a time when
41 we were at the old village site of Chevak. When they
42 first arrived, our subsistence lifestyle was not managed
43 or challenged. In the first few years with the birds,
44 they issued or put out rings on the birds, and we
45 discussed at that time how this was going to be handled.
46 We brought this before our people, because I did not
47 share the -- or I did not like the monitoring of the
48 birds. I did not participate. This was not handled in
49 the -- when we worked on this in the old site. Our
50 forefathers hunted as much as they can, but took what

00029

1 they could only use.

2

3 We need to enforce the subsistence
4 concept and the lifestyle. If we do not speak out, it
5 will not move forward, especially those of us that are
6 elders now today. Those that were here before us and
7 handled this issue did not see what would be happening
8 now, and management was not an issue.

9

10 I want to move to this other area. I
11 went to a meeting in Juneau. There were 38 of us to
12 discuss subsistence. that was -- it was a consensus and
13 a decision was made that the subsistence was not going to
14 be tampered with. Paul Gregory is aware of -- was aware
15 of this, as he was our spokesman at that meeting in years
16 past.

17

18 In my mind, in limiting -- when our
19 Yup'ik hunters and fishermen are limited, that just does
20 not settle within my mind, because we don't take more
21 than is needed. And I just wanted to share that with
22 you.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. John Hanson.

25

26 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
27 Chairman. I'm going to say it in Yup'ik. I can say it
28 better with Yup'ik than English. We've got translators
29 here, they will translate it in English. (In Yup'ik)

30

31 INTERPRETER: I am going to say what I
32 have to say in Yup'ik because I would articulate better
33 in Yup'ik, since we have translators.

34

35 Lester Wilde made a statement earlier and
36 I wanted to add to what he said. Harry Wilde and I
37 travelled to Anchorage together in December regarding
38 moose in Unit 21(E). We wanted to include these three
39 villages into the C&T determination, including Chevak. I
40 was supposed to go to a subsequent meeting that dealt
41 with this issue, but I did not attend, because I was not
42 well healthwise. It was at that meeting that Chevak was
43 eliminated from the C&T determination regarding the 21(E)
44 hunt.

45

46 When Harry and I went to the previous
47 meeting we -- regarding the boundaries that were
48 recommended, we included the three villages here. Lester
49 outlined the boundaries between the three mountains where
50 -- at the mouth of the Innoko, upriver. We recommended

00030

1 that from Chevak north to Kotlik, and then up the Yukon
2 to Kusko -- or up the Yukon to Russian Mission would be
3 included within this boundary of 21(E). Although Chevak
4 has been removed from this boundary, those that hunt in
5 this area will not be removed. Harry and I included all
6 three communities when these boundaries, and include them
7 in the map.

8

9 At a subsequent meeting Chevak was
10 removed, but all will be open -- all hunters will be open
11 in this area. Moose hunters from this area, from the
12 coast, from the Yukon that traditionally and customarily
13 hunt in this area will be -- will have access.

14

15 At that meeting when we were
16 deliberating, we brought up the fact that the upriver
17 Athabascans would hunt in this area, and vice versa. We
18 brought up this issue, and I wanted to bring it forth at
19 this time.

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,
22 John Hanson. John Thompson.

23

24 MR. THOMPSON: John Thompson. I'm John
25 Thompson, and I will speak in Yup'ik, too.

26

27 Chevak was deleted for the Kuskokwim --
28 or for the customary and traditional determination for
29 21(E). I have a question. Will the enforcement
30 personnel differentiate hunters if they are from Chevak?
31 Will they be told to go home or.....

32

33 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I could
34 answer that. This was just for customary and traditional
35 use determination. In the event that we don't have any
36 moose down here, and we want to go hunt, the moose is
37 deleted, the only time, the only people that can hunt the
38 up there in that area in the event that there's hardly
39 any moose are the people that are going -- are the people
40 or the villages that are included in the customary and
41 traditional use determination.

42

43 They could go up and hunt any time up
44 there. Chevak can go up there and hunt wherever they
45 want. They got a hunting license, they got a permit. As
46 long as there is not -- as long as there's enough moose
47 out there for regular hunts, they're able to go up there
48 and hunt. The only time they can't hunt is when there's
49 no more moose up there, and they have to go into a
50 customary and traditional use determined hunts. Does

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1 that answer your question?

2

3 MR. THOMPSON: Part of it.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I'm going to
6 cut this moose 21(E), because there's a proposal here,
7 Proposal 33. We'll get into it later on. At this time
8 we're going to have a 10-minutes break.

9

10 (Off record - 11:20 a.m.)

11

12 (On record - 1:02 p.m.)

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, we have an
15 announcement this afternoon. Go ahead.

16

17 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For
18 those of you who are from out of town, make certain that
19 if you're eating in the school, you're on the list.
20 Breakfast cost in the morning at the school will be about
21 \$2 and lunch is \$3. And I believe they will collect from
22 you based on number of times you eat if you didn't pay
23 for your meals at the school, today and tomorrow. Make
24 sure you have your name listed on the list, and who has
25 the list now, Don? Jerry Berg or -- okay. Jerry Berg
26 has the list.

27

28 Okay. And also another announcement is
29 Proposal 33 will be presented by Pat McClenahan by
30 teleconferencing at 10:00 o'clock a.m. tomorrow morning.

31

32 Another announcement I got is there's a
33 list going around right now by Ray Hand, right? And also
34 by Ida Hildebrand. They're trying to find out how many
35 people want to go back to Bethel tomorrow evening. If
36 you have round trip ticket by Era, I believe you need to
37 see Ida, and if you have a round trip ticket by either
38 Hageland or Grant, you need to see Ray. So make sure
39 that you go see him. What they're trying to do right now
40 is they're trying to figure out if they're going to be --
41 if there will be able to send extra planes tomorrow to
42 bring you back at least to Bethel tomorrow evening. Mr.
43 Chairman.

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.
46 Right now I'd like to welcome Myron Naneng, President of
47 AVCP.

48

49 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

50

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1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: I saw, I would like to
4 recognize Elmer Simon from TC Hooper Bay. Elmer.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Welcome to our
7 meeting. Also I think to me it's kind of important.
8 Before we finish our meeting, we're going to talk about
9 one of the important item, what you call transportation
10 problem with the Council. We're going to go over this
11 after looking at how far we will go before we through
12 with our meeting. We'll talk about that later.

13

14 So at this time we are going into
15 wildlife regulatory proposal review and recommendation.
16 Alex Nick. You find this at your Tab B on your booklet.

17

18 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, at this time I
19 believe Pete DeMatteo that there's another proposal
20 that's been added on the agenda by mistake. Pete
21 DeMatteo will be presenting some of these proposals.

22

23 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, members of the
24 Council, if you look in your books on Page 2 at the
25 beginning of the book.

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: On what?

28

29 MR. DeMATTEO: Page 2.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Page 2.

32

33 MR. DeMATTEO: The very beginning of the
34 book. And you see at the top there's two statewide
35 proposals, Proposal 1 and Proposal 2. We will be
36 covering those. But after that there's Regional and
37 cross-over proposals that go Proposals 22 through 38 as
38 you mentioned earlier.

39

40 I'm sorry to say that we mistakenly added
41 two in there that do not affect the people of your
42 region. It was just an administrative mix-up. Proposal
43 22 and also Proposal 27 deal with Unit 17 and the
44 portions of 17 where no one in Unit 18 has customary and
45 traditional use determination to harvest these particular
46 resources in 17. So Staff recommends that you delete
47 that from your agenda to save time, or if you wish to
48 consider them, I can make the presentations, and you can
49 make comment on them, even though that they do not affect
50 people of your region. But the rest of the proposals we

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1 will cover.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

4

5 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman.

6

7 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. DeMatteo are you
8 saying that Proposal.....

9

10 REPORTER: Your microphone.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE:21, 24, 26 and 27?

13

14 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

15

16 MR. L. WILDE: I'm sorry, my question
17 again is Proposal 22, 24, 26, and 27, are you suggesting
18 that they be deleted, or just the two, 22 and 17.

19

20 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mr. Lester --
21 Mr. Wilde, I'm just Proposal 22 and 27 be deleted. Just
22 those two, 22 and 27.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we'll do it
25 proper way. Proposal 22 and 27, I think we could remove
26 it by motion.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: I so move, Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Mary make a
31 motion to remove 22 and 27 from packet of proposals. If
32 there's any second to the motion?

33

34 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, to be on her
35 good side, I'll second it.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. It's second by
38 Lester. Discussion.

39

40 (No discussion)

41

42 MR. HANSON: Question.

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question has been
45 called for. All who favor say aye.

46

47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

50

00034

1 (No opposing votes.)

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. 22
4 and 27 is removed. Now we get into Proposal 01.

5

6 MR. DeMATTEO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7 Proposal 01 was submitted by the Office of Subsistence
8 Management, and this requests that the Federal Board
9 establish a statewide Federal regulation allowing the
10 taking of wildlife for religious and ceremonial potlatch
11 purposes. The Federal subsistence regulations currently
12 allow for the taking of wildlife for outside of their
13 proposed seasons and harvest limits for ceremonial
14 purposes, but adoption of this proposal would standardize
15 and simplify Federal subsistence wildlife regulations and
16 extend an opportunity to all Federally-qualified
17 subsistence users to harvest wildlife for use in
18 traditional religious ceremonial potlatches.

19

20 The proposed regulation requires that the
21 harvesting does not violate recognized principles of fish
22 and wildlife conservation, and prior notice must be given
23 to the delegated local Federal land manager.

24

25 I will point out that if this proposed
26 regulatory provision is adopted, no action would be
27 required on Proposal 12 as the statewide provision would
28 accommodate the use of wildlife for religious and
29 ceremonial purposes for those regions.

30

31 The existing regulations are way too
32 lengthy to cover in this meeting, but you can take a look
33 at those if you wish. They're in Appendix A on Page 25
34 of your book. But again they're too -- it's like seven
35 pages there, and I don't think we want to cover them now.

36

37

38 I will point out though some main points
39 of the proposed regulation would be that a hunter may
40 take wildlife outside of the season or harvest limits for
41 traditional religious ceremonies for funerals or mortuary
42 ceremonies. A person organizing the ceremony must
43 contact the Federal land management agency with
44 information about the species and location it will be
45 taken. And also, as I mentioned before, there cannot be
46 any violation of principles of fish and wildlife
47 conservation.

48

49 Also a report must be filed with the
50 federal land management agency within 15 days after the

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1 harvest.

2

3 And also no permit or harvest ticket is
4 required, but the harvester must be an Alaska resident,
5 and that person must also have C&T for the resource that
6 that person wishes to harvest for that particular area.

7

8 This proposal, if it were to be adopted,
9 would bring Federal regs more in line with the State
10 regulations that were passed in November of 2002, and you
11 can look at those on page 19 of your book, the State
12 regulations are there, of the relevant State of Alaska
13 regulations.

14

15 State regulations allow for the taking of
16 big game for certain religious ceremonies. And under the
17 State regulations, a written permit is not needed, but
18 prior notification through a tribal chief or a village
19 council is required. A written report after the harvest
20 is required as well.

21

22 If this proposal were to be adopted it
23 would affect -- the adoption of the proposal would have
24 minimal impacts on wildlife populations. It would
25 standardize and simplify Federal subsistence regulations,
26 and also in certain parts of the State, again this is a
27 statewide proposal, it would shorten the post-harvest
28 reporting requirement by five days. It would also
29 require the individual or the tribal representative, as I
30 mentioned before, to report to the appropriate land
31 manager. It would also afford all Federally-qualified
32 subsistence users an opportunity -- users the opportunity
33 to take wildlife for use as food in traditional religious
34 ceremonies which are part of a funeral or mortuary cycle,
35 including memorial potlatches.

36

37 The preliminary conclusion is to adopt
38 the proposal with modifications as presented in your
39 Council book on Page 22. On 22, halfway down, it says
40 state and then wildlife. And there's one, two, three,
41 four items there. The existing language that would be
42 deleted is crossed out. You can see there's a line
43 through it. And the new language that is added is in
44 bold print.

45

46 If you wish, Mr. Chair, I can read
47 through it, or you can review it on your own now. Do you
48 wish me to read it?

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh.

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1 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. The proposed
2 language with the modifications will read as follows.

3
4 You may take wildlife outside the seasons
5 or harvest limits provided in this part of food -- in
6 this part for food in traditional religious ceremonies
7 which are part of a funerary or mortuary cycle, including
8 memorial potlatches if:

9
10 Number 1. Prior to taking the wildlife,
11 the person or the designee or tribal government
12 organizing the ceremony contacts the appropriate federal
13 land manager in order to provide the following: the
14 nature of the ceremony, the parties and/or the clans
15 involved, the species and the number of wildlife to be
16 taken, and the Federal lands from which the harvest will
17 occur.

18
19 Number 2. The harvest does not violate
20 recognized principles of wildlife conservation and uses
21 the methods and means allowable for the particular
22 species published in the applicable Federal regulations.
23 The appropriate Federal land manager will be establish --
24 will establish the number, species, sex, or place of
25 taking if necessary for conservation purposes.

26
27 Number 3. Each person who harvests
28 wildlife under this section must, as soon as practicable,
29 and not more than 15 days after harvest, submit a written
30 report to the appropriate federal land manager,
31 specifying the harvester's name and address, the number,
32 sex, species of wildlife harvested, the date and
33 locations of the harvest, and the names and the
34 decedents (sic) for whom the ceremony was held.

35
36 Number 4. No permit or harvest ticket is
37 required for harvest under this section; however, the
38 harvester must be an Alaska rural resident with customary
39 and traditional use in that area where the harvesting
40 will occur.

41
42 Mr. Chair, that concludes the proposed
43 language with the modification. Thank you.

44
45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

46
47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I have a question.
50 Under where it says the food, what kind of sex it was,

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1 the reporting system, does that mean that I could get a
2 cow moose? Is that what it means?

3

4 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mary, that
5 refers to if cow moose are permitted for legal harvest in
6 that area, yes, then you could take a cow moose. But
7 like I said, it has to follow principles of wildlife
8 conservation as it says above there.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: So you should state that in
11 this section, because it's very confusing.

12

13 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. So noted. So under
14 item 3 there, where it says the sex, in parenthesis we'll
15 put that sex must be in accordance with current
16 regulations.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: Then you can connect that.

19

20 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. Thank you.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: Myron (in Yup'ik).

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron.

25

26 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman, I just want to
27 ask a question.

28

29 MS. GREGORY: Quyana. (In Yup'ik)

30

31 MR. NANENG: You're welcome. Mr.
32 Chairman. Under whose regulations are we -- is this
33 ceremonial hunting going to be allowed? The State or the
34 Feds. That's the question that I have in response to the
35 issue raised by Mary that you have to follow certain
36 regulations at the time to be able to go after either a
37 cow moose or a bull moose or -- and if we just leave it
38 at sex without specifying what regulations to follow, if
39 the only thing that you see while you're out hunting for
40 a ceremonial game or something to provide for the
41 ceremonial, then it's going to create -- if the only
42 thing that they saw out there is a cow moose, then under
43 whose regulations? You end up becoming a criminal again,
44 you may be following someone's regulations that you're
45 not allowed to hunt cow moose. So that's the only
46 question and point I'd like to raise. Thank you, Mr.
47 Chair.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete, respond to his
50 question?

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1 MR. DeMATTEO: I think Mr. Naneng's
2 comment is well stated, and what he's saying is if people
3 go out there with the intent to follow the regulation,
4 and if it just happens to be for bulls only, and they go
5 out there and only see cows, they have a difficult
6 decision ahead of them. You asked me the questions is,
7 you know, what are the regulations, and I'm just laying
8 them out as they lay on the paper.

9
10 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, he wants to
11 know whose law we're following then.

12
13 MR. DeMATTEO: Well....

14
15 MS. GREGORY: The state or the feds.

16
17 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. As I said before,
18 the regulations on page 19 under the State. Without this
19 proposal, you already have State regulations that provide
20 for the taking of moose for the purpose of ceremonial
21 potlatch, okay. Under the State. And the requirements
22 for reporting are a little bit less rigorous than what's
23 under the Federal regulation. Okay. So you have the
24 choice, either you go to the State land manager or the
25 Federal land manager, under whose regulations you'd like
26 to take them under. Maybe -- we have Staff here from
27 Alaska Department of Fish and Game that could probably
28 shed some more light on the State requirements than I
29 can.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
32 Fish and Game.

33
34 MR. COFFING: Hi, Harry. Members of the
35 Council, Mike Coffing, Subsistence Division, Fish and
36 Game, Bethel. What I'd like to do is provide the State
37 comments on this proposal as it's written. And there are
38 comments in the booklet on the proposal as it was
39 submitted. I have some additional comments I'll refer to
40 here. And then I'll follow up on some comments that Pete
41 made and questions that Mary had and others had. There
42 are comments about this proposal on page 17 of the
43 Council book.

44
45 The main -- there's two main differences
46 between the State regulation and this Federal proposal.
47 They're very similar. They would allow for very similar
48 uses.

49
50 The Federal regulation, this proposal,

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1 will apply only on Federal lands. That's one. The State
2 regulation applies on all lands, State, private and
3 Federal lands. So the State regulation as it currently
4 is applies to all lands. This proposal applies only on
5 the Federal lands.

6

7 The second primary difference is that the
8 State's regulation for ceremonial uses applies to big
9 game. Specifically big game. This one applies to
10 wildlife. All wildlife. So that's the second main
11 difference here.

12

13 Most of the ceremonial uses that I've
14 seen when people have called me asking if they could take
15 an animal has been for moose primarily. I don't recall
16 any calls about caribou. There have been some calls
17 about muskox. So those are all big game species.

18

19 So the Federal regulation is for all
20 wildlife. The State's regulation is for big game only.

21

22 Now, the State's regulation does allow
23 for taking of either sex, so if you're in an area where
24 there's say a general hunting season for bulls only, and
25 you want to take a moose for ceremonial uses, you can
26 take a cow under State regulation. It allows for that.
27 That's why one of the requirements in reporting is to
28 report what sex of animal you take, so cow or bull,
29 either one, is allowed under State regulations.

30

31 Something I think the Council should
32 consider, and maybe ask for some clarification on is
33 this. There is already a State regulation that allows
34 for this type of take on all lands. Now, this, what
35 we're talking about now is the federal regulation to
36 allow for it on Federal lands, with also a reporting
37 requirement. So the question is, if there is take on
38 Federal lands, does the person have to require a permit
39 from the State or request or notify the State and notify
40 the Federal land manager, both, about that take, and who
41 do they report to? Do they report to the State or do
42 they report to the Federal folks if it's taken on Federal
43 land?

44

45 It might simplify the matter if the
46 allowance for taking of big game or wildlife if you would
47 on Federal lands was allowed, but that the reporting and
48 the notification be to one land manager, be to one agency
49 instead of to two, because I can foresee a case where
50 someone's going to want to take an animal for ceremonial

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1 purposes, and they're going to wonder, do I contact the
2 State, or do I talk to the Yukon Delta Refuge, or the
3 Federal Subsistence office, or who do I call? Who do I
4 talk to about this? And who's going to tell me it's
5 okay. And then once I harvest it, who do I report to?
6 Well, it depends on whose land you're on. Well, we know
7 how confusing it can be out there, knowing whose land
8 you're on.

9
10 So I would just suggest some
11 clarification you might ask for or something that you
12 might think about is not so much whether it should be
13 allowed, because the State does allow it, and it would
14 make sense in my mind that the Federal regulation would
15 allow it, too, but more specifically the reporting
16 requirement. Who is notified, the State or the Feds, or
17 both in that case. So those are my comments, Mr.
18 Chairman.

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, thank you,
21 Mike. We try to follow this procedures. At this time
22 try to follow procedures that we go through, and Advisory
23 Council, we deliberate after we take care of rest of
24 others. Yeah, okay. Question.

25
26 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
27 James Charles.

28
29 Mike, it said appropriate land managers
30 who if we ask for a permit from -- you mentioned private
31 land owner, and like corporation land, and surrounded by
32 State, who do we go do, corporation or State or if it's
33 in Federal refuge land, and we want to get that animal
34 from inside that area.

35
36 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, James, I
37 think the intent, maybe land manager was used, I think
38 the intent is to report to the wildlife managing agency
39 for those lands, so it would be, for example, Fish and
40 Wildlife Service on Yukon Delta Refuge lands, or State of
41 Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, if it's State lands
42 or private lands. That's who you'd report to.

43
44 Now, the difficulty is, as you know, you
45 might hunt on both, but where is the animal killed at.
46 And if that's a determining factor about who you report
47 to, it could be difficult to know whether you're even
48 reporting to the right agency. There are examples, I
49 think harvest tickets are one good one, where we have
50 hunting regulations on State lands and Federal lands, but

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1 we only have one harvest ticket system, so if you want to
2 hunt on Federal lands, use a State harvest ticket, and
3 that data gets turned into the State. But that's an
4 example where you could have the same regulations on both
5 State and Federal lands, but really the reporting,
6 notification is to one agency, and the other agency
7 provides for that in their regulations, and they're able
8 to get the harvest information from the agency collecting
9 the information from the hunter.

10

11 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Coffing, on number 4,
16 doesn't that, or whoever is doing this, Pete, no harvest
17 or permit ticket is required for harvesting under this
18 law. So what does that - how does that apply to number
19 3? If you don't need a harvest ticket, you can -- if you
20 don't need a harvest ticket, you don't need to report.

21

22 MR. COFFING: Go ahead, Pete.

23

24 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Ms. Gregory,
25 what they're referring to is you don't need to have a
26 harvest permit prior to the hunt. You just have to
27 contact the land manager and say, we're having this
28 ceremony going on soon. We need to harvest this animal
29 in this area. Okay. And then there's a reporting
30 requirement afterwards.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. I have a
33 problem with this proposal, because it's not clear, and
34 it's very confusing. I would like to ask the people who
35 -- the proponents to get the language down and represent
36 it to us.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

39

40 MR. COFFING: Yes, thank you, Mr.
41 Chairman. Some of the -- perhaps some of confusion stems
42 from this. This is a regulation that's been around for
43 quite some time under the State regulations, and I've
44 taken calls personally, I've had people that report to
45 me, but what this regulation allows for is that during a
46 closed season, for example, when there's no moose open,
47 it's closed, and people want to take an animal for maybe
48 a funeral feast or a renaming feast, for example. We've
49 had several of them on the Yukon. Every year we have
50 some. It allows a person to go out to take an animal for

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1 that feast, for that potlatch, for that funeral ceremony.
2 Even though the season's closed, it lets them do that
3 legally without a harvest ticket. And the only
4 requirement is that they notify us and tell us they're
5 going to do it, and then when the hunt is over with, then
6 they notify us and say, this is what we caught, this is
7 who caught it, this is who the feast was for, this is the
8 day we harvested it and where we harvested it, and it
9 was, you know, a moose or a caribou, and it was a bull or
10 a cow. And that's all there is to it. It really
11 provides some real opportunity for people to take
12 animals, so what this proposal would allow for, it would
13 allow for the same thing under the Federal regulations
14 that the State already allows for. Okay?

15
16 I hope that clarifies it. It provides
17 some opportunity that otherwise wouldn't be there during
18 what might be a closed season for funerary purposes.

19
20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.
21 John Thompson?

22
23 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah, it makes me kind of
24 confused when you mentioned cow and a bull. And in that
25 case then both are allowable or depending on the
26 conservation? If there's enough moose for that
27 ceremonial, is it okay bull or a cow? Both?

28
29 MR. COFFING: Johnny, under State
30 regulations either one would be allowed. That would be
31 up to the hunter.

32
33 MR. THOMPSON: How about predator.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Hanson.

36
37 MR. DeMATTEO: Under Federal, Mr. Hanson
38 (sic), you'd have to follow the regulations. If it was
39 provided for in regulations that it was bull only,
40 following wildlife conservation efforts that are going on
41 for that particular area, then that would be what you
42 would to follow.

43
44 MR. THOMPSON: That's the reason why I
45 asked the question on it. I wish both Federal and State
46 would agree in this individual proposal so it don't be
47 confusing. And it makes it kind of hard for us to follow
48 which, State or Federal, but if they both agree with this
49 individual, I think it's better off to agree and then the
50 community would not confuse, like it happened this

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1 winter, too. And people have to go, especially without
2 snow, and they had to look for a bull. And they didn't
3 catch any. they saw about seven cows, and no bulls, so
4 that's why I present this.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I think if you
7 guys going to present something to us or to the audience,
8 you guys should come in prepare, instead of whispering,
9 and something, it seems to me they don't even listening
10 when somebody was talking.

11
12 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, I caught all
13 his comments, and I just want to respond to it. Under
14 what's proposed here is that the Federal land manager can
15 make the decision of which sex, okay, male or female,
16 bull or cow, right, if the population will allow for
17 that. Okay. If there's strong conservation concerns for
18 the number of cows that are in that population, and he
19 may be restricted to bulls.

20
21 But you have the option here to voice
22 your comments on how you feel about this to the Federal
23 Board. Okay. You can support this, you know, with the
24 modification X, Y, and Z and say that you want it to be
25 either -- you want it to be both, either sex. I'm just
26 portraying to you what's down here on paper.

27
28 MR. THOMPSON: Since a lot of people, you
29 know, the hunters, they know all the -- like there's
30 nothing but cows, and we all know some are nonproducers,
31 and there are a lot of elder people could verify or know
32 which cow is not producing, and that's something that I
33 would like to present at same time. And there's too many
34 cows. And if the State and Federal could give tickets to
35 certain people that year for cows, and I think it would
36 be better, especially for the elders or the community
37 that needs for ceremonial. And I would appreciate that.
38 Thank you.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Hanson.

41
42 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
43 Chairman. Well, let's go back to late 79, early 80s.
44 This proposal that we have in front of us, this happened
45 when I was on the Game Board. And we passed it. There
46 was me and Sidney were on that Board. We passed this
47 proposal to either sex. Either a cow or a bull. One of
48 those two. The person that's going out to go get the
49 funeral ceremonial thing, if he sees a cow, he can get it
50 just for that purpose. Or if no cow, if there's a bull,

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1 he can get the bull. That's how it was done, and I don't
2 know, it's been a long time. Maybe the Board of Game
3 changed it around, or something.

4
5 But if the Federal wants to follow the
6 State regulation, it would be the same. Either sex. A
7 cow or a bull. Thank you.

8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

10
11 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, following --
12 hearing these comments, I'm going to bring back and it
13 will be put into the analysis that the Council gave oral
14 testimony supporting that it be modified that Federal
15 regulations allow either sex to mirror the State
16 provision.

17
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies or
19 organizations, do you have a comment to Proposal 1?
20 Glenn. Before you comment, we welcome you back, and
21 Glenn Chen, for our meeting here. Yeah, go ahead.

22
23 MR. CHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For the
24 record, my name is Glenn Chen. I'm with the Bureau of
25 Indian Affairs, and a member of the Interagency Staff
26 Committee.

27
28 I would like to suggest a small, but
29 important, modification to the Staff recommendation, and
30 I'd turn your attention to Page 23. At the top of the
31 Page 23, on section 3 of the proposed regulation, it
32 lists that the permit, let's see, the harvest record, the
33 harvest reporting, must specify the name of the decedent.
34 I would like to recommend that that language be struck
35 from section 3. This would make it consistent with the
36 recommendations of the other Regional Councils who feel
37 that the name of the decedent is private information, and
38 should not be part of the permit requirement. And this
39 would also make it consistent with the fisheries
40 regulations developed for ceremonial harvest that were
41 approved by the Federal Board last December. Thank you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you.

44
45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. I concur with
46 the suggestion, because the way it's written, it doesn't
47 make me feel that somebody trusts me.

48
49 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair.

50

00045

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

2

3 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, so noted that
4 it shall reflect that the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional
5 Council would like to see it further modified to delete
6 the name of the decedent.

7

8 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE: Just one question. Are
13 you going to take the proposal -- what am I trying to
14 say? What I'm trying to say, are you going to take these
15 passing on the proposals one by one, or are you going to
16 take the package as a whole?

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, I'm not going to
19 pass it in a whole. I'm going to take it one by one.

20

21 MR. L. WILDE: In that case, Mr.
22 Chairman, I'd like to move that Proposal 1 be approved.

23

24 MR. HANSON: Second.

25

26 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I want to
27 make sure that what we have said and our concerns be
28 written down and presented.

29

30 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, my motion would like
31 to include as modified.

32

33 MR. HANSON: The second concurs.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

36

37 MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like
38 to see or hear the modified record of this before I make
39 any motion.

40

41 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, it would, yeah,
42 section 2 on Page 22. Section 2 on Page 22, where it
43 says the appropriate Federal land manager will establish
44 the number, the species and the sex, either the word sex
45 will be deleted or it will say either sex, but it will
46 allow the option of either sex, cow or bull, to mirror
47 the state provision, okay, as we discussed here.

48

49 Also we'll delete the requirement to name
50 the decedent, so no name will be used in this, so you

00046

1 have to either notify the local land manager of the
2 harvest that's going to take place and the reason why or
3 the reporting requirements, the decedent's name will not
4 be part of that.

5
6 And also, following Mr. Thompson's
7 concerns and recommendation, he's saying older people can
8 recognize cows with calves and pregnant cows, and that
9 they would, of course, not shoot them. And that will
10 certainly be reflected in the analysis that you gave that
11 oral testimony here at the Council meeting.

12
13 And also I believe you said that the
14 Federal land manager should issue the permit, to do this
15 to the elders, sort of lead the hunt and guide it through
16 the concerns you just mentioned. Was there anything else
17 that I missed?

18
19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Follow the
20 procedures. I'm going to ask if there's any other
21 organization comment to this Proposal 1 at this time?
22 Will you two come before us here?

23
24 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25 The only comment that I have, and I'd like to express the
26 concern that I think back when the Board of Game
27 addressed this, it was not to criminalize our people for
28 being able to hunt wildlife for ceremonial purposes. And
29 if anyway that any of the comments that are made by the
30 -- our Regional Advisory Council are to be construed that
31 it will make criminals out of our people who may want to
32 utilize wildlife for ceremonial purposes, you know, we
33 would not support that, or any comments that might be
34 written into the proposed regulation. So I just want to
35 make that comment as a representative from AVCP. Okay.
36 Thank you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Ida.

39
40 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
41 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member.

42
43 The Council's request was to restate the
44 modifications the Council requested, and Mr. Thompson
45 also requested that this regulation be aligned with the
46 State's regulation to reflect that either sex may be
47 taken for ceremonial purposes.

48
49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Ee-ee.
50 Will you state your name and who you are.

00047

1 MR. SLATZ: I'm Richard Slatz. I'm with
2 the Chevak Tribal Courts. I appreciate -- thank you, Mr.
3 Chairman.

4
5 I appreciate what this proposal is. It
6 seems to me that what this proposal is doing is giving
7 permission, and, you know, I mean, giving us permission
8 to -- permission, and that it would mean that, you know,
9 that we needed to take steps to, you know, to follow
10 through, you know, for doing this.

11
12 But my question was to see, or to find
13 out why this proposal is being proposed or even being
14 considered, because -- and why this proposal is seeing
15 the need to regulate a traditional religious -- regulate
16 a traditional religious ceremony when it is a
17 Constitutionally protected right to practice religion.
18 You know, I believe that this proposal is infringing on
19 our rights to practice our religion. And if this
20 proposal, you know, does get past, you know, we would be
21 the only people whose rights to religion could be --
22 would be being regulated, you know.

23
24 What I'm also requesting is if this
25 proposal is going to be passed that the people that are
26 practicing, you know, if -- should this proposal be
27 considered, that provisions be made that -- so that
28 criminal -- you know, that we wouldn't be criminally
29 negligent for practicing our religion, when it is already
30 a Constitutionally protected right. Thank you.

31
32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana. Do we
33 have other agencies or organizations to make a comment.

34
35 (In Yup'ik)

36
37 MR. NASH: Quyana. (In Yup'ik)

38
39 INTERPRETER: I am grateful that I am
40 standing before you, Council. As you have said, we have
41 wanted to align this regulation to the State, which would
42 be better, would it be the law imposed by the Governor --
43 or which would be easier to follow, the State or the
44 Governor's. Perhaps it might be easier for us to follow
45 the Governor's proposed suggestion. Since I have heard
46 of this -- or this would be the State or the Federal.

47
48 In my understanding, the Federal
49 management system has worked better for us apposed to
50 what is now managed through the State system. It might

00048

1 be better to follow the Federal guideline as written.

2

3 We know that we go through a lot of
4 hardship in times in hunting, during the hunting season.
5 It is not easy. Conditions above Holy Cross and access
6 to resources is much, much easier in the upper Kuskokwim
7 region, but here in the lower area, in the Kasunuk (ph)
8 area, a lot of our hunters hunt with fear because of the
9 regulations that are imposed. Methods and means in this
10 area are also more difficult. Those of us in the Bay
11 area here don't have access as easily as the upper
12 regions.

13

14 As you discuss hunting for ceremonial
15 purposes, we Yup'ik cannot always report to the
16 management agencies, because we do not where the report
17 is supposed to be made to, particularly the older people,
18 because we are not properly educated. A lot of you know
19 that we do not give important details to people as
20 needed, and particularly for ceremonial hunting, some are
21 not reported properly. This is the way that things are
22 operating right now. Methods of reporting, the means of
23 reporting is not properly set in place, and those that
24 are hunting do not know the proper procedures for
25 reporting.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

28

29 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory is asking the
30 Governor, he's referring to Federal. Federal system.
31 Okay. Misunderstand. Because he was saying governor.
32 He meant the Government.

33

34 MR. NASH: Yeah.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: The law is easier to
37 follow.

38

39 MR. NASH: State versus Federal, the
40 State versus the Federal management system.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Government.

43

44 MR. NASH: We Chip'ik (ph) people know
45 are meant -- and many times do not adhere as closely to
46 the State system, to the Federal system, because things
47 are set in place and properly -- the system has properly
48 set for the people to follow and to understand.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

00049

1 MR. NASH: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. (In Yup'ik).

4

5 I want you to understand. These are the
6 Council. They call then Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Federal
7 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. Federal.

8

9 MR. NASH: Yeah.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Regional Advisory
12 Council. Not State, Federal. Qu yana.

13

14 MR. NASH: (In Yup'ik). Qu yana.

15

16 MR. MOSES: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Phillip.

19

20 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

21

22 INTERPRETER: I have heard today of the
23 hunting, this hunting regulation for ceremonial purposes
24 for fish and also for game. This was not a system that
25 we followed in the earlier days. This is a new concept
26 for a lot of our people. As I understand it, I want to
27 ask a question regarding the ceremonial hunting and fish.
28 What -- Ceremonial hunting for, or fishing for ceremonial
29 or potlatch purposes, if this is what this regulation
30 ties into or proposal ties into, whatever, we need to
31 realize that resources and species are not always readily
32 available to the hunter or the fisherman. Hunting is
33 different for different people. Some people have easy
34 access and the animal is available to some hunters, but
35 not to others. Some people are lucky and are able to
36 harvest as they want. Perhaps someone may want to hunt
37 and provide for a ceremonial or a potlatch gathering, but
38 perhaps at that time and place, they will not harvest
39 what they want. If they do not catch what they would
40 like at this time or what they have reported to catch,
41 what will happen later on would they still be able to go
42 out and get what they have requested for. If I don't
43 misunderstand it, ceremonial -- I want a clarification
44 when this hunting or fishing would occur for ceremonial
45 purposes.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

48

49 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory. This
50 proposal applies to hunting and fishing for ceremonial

00050

1 purposes outside of the open season. Since some people
2 do not have the sources available for these ceremonies,
3 this is a proposal that directed towards that. This is a
4 tradition particularly with the Athabaskan people.
5 Potlatching. This proposal aims to open hunting and
6 fishing opportunity outside of the season or traditional
7 season for potlatching or ceremonial purposes.

8

9 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

10

11 INTERPRETER: I did not understand this
12 clearly and now I have a grasp of the intent of this
13 proposal.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

16

17 The next speaker is Elmer Simon, Traditional Tribal
18 Council for Hooper Bay.

19

20 MR. SIMON: Good afternoon, Board. Elmer
21 Simon with the Native Village of Hooper Bay,
22 administrator.

23

24 (In Yup'ik)

25

26 I will speak to you in Yup'ik since you
27 all speak and understand the language.

28

29 In section 3 it states a person that
30 hunts game to provide for a village's members. This
31 regulation or proposal states that reporting must occur as
32 to where game was caught. Rather than the individual
33 directly reporting, perhaps the Tribal Council, if it is
34 reported to the Tribal Council, local government, and
35 that pers -- the government or the council would then in
36 turn convey the report. Since the way the regulation is
37 written, it says that these must be reported, perhaps it
38 might be a better process if it is reported through the
39 council, through the local entity. If the tribal council
40 and/or the municipal council is directed to collect
41 reporting data, perhaps it might work better. On behalf
42 of the community or the family, the organization would
43 protect that person that's hunting the game.

44

45 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

46

47 MR. SIMON: Okay. Under section 3 on
48 your state wildlife section hear, each person who takes,
49 harvest wildlife under this section must as soon as
50 possible or practical, not more than 15 days later,

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1 report. I would suggest that this, instead of a person
2 who hunts this game on behalf of the community or family
3 who was providing the pot luck, it should be the
4 organization of that community or the representative of
5 that family on behalf of the community should be doing
6 the reporting of this, which would also protect the
7 person from being responsible or getting, how should I
8 put it, should -- it will prevent each person from making
9 him or her a criminal in the long run. Quyana.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

12

13 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, I copied his --
14 or I, excuse me, I captured his concerns and also his
15 suggestions, so if the Council wishes, it could also be
16 modified to also include that after the fish or wildlife
17 has been harvested under this section, the designee or
18 the tribal government who organized the ceremony must as
19 soon as practicable or not more than 15 days after the
20 harvest submit a written report to the appropriate
21 Federal land manager.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

24

25 (In Yup'ik)

26

27 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory is stating
28 perhaps -- I like the idea that Elmer Simon brought up.
29 Rather than direct the individual hunter reporting
30 directly to the agency, perhaps it might be better to
31 report to the Council. That would protect the hunter or
32 the individual from infringement of any criminal or
33 otherwise -- other things that may be detrimental to the
34 hunter involved.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete, you understand
37 that?

38

39 MS. GREGORY: He got it.

40

41 MR. DeMATTEO: Loud and clear, Mr. Chair.

42

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any other public
45 comments towards this proposal. John Hanson.

46

47 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.

48 Chairman.

49

50 (In Yup'ik).

00052

1 INTERPRETER: I will make this statement
2 in Yup'ik since we have translators. The Federal
3 Government is working to align, or the Federal system is
4 working to align the hunting for ceremonial purposes with
5 the State regulation. This is not a new law that is --
6 this was developed in the early 80s, around 1981. It
7 states in the State regulation that game -- if game is
8 going to be hunted by a hunter the city council or the
9 tribal organization was to be the reporting agency. That
10 was how it was written originally. I was in the Board of
11 Game at that time. This was started with the moose in
12 the upper river area, and then subsequently became a
13 statewide regulation. If a hunter was to seek a
14 ceremonial hunting permit, this was -- it was to operate
15 this way regardless of the -- whether it was for a bull
16 or a cow moose. That was how it was written at that
17 time.

18

19 This proposal that is being presented at
20 this time hopes to align the Federal regulation to the
21 State regulations so that they are in alignment.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Nick.

24

25 MR. ANDREW: Nick Andrew, Sr. from
26 Marshall. If I make a mistake, perhaps Fish and Wildlife
27 Staff members could correct me.

28

29 When I was going to have a ceremony for
30 my grandson for his first Yu'hok (ph) or Eskimo dance,
31 they sent me a form to fill out. The form says as we
32 talk about moose, aside from the open season, hunting for
33 moose could be done in two instances, when being for
34 burial or funerary purposes, and second for the naming of
35 a child in memory of someone what has passed on, which is
36 a traditional practice. From my understanding, we cannot
37 -- these area the only cases where hunting aside from the
38 season was to occur, the way the regulation is written at
39 this point. Quyana.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. I think we
42 have -- we understand this proposal. I think it's time
43 for us to Regional Advisory Council deliberation. And we
44 have justification and then we'll action. Oh, I forgot
45 one thing. Summary of written public comment, do we
46 have?

47

48 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

00053

1 MR. NICK: There's two written comments,
2 and the first one is from Alaska Native Brotherhood in
3 support of the proposal. Alfred McKinley, Sr. on behalf
4 of Alaska Native Brotherhood wrote that all native
5 residents should be included when making regulations for
6 the taking of fish and game for or as part of the
7 funerary and mortuary cycle, including the 40-day party
8 and the pay-off potlatch.
9

10 And the second comment is from
11 Asa'Carsarmiut Tribe of Alaska in support of the
12 proposal. Mike Moses on behalf of the Asa'Carsarmiut
13 Tribe of Alaska wrote that this regulation should be
14 reserved only for Alaska natives if possible, since
15 Alaska natives are the ones that have been doing this for
16 generations.
17

18 That's all for the written comments.
19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you.
21 Now Regional Advisory Council.
22

23 MS. GREGORY: Mary.
24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.
26

27 MS. GREGORY: Mary Gregory. In my
28 understanding, some of our questions regarding this
29 proposal have been answered, some -- the comments have
30 been have been recorded. I have changed my mind, and the
31 way I will act on this proposal, and will accept the
32 proposal at this point or vote in favor of it.
33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete, do you
35 understand what we're saying?
36

37 MR. DeMATTEO: Not totally, Mr. Chair.
38 There's a little bit of delay in my ear here.
39

40 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I have
41 changed my mind regarding that this proposal was
42 confusing, and for me the first comment I made, because
43 we've made changes and recommendations that we hope
44 they'll be carried out, and I can now vote on it with a
45 clear conscious.
46

47 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair. Yeah, I
48 understand loud and clear. When I gave this analysis, I
49 had to give it as it was on paper, the original intent of
50 the proposal is to make the Federal regulations more

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1 closely aligned with the State regulations. They are not
2 in this proposal, even with your modifications if this is
3 adopted by the State -- or adopted by the Federal Board,
4 they still will not be totally aligned with the State,
5 okay, because the State deals with big game provisions.
6 This is for all fish and wildlife, okay. So this would
7 be more.....

8

9 MS. GREGORY: All wildlife.

10

11 MR. DeMATTEO: I'm sorry, all wildlife.

12 So this would be definitely more liberal than the State.

13 So I just wanted -- somebody mentioned before that this

14 would align the two. It wouldn't. This would cover all

15 wildlife. The State was just big game.

16

17 But with that, before there was major
18 concern about the sex issue of the animal, and I just
19 wanted to make you understand that the current Federal
20 regulation, that the land manager would have to stick to
21 principles of wildlife conservation. But with your
22 comment carried forward and your recommendation to modify
23 it, the sex issue will be dropped from the proposed
24 regulation. At least from your recommendation to the
25 Board. So we had to work through that, and I appreciate
26 your patience.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary, that was your
29 motion or.....

30

31 MS. GREGORY: No, I just made a comment.

32

33 (In Yup'ik)

34

35 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory. I will vote
36 in favor of this proposal, because I have a clear
37 understanding of the different aspects of this proposal.
38 I am here on behalf of the people that I represent in my
39 area, and I will vote accordingly, because I have a
40 better understanding of the issue at hand.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. We are ready
43 for action on Regional Council side. Lester, you make a
44 motion already or you'll make a motion?

45

46 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I made
47 a motion to include all the modifications.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's any second
50 to the motion. John Hanson second it?

00055

1 MR. HANSON: Yeah, I concur with the
2 modifications.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: With the
5 modification. Pete, you listen to.....

6
7 MR. DeMATTEO: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair, but
8 right now I've got many voices in my head that I'm
9 working through. I can read the proposal with all the
10 modifications if that makes everyone feel more
11 comfortable. We can do that. Okay? Okay.

12
13 On Page 22 of your Council book. It says
14 Statewide, wildlife, and there's the four items again.
15 Okay.

16
17 Number 1. Prior to taking the wildlife,
18 your recommendation to the Board that this would be
19 modified that it would be the person or the designee who
20 organizes the religious ceremony, be it the designee of
21 the tribal government contacts the appropriate Federal
22 land manager in order to provide the following. The
23 nature of the ceremony, the parties or the clan involved,
24 the species, the number of wildlife to be taken and the
25 Federal lands from which the harvest will occur.

26
27 Number 2. The harvest does not violate
28 recognized principles of wildlife conservation, and uses
29 the methods and means allowable for particular species
30 published in the applicable Federal regulations. The
31 appropriate Federal land manager will establish the
32 number, the species, and your recommendation would be to
33 drop the word sex, or place of taking if necessary for
34 conservation purposes.

35
36 Then Number 3, you wish not the hunter
37 report to the land manager. You'd like to see the hunter
38 report to the traditional council, and in turn the
39 traditional council would report to the land manager the
40 harvest, as practical, not more than 15 days after the
41 harvest submit a written report to the appropriate
42 Federal land manager specifying the species, the number
43 that were taken of wildlife harvested, the date and
44 location harvested, and also the names of the decedents
45 would not be mentioned.

46
47 And, Number 4, no permit or harvest
48 ticket is required for harvest under this section;
49 however, the harvester must be an Alaska rural resident
50 with C&T under that area where the harvesting will occur.

00056

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Motion was
2 made and second. I'm going to request for a roll call.
3 Mary, roll call.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Andrew.

6
7 MR. ANDREW: Yeah.

8
9 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles.

10
11 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Myself yes. Mr. Hanson.

14
15 MR. HANSON: Yes.

16
17 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Moses.

18
19 MR. MOSES: Yeah.

20
21 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Thompson.

22
23 MR. THOMPSON: Yes

24
25 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Wilde, Lester.

26
27 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

28
29 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Wilde, Harry.

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

32
33 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

36
37 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron.

40
41 MR. NANENG: Myron Naneng with AVCP. I

42 wanted to ask a question. This is -- does this
43 regulation apply only to those that are specified in the

44 back?

45
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We may not know that

47 about that. Are you lodging it within the units within
48 the Y-K Delta? Just the question.

49
50 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, this would be a

00057

1 statewide provision to those that -- the units that are
2 provided in the regulation currently.

3

4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Next on our
5 agenda is Proposal 02, provide a designated hunter
6 provision for most species and hunts. Staff. Don.

7

8 MR. RIVARD: Good afternoon, Mr. Chair,
9 members of the Council. My name is Don Rivard. I'm with
10 the Office of Subsistence Management. I'll be giving
11 this presentation. The lead author for this analysis is
12 Pat Petrivelli. She's an anthropologist in our office,
13 and she's with another division, so I'm presenting this
14 today to your Council.

15

16 The proposal analysis starts on Page 31.

17

18 Proposal WP03-02 was submitted by the
19 Office of Subsistence Management, and proposes to change
20 the general provisions for all units to standardize the
21 designated hunter regulations. This standardization
22 gives a uniform opportunity for subsistence users to
23 harvest or benefit from the harvest of ungulates in all
24 areas of the State.

25

26 In the Federal Subsistence Management
27 program, ungulate means any species of hoofed mammal,
28 including deer, elk, caribou, moose, mountain goat, dall
29 sheep, and musk oxen.

30

31 Currently designated hunter provisions
32 are allowed on a unit specific basis. Regulations are
33 not consistent in how they address the designated hunter
34 system. These unit-specific provisions are listed in
35 Appendix A, Pages 46 through 48. And if you kind of look
36 at that, you can see how it's listed out. If you look at
37 -- start on page 46, and there's -- for the entire State
38 it shows the different units and the designated hunter
39 regulations that are allowed. For your region, under
40 Unit 18, it has a unit-specific regulation for caribou.
41 That's the only one right now for Unit 18.

42

43 Unit-specific provisions have been
44 adopted for 21 hunts in 17 different units. In some
45 cases, certain hunts have been overlooked for this
46 provision, creating a possible hardship on subsistence
47 users. Under the proposed regulations, which you can see
48 are on Page 44, and that's under preliminary conclusions
49 there in bold, designated hunting for ungulates would be
50 recognized for all units throughout the State. Any

00058

1 regulations restricting designated hunting would then be
2 through unit-specific provisions. In other words, it's
3 going to be kind of flipped. If this proposal were to
4 pass, designated hunting for ungulates would be allowed
5 throughout the State, and then if there would need to be
6 special provisions to restrict designated hunting in
7 certain units, then that -- then those would have to go
8 on the books in regulation.

9

10 The proposed general Federal designated
11 hunter has the following provisions. Any
12 Federally-qualified subsistence user may designate
13 another Federally-qualified subsistence user to take
14 wildlife on his or her behalf.

15

16 2. The designated hunter must obtain the
17 designated hunter permit.

18

19 The designated hunter may hunt for any
20 number of recipients or other people that have hunting
21 permits.

22

23 The hunter may not have more than two
24 harvest limits in his or her possession at any one time.

25

26 The designated hunter may not charge the
27 recipient for his or her services in taking the wildlife,
28 or for the meat or any part of the harvested wildlife.

29

30 The proposal would allow designated
31 hunting on all ungulates on a statewide basis with the
32 option of unit-specific exceptions to these provisions.

33

34 There's a little bit of regulatory
35 history to this, and you can see this proposal history is
36 listed on Table 1 on Page 39. So there's quite a history
37 of designated hunting.

38

39 Now, with the Alaska Department of Fish
40 and Game regulations, on page 38, or the page prior to
41 this Table 1 we were looking at. The State of Alaska
42 provides for the transfer of harvest limits from one
43 person to another through its proxy hunting program. It
44 differs from the Federal designated hunter provisions in
45 the following ways:

46

47 The Department of Fish and Game has --
48 it's a statewide application, but it only applies to
49 caribou, deer and moose.

50

00059

1 It's available only to residents that are
2 blind, 70 percent disabled or 65 years of age or older.

3
4 Either the recipient or the hunter may
5 apply for the authorization.

6
7 No person may be a proxy hunter for more
8 than one recipient at a time.

9
10 Now, these are differences between the
11 State and what the Federal regulation that's being
12 proposed, those are the differences here.

13
14 This last line, this last bullet is
15 incorrect. It should not be in there. So where it says
16 the recipient is responsible for harvest and permit
17 reporting, that should be crossed out in your books.
18 Okay. That.....

19
20 MS. GREGORY: On what page?

21
22 MR. RIVARD: This is Page 38, the last
23 bullet under Alaska Department of Fish and Game
24 regulations. It says the recipient is responsible for
25 harvest and permit reporting, that should be crossed out.
26 Both State and Federal systems assign responsibility to
27 the recipient of the harvest for all harvest permit
28 requirements.

29
30 Okay. A little bit of the history of
31 this. There's 21 designated hunter provisions are in the
32 unit-specific regulations. Permits have been requested
33 for 18 of these hunts. The three units where no one has
34 applied for a permit are Units 17 -- excuse me, it's
35 Units 11 and 17 caribou, and Unit 25(D) moose.

36
37 If you look on Page 40 under Table 2,
38 you'll see that a total of 2,106 permits have been
39 issued, and 1,902 harvests have been reported in this
40 table in the history of the Federal designated permits
41 from 1995 to 2001. That's Table 2, Page 40, on the top
42 of the page.

43
44 For the 2000/2001 season, under the
45 Federal system, 387 designated hunters harvested 408
46 animals. for the same hunts, all hunters harvested
47 15,519 animals shown in Table 3 on Page 40, that's that
48 second table on the bottom of the page there. And it
49 just shows some other things like the largest designated
50 harvest was 3,022 deer in Units 1 through 5. So just

00060

1 some -- another example of what's been going on
2 throughout the state.

3

4 On customary and traditional uses, on a
5 statewide basis, findings from a comparison of household
6 harvests in a community documented that it is not
7 uncommon for about 30 percent of the households in a
8 community to produce about 70 percent or more of the
9 communities wild food harvest.

10

11 Now, the effects of this proposal.
12 Currently there are 66 federally-regulated ungulate hunts
13 throughout the State as shown on Table 4. Table 4 is on
14 page 42. Designated hunter provisions are available in
15 21 hunts of these hunts. And so there we go.

16

17 Now, the designated hunting program is
18 not expected to cause any significant increase in
19 participation or delay in harvesting of -- or reporting
20 of harvest.

21

22 It also should be noted that the permit
23 form, and that's Appendix C on page 52. If you kind of
24 look at the appendix form there, this is the permit
25 that's used by the Office of Subsistence Management here.
26 So it gives you an idea of what these things look like.

27

28 The harvest by hunters using designated
29 hunter provision in 2000/2001 represents 2.6 percent of
30 the harvest by all hunter. So it's a pretty small
31 percentage of all harvest by designated hunters.

32

33 Extending designated hunter provisions to
34 the remaining 45 ungulate hunts allowed by subsistence
35 regulation should not have a significant impact upon
36 these resources.

37

38 This action would provide a uniform
39 opportunity to subsistence hunters -- excuse me,
40 subsistence users to harvest or benefit from the harvest
41 of ungulates in all areas of the State, and will
42 facilitate the customary and traditional use of wildlife
43 for sustenance, bartering and for the continuation of
44 traditional ceremonies.

45

46 The preliminary Staff conclusion is to
47 support the proposal. And proposal regulation would
48 read, and again this is on Page 44:

49

50 A Federally-qualified subsistence user,

00061

1 or recipient, may designate another Federally-qualified
2 subsistence user to take ungulates on his or her behalf
3 unless the recipient is a member of a community operating
4 under a community harvest system or Unit-specific
5 regulations in Section 26 preclude the use of the
6 designated hunter system. The designated hunter must
7 obtain a designated hunter permit, and must return a
8 completed harvest report. The designated hunter may hunt
9 for any number of recipients, but may have no more than
10 two harvest limits in his or her possession at any one
11 time, unless otherwise specified in unit-specific
12 regulations in Section 26. The designated hunter may not
13 charge the recipient for his or her services in taking
14 the wildlife or for the meat or any part of the harvested
15 wildlife.

16
17 The justification for this preliminary
18 conclusion is there are currently 21 hunts with
19 designated hunter provisions under Federal regulations.
20 The harvest by these hunters represents only 2.6 percent
21 of the harvest by all hunters. Extending designated
22 hunting provisions to the remaining 45 ungulate hunts
23 allowed by Federal subsistence regulations should not
24 have a significant impact upon these resources, and will
25 provide a uniform opportunity to subsistence users to
26 harvest or benefit from the harvest of wildlife in all
27 areas of the State. Permit data from the past designated
28 hunts show that these harvests have occurred within the
29 proposed standard two harvest limit provision.

30
31 And that concludes my presentation, Mr.
32 Chair.

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Department of Fish
35 and Game.

36
37 MR. COFFING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
38 Mike Coffing with Fish and Game.

39
40 Some Department comments that I'll read
41 here. We have comments on the original proposal that's
42 submitted. It's on page 34 and 35 of your Council book
43 there.

44
45 In addition, you know, the main concern
46 that's consistently been mentioned by Department Staff
47 about this statewide designated hunter regulation for all
48 ungulates, that's, you know, musk ox, goats, sheep,
49 moose, caribou, deer, is that it could potentially lead
50 to over-harvest of goats and sheep and musk ox. Those

00062

1 are species that often occur in small groups and that
2 concentrate -- very concentrated late in the season.

3

4 We -- the Department prefers that the
5 designated hunter regulation only apply to moose and
6 caribou and deer, as does the State's proxy hunting
7 regulation.

8

9 Now, another option is to limit the
10 number of harvest limits, if you will that a designated
11 hunter can have in possession at any one time. And that
12 would reduce the potential for over-harvest of particular
13 species in certain situations.

14

15 Now, designated hunter provisions may
16 have some impact on big game harvests in some units that
17 contain large amounts of Federal public lands. Safeguard
18 may be needed to prevent the over-harvest of some of
19 these limited resources, if there are no harvest quotas
20 implemented.

21

22 If designated hunters increase the
23 over-all harvest, because they're just more successful,
24 that is, a good hunter is hunting for people normally
25 wouldn't harvest an animal, therefore the harvest of that
26 population increases. It's -- accurate harvest reporting
27 will be needed to ensure that those populations aren't
28 over-harvested and the conservation of those wildlife
29 resources.

30

31 That concludes the Department's comments,
32 Mr. Chairman.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I have a
35 question. On Page 37, where you have ungulate means
36 deer, elk, caribou, moose, mountain goat, dall and musk
37 ox, and the State has how many that are allowable?

38

39 MR. COFFING: The State has three, moose,
40 caribou and deer.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

43

44 INTERPRETER: Mary's explaining the
45 difference in the species, in the numbers and of the game
46 where the State covers three species and the Federal
47 system covers more, including sheep and goat, musk ox,
48 those are the difference between the resource and the
49 species. Under State regulation it applies to deer,
50 moose and caribou, but under the federal regulation it

00063

1 includes sheep and goat, musk ox.

2

3 My other question is to explain further
4 on page 36 on your draft analysis, that paragraph under
5 all units. Yeah.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Who is your question
8 to, State or Federal.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Federal Government. The
11 proponent of the proposal.

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.

14

15 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Mary, if I may,
16 could you give me a more specific question?

17

18 MS. GREGORY: On what harvest system or
19 unit these specific regulations affecting? 26, what does
20 that mean? What are the regulations?

21

22 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Mary, if you
23 look again on Appendix A.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Appendix A.

26

27 MR. RIVARD: It's starting on Page 46.
28 Right now these are the various units throughout the
29 State that have designated hunter provisions, Federal
30 regulations for using a designated hunter. As you can
31 see, there's a lot of them. Just, for example, deer
32 there, the first one, is Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8 allow
33 for a designated hunter for the hunting of deer.

34

35 If this proposal is passed as written, it
36 would take care of the whole State. All of the State
37 would have -- every unit would have a designated hunter
38 provision for the ungulates, for all ungulates. And so
39 these regulations here would go away.

40

41 What would need to happen then is if
42 there were some reason, as Mike pointed out, that they
43 might have to restrict using a designated hunter for say
44 goat, then that would have to be a specific regulations
45 to restrict or not allow the use of a designated hunter
46 for goat say in Unit 3. It kind of flips things. Right
47 now you have to have a regulation in order to designated
48 hunt. If we -- if this proposed regulation gets passed,
49 then the entire State, and all units would be able to use
50 a designated hunter. And then again if you had to

00064

1 restrict because of conservation reasons, there would
2 have to be a specific regulation to restrict the use of
3 designated hunting in this particular unit. I hope that
4 answers your question.

5
6 MS. GREGORY: It does answer my question.
7 Also, that for the Y-K Delta, we hardly have elk, deer,
8 or mountain goat or dall sheep. Most of the hoofed
9 animals we eat are caribou, moose, musk ox.

10
11 And I had a question for Mike about musk
12 ox. You only listed three hoofed animals.

13
14 MR. COFFING: Mary, I was -- I had a
15 little bit of noise on my side here, but you asked me
16 about musk ox. Musk ox, if I'm looking at the regulation
17 here currently, we don't see anything -- you're asking
18 about the Federal regulation?

19
20 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

21
22 MR. COFFING: And what I see is.....

23
24 MS. GREGORY: I'm asking why it's not in
25 the State regulation as an ungulate.

26
27 MR. COFFING: Well, Mary, Mr. Chairman,
28 the State designated or the proxy system the State has
29 does allow for musk ox, caribou, and moose. What you see
30 on page 47 are the existing Federal regulations, yeah.

31
32 MS. GREGORY: I was just making a point
33 that most of us in the Y-K Delta eat moose, caribou, elk
34 -- we don't have elk or goat or mountain sheep. And if
35 we get it, we don't know how to eat it, because all
36 animals taste differently, and we're not used to that
37 taste.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies,
40 organizations, do you have comment to this Proposal 2,
41 designated hunting. If there's no agencies or
42 organizations.....

43
44 REPORTER: Turn on your microphone.

45
46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:comment. How
47 about.....

48
49 MR. L. WILDE: Microphone.

50

00065

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron.

2

3 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 Myron Naneng, President of AVCP.

5

6 Sometimes the regulations that are made
7 that are only designated for one animal, when in essence
8 there are other animals that can, or wildlife that can be
9 hunted and designate a designated hunter, animal, and
10 just even within Unit 18, which covers the majority --
11 and this might include 21, I believe 21(E), and 21 -- or
12 19(A) and (B) which are on the Yukon-Kuskokwim area. If
13 other regions can have the designation for caribou and
14 other ungulates, I believe that there should be a
15 designation made for those in case the situation comes up
16 at a time when people can and will be allowed to
17 designate a hunt for these other ungulates.

18

19 So that's the recommendation that we'd
20 like to make from AVCP, because we cannot see the future.
21 At some point the caribou may not be there, because of
22 the life cycle of herds. And a few years ago, back in
23 the early and late -- early 90s and late 80s, there was
24 no caribou per se, you know, that were seen in large
25 numbers around the Kuskokwim area. However, some of the
26 herds moved to the Kilbuck area which because accessible
27 to some of the people on the Kuskokwim as well as some of
28 the other parts of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta villages.
29 So I would think that if there's an opportunity to be
30 able to have a designated hunter for moose or even musk
31 ox that it should be allowed, because caribou is not
32 always going to be there. Okay. Thank you.

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana, Myron.
35 Public comment. Fish and game advisory committee. Yeah,
36 go ahead, come right there.

37

38 MR. NOTTI: Dario Notti, I also wanted to
39 add or make a comment on Mike Coffing's comment, or the
40 State's comment that there was a potential for
41 over-harvest. As the record states, this is only 2.6
42 percent currently, and by expanding it, this sort of
43 think would take a while to become more popular, and so
44 as it evolves, there is still other -- there is the
45 option of restricting it in certain areas, or just
46 restricting the length of a season. If there's a
47 potential for over-harvest in a 15-day season, there's
48 always the opportunity to restrict the length to 12, 10,
49 you know, whatever length of season would be appropriate
50 to have the right amount of harvest that the biologists

00066

1 feel would be appropriate for that species or population.

2 Thank you.

3

4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, thank you.

5 Public comments. Written comments.

6

7 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, there's no written

8 comments.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

15

16 INTERPRETER: She's reiterating that it's

17 open to the public. Public comment is open right now

18 towards this proposal 02, provide for a designated hunter

19 provision for most species and hunts. Open to the public

20 for comments, questions.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, sometime I

23 really sure like to talk my dialect, but in order to give

24 everybody chance, I always try to speak English so

25 everyone could understand.

26

27 So I'm going to ask again if there's any

28 other public wanted to comment on this certain proposal.

29 If there's none, no written comments, so Regional

30 Advisory Council.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

33

34 INTERPRETER: Mary has no more comments.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Deliberation

37 and justification. Action now from Council.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

42

43 MR. L. WILDE: I think this has been

44 needed in this area for some time, and I'm totally for

45 it.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move we

48 adopt WP03-02, the proposal regarding ungulate hunting,

49 or whatever it's called.

50

00067

1 MR. L. WILDE: I'll second the motion,
2 Mr. Chairman.

3
4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
5 the floor, and a second. Discussion.

6
7 MR. THOMPSON: John Thompson.

8
9 (In Yup'ik)

10
11 INTERPRETER: This is John Thompson from
12 St. Mary's.

13
14 A long time ago when we would hunt
15 caribou, however at this time there is no -- hardly any
16 caribou, but he hears that the Kuskokwim, that from the
17 regulatory agencies that they scare those animals away,
18 that those that want to come down from the mountains,
19 that the Maker provided land for the animals. And even
20 before we were born, our land had a lot of caribou. But
21 now they eat and the food they eat do not grow fast.
22 They're always in search of food. And a long time ago
23 when they herded these animals, they travelled along with
24 them. It seems like the caribou are the same way, that
25 if they want to come down from the mountains, that they
26 shouldn't try to scare them back into the mountains, but
27 to let them range freely as they please, that they go
28 where there is food. Where they can graze. And they
29 know where they grazed out an area, so he's not very
30 happy when he hears when there's -- they herd the caribou
31 back into the mountains.

32
33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I'll request for roll
34 call.

35
36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Thompson.

37
38 (In Yup'ik)

39
40 I'm sorry.

41
42 (In Yup'ik)

43
44 Mr. Thompson.

45
46 MR. THOMPSON: (In Yup'ik) Mr. Thompson
47 votes yes.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Moses.

50

00068

1 MR. MOSES: Yeah.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles?
4
5 MR. CHARLES: Yes.
6
7 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Wilde, H. Harry.
8
9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.
10
11 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Hanson.
12
13 MR. HANSON: Yes.
14
15 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Wilde, Lester.
16
17 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.
18
19 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Andrew.
20
21 MR. ANDREW: Yes.
22
23 MS. GREGORY: And myself, yes.
24
25 (In Yup'ik)
26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried, and
28 we're going to have a break.
29
30 (Off record)
31
32 (On record)
33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Will you
35 please quiet down a little bit. Alex.
36
37 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Re
38 airline travel to Bethel)
39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. We're coming
41 to where the Regional Council cross over proposals now.
42 Proposal 24, establish winter moose hunting in Unit
43 17(A).
44
45 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 24 was
46 submitted by the Bristol Bay Native Association, and they
47 request that a limited winter moose hunt be held in Unit
48 17(A) during the period of December 1 through January
49 31st. It was clarified through the proponent that the
50 intent of the proposal was to have the same hunt area

00069

1 that was given under a special action. That are is east
2 of the west shore of Nenevok Lake, west bank of the Kemuk
3 river and west bank of Togiak River south from the
4 confluence of the Togiak and Kemuk Rivers.

5
6 Mr. Chair, the reason why this proposal
7 is being presented to the Council for review is because
8 it has -- it can affect residents of Goodnews and
9 Platinum, and also Akiak and Akiachak. And those
10 residents would be eligible to hunt only within a small
11 portion of northern Unit 17(A) north of Togiak Lake and
12 south of the Nenevok Lake. And because of those four
13 villages are potentially affected by this proposal,
14 that's why you are reviewing this analysis. This
15 proposal.

16
17 The proposed Federal regulation you can
18 see in your book at the top of page 71. It would be Unit
19 17(A) one bull by State registration permit. And it
20 would be one antlered bull by Federal registration permit
21 only during the period of December 1 through January
22 31st, which the proposal requests the December through
23 January season established for this area. And the winter
24 season may be opened or closed by announcement of the
25 refuge manager of the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge.

26
27 Since mid 1999 several proposals have
28 been submitted to the Alaska Board of Game and also the
29 Federal Subsistence Board to establish a winter hunt in
30 Unit 17(A), both Boards adhering to draft management plan
31 guidelines had not approved the winter hunt, because the
32 moose population had not reached the 600 moose population
33 threshold identified in the management plan. Since then,
34 the moose population has exceeded 600 and therefore the
35 minimum number of 652 moose that has currently been
36 surveyed for Unit 17(A) exceeds the threshold and
37 therefore the current season that just ended that
38 provided under a special action was allowed to go
39 forward. Now, I understand because of snow conditions,
40 the hunt never happened, but if you would like to see the
41 hunt happen again, then you would support this proposal
42 so that the season would be put into regulation for next
43 year.

44
45 This Proposal 24 would provide a to be
46 announced winter moose season in part of Unit 17(A)
47 during the period of December 1 through January 31st for
48 qualified rural residents. The season would also allow
49 managers the flexibility to open a winter moose hunt when
50 snow conditions permit adequate snow machine travel

00070

1 within the unit, and to close the season when harvest
2 objectives have been achieved.

3

4 The designated hunt area within 17(A)
5 would still allow for expansion of the moose population
6 into the western portion of 17(A). It would also allow
7 further westward expansion into the Kanektok, Goodnews
8 and Arolik River drainages and adjacent Unit 18 where the
9 current moose population is very sparse.

10

11 The harvest limit requirement of one
12 antlered bull would aid the inexperienced moose hunter
13 and reduce the potential harvest of cows occasionally
14 mistakenly harvested during the winter as an antlerless
15 bull.

16

17 The proposal requests that the use of a
18 separate Federal registration permit. Distribution of
19 the Federal permit would be handled through the Togiak
20 National Wildlife Refuge. Additionally, with -- a
21 two-permit system is implemented for the limited winter
22 hunt, very close coordination between the two management
23 agencies would be required so that each agency open and
24 close their hunt areas at the same time to avoid
25 confusion.

26

27 The significant difference between the
28 use of Federal permits as requested by the proponent and
29 the use of State permits currently used under existing
30 Federal regulations for both the fall hunt and winter
31 special action hunt that just ended relates to (1) area
32 of application, (2) availability of the permits to all
33 rural residents that have C&T for this area, and (3)
34 aircraft use restriction.

35

36 A Federal registration permit would only
37 be valid on Federal public lands, while State
38 registration permit would be valid on all lands open to
39 moose hunting within Unit 17(A).

40

41 Successful hunters using either a State
42 or Federal registration permit should be required to
43 report their harvest within 24 hours of taking an
44 antlered bull moose. The separate harvest monitoring
45 would have to be very closely coordinated between the
46 Togiak National Wildlife refuge and Department of Fish
47 and Game personnel in order to prevent an over-harvest.
48 The limited winter hunt would be closed when a
49 satisfactory harvest objective level is achieved on
50 Federal public lands.

00071

1 Mr. Chair, the preliminary conclusion is
2 to support with modification to include language that
3 states that one antlered bull by registration permit be
4 included, and also up to 14 days -- up to a 14-day season
5 be allowed. So the modified proposed language would
6 read, Unit 17(A) moose, that area east of the west shore
7 of the Nenevok Lake, west bank of the Kemuk River, and
8 west bank of the Togiak River south from its confluence
9 of the Togiak and Kemuk Rivers. One antlered bull by
10 State registration permit. Up to a 14-day season only
11 during the period of December 1 and January 31st, and the
12 season may be opened or closed by announcement by the
13 Togiak National Wildlife manager.

14

15 That's all I have, Mr. Chair.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

20

21 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I have a concern on
22 your 24-hour after the killing of a moose, but if you're
23 out there and you're not there in 24 hours, if you're not
24 home within that period, if you have to go to way up
25 there. I think you should wait until you're 24 hours
26 after you get home, instead of just killing it.

27

28 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Staff can carry
29 Ms. Gregory's concern back, and we can put it in the
30 analysis that oral testimony was given that the Council
31 felt strongly that 24 hours was not a sufficient period
32 because of the vast area of remoteness and difficulty of
33 getting back to civilization where there's a phone, or
34 where you can reasonably report to the official you need
35 to report to. So we can put that right in the analysis.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
38 Fish and Game.

39

40 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, Mike Coffing,
41 Fish and Game. The Department supports the proposal as
42 it's modified on Page 78 of your Council booklet there.
43 So again we support the preliminary conclusion on Page
44 78, to continue managing this hunt by a State regulation
45 permit for those reasons presented in the justification.
46 Thank you.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies or
49 organizations, do you have a comment to Proposal 24.
50 Other agencies or organizations. How about fish and game

00072

1 local advisory committee. Summary of written public
2 comment.

3

4 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, no summary of
5 written comments.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Regional Advisory
8 Council deliberation, Proposal 24.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. Proposal 24,
11 (in Yup'ik) Mary Gregory's still concerned about the
12 24-hour reporting time frame, that the 24 yours should
13 start when the hunter comes back to the village.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

16

17 MS. GREGORY: I move that we adopt
18 Proposal No. 24 wit the modifications.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion. And a
21 second? Who second it?

22

23 MR. THOMPSON: Second it.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Thompson second
26 it. Discussion.

27

28 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

31

32 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, the proposed
33 regulation states December 1st to January 31st? 31 days?

34

35 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mr. Wilde, the
36 proposed winter season is December 1st through January
37 31st, so that's two months.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: Why so long?

40

41 MR. DeMATTEO: Well, Mr. Chair, Mr.
42 Wilde, from what I understand that the planning group
43 that brought all this forth, in the plan it says that if
44 the moose population exceeds 600 moose, then they would
45 discuss the possibility of a winter season. Now, why
46 they went for two months, I don't know. Right. Why they
47 went for two months, I don't know. I wasn't party to
48 that. But if you look at the modification there, it says
49 up to a 14-day season, only during the period of December
50 1 through January 31st. But originally it was a

00073

1 two-month, but it will be a to be announced 14-day
2 stretch between December 1st and January 31st. Does that
3 make sense?

4
5 MR. L. WILDE: The way I understand this
6 proposal, what you said was the 14-day hunt can be within
7 that time frame?

8
9 MR. DeMATTEO: The 14-day hunt can only
10 occur within December 1st to December 31st, and the
11 reason being to allow for proper snow conditions to
12 occur, so the trails are appropriate for travel.

13
14 MR. L. WILDE: Well, the reason I ask,
15 Mr. Chairman, is because, you know, whenever we open up
16 something for a winter moose hunt in the area, it's never
17 over 10 to 14 days, and I don't think -- we don't need
18 any more than 10 to 14 days to see if we're going to be
19 watching and conserving. The moose in that area's had
20 trouble before.

21
22 MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Thompson.

25
26 MR. THOMPSON: Yes, and I think in the
27 past sometimes there's no snow, but I wouldn't want
28 December 1st to 31st to have an opening, but maybe what
29 they meant is you could move that 14-day around in
30 between those two areas, what -- I think....

31
32 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you. I understand.

33
34 MR. THOMPSON:it should be
35 clarified so it won't be confused. Yeah, the guys might
36 say the Advisory Board make too much opening, gee whiz.
37 How about us?

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

40
41 MR. DeMATTEO: Yeah. What Mr. Thompson
42 has said is correct. It would not exceed 14 days.

43
44 MR. L. WILDE: Is that in the language?

45
46 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes, it says....

47
48 MR. L. WILDE: Okay.

49
50 MR. DeMATTEO:up to 14 days.

00074

1 MR. L. WILDE: Thank you.

2

3 MR. DeMATTEO: Up to 14 days, but if an
4 extreme cold snap hit the area, or if the snow conditions
5 weren't just right, you could wait a little bit until
6 things were better that would permit travel.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question from
9 Council.

10

(No discussion)

12

13 MR. L. WILDE: If there are no other
14 comments, Mr. Chairman, question on the motion.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question's been
17 called for on the motion. All who favor say aye.

18

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

22

(No opposing votes.)

23

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Next
26 on our agenda, Proposal 26, remove wold hunting harvest
27 limit in Unit 9 and 17. Pete.

28

29 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 26 was
30 submitted by Bristol Bay Native Association. This would
31 increase the hunting harvest limit for wolves in Units 9
32 and 17. this proposal requests a change in the harvest
33 limit from five to a limit of no limit for hunting wolves
34 in Unit 9 and 17.

35

36 And reason why, this is a cross over
37 proposal, and you're reviewing it today, because rural
38 residents of 18 and many other units have a positive
39 customary and traditional use determination to harvest
40 wolves under the Federal hunting regulations in Unit 9
41 and Unit 17.

42

43 The Alaska Board of Game will review
44 several proposals to increase the hunting harvest limit
45 for wolves in Units 9 and 17 at their March meeting this
46 coming month. So similar proposals are going to the
47 Board of Game to bring up similar changes in State
48 regulations. I don't know the outcome yet.

49

50 Specific population data on wolves has

00075

1 not been collected in Unit 19 -- in Unit 9, pardon me.
2 Most trappers and local residents believe that the wolf
3 population in Unit 9 is stable to increasing compared to
4 previous years. The wolf population in Unit 9 is
5 estimated at around 350 wolves, and is thought to be
6 increasing.

7
8 For Unit 17 wolves are considered to be
9 common throughout Unit 17, and the wolf population in
10 that unit is healthy and increasing in numbers.

11
12 Very few hunters harvest the current
13 five-wolf limit as it is. More wolves are harvested
14 under trapping regulations than under the hunter the
15 hunting regulations.

16
17 This proposal if adopted would expand the
18 current hunting harvest limit of five wolves to no limit.
19 Increasing the harvest limit would provide additional
20 opportunities for subsistence hunters, and potentially
21 more income as fur prices are increasing.

22
23 Federal subsistence trapping regulations
24 for both units have allowed the use of firearms with a no
25 harvest limit since 1993 with no apparent impact on the
26 wolf populations.

27
28 Adoption of the recommended change would
29 also make Federal subsistence wolf hunting regulations
30 more liberal than the current State hunting harvest limit
31 for wolves in both units.

32
33 Mr. Chair, the preliminary conclusion is
34 to support the modification to increase the harvest limit
35 to 10 wolves. So the proposed regulation would read, and
36 you can see this on Page 93 at the top of the page, Units
37 9 and 17, this is wolf hunting. The harvest limit would
38 be 10 wolves per year. The season would stay the same.

39
40 And, Mr. Chair, that's all I have. Thank
41 you.

42
43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
44 Fish and Game.

45
46 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
47 Michael Coffing, Department of Fish and Game.

48
49 The Board of Game is going to be
50 considering a proposal similar to this at their March

00076

1 meeting. That meeting begins the 7th. I guess that's
2 tomorrow. So for this proposal, their proposal, we're
3 neutral on this proposal until we see what the outcome of
4 the Board of Game deliberations are on the State proposal
5 that's submitted to them. We'll submit additional
6 comments prior to the Federal Subsistence Board meeting
7 and after the Board of Game has acted on the proposal
8 before them. Thank you.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies or
11 organizations comment. If there's none, fish and game
12 local advisory committee comment. If there's none,
13 public, summary of written public comment.

14

15 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, no written public
16 comments for Proposal 27.

17

18 MS. GREGORY: 26.

19

20 MR. NICK: 26, I'm sorry. 26.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Regional Advisory
23 Committee action.

24

25 REPORTER: Your microphone wasn't on.

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oh. I'm sorry.

28 Regional Advisory Council action.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

35

36 INTERPRETER: Mary Gregory. She's in
37 support of Proposal 26 to increase the harvest of wolves
38 in 17(A) -- or rather 19 and 17. Since they are
39 predators of the ungulates in our area, she's in support
40 of increasing the wolf harvest. And because of that,
41 she's support of Proposal 26.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Phillip.

44

45 MR. MOSES: Even though this isn't on the
46 subject, since he's grateful today as he's sitting there,
47 since they are all -- we are all sitting here, when he
48 sat down, he felt that the agenda, the meetings would
49 creep along, that they were very slow meetings, that at
50 sometimes they would agenda items, because they were -- I

00077

1 guess everyone was not -- maybe the Fish and Wildlife
2 Service, the Fish and Game, this Council would not be in
3 agreement or be on the same page so to speak. So that
4 now he's happy and grateful, and then when the Chairman
5 for comments, there are hardly any comments. This is how
6 working in unity is. Along with our regulatory agencies.
7 And he's thanking the Fish and Game Department, the U.S.
8 Fish and Wildlife Service, that we are moving along with
9 our meeting well and fast. And he feels like we, the
10 Yup'ik people, have educated you to think like us. So
11 before anyone leaves, he wants you to hear and that he's
12 thankful and grateful that we aren't as contentious as
13 when he first sat on this Council. And that we are --
14 this Council is starting -- this group, this process is
15 working along very well compared to the past. Thank you.
16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Quyana.
18 Council, action.

19
20 MR. L. WILDE: Question, Mr. Chairman.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's no motion.

23
24 MR. L. WILDE: Then I question the
25 ability of myself to make the motion to accept the
26 proposal.

27
28 MS. GREGORY: Second. I second the
29 motion.

30
31 MR. L. WILDE: Now, Mr. Chairman,
32 question, Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion and
35 a second and the question's been called for. Proposal
36 26. All who favor say aye.

37
38 IN UNISON: Aye.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

41
42 (No opposing votes.)

43
44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.
45 Proposal 26 is approved. Now we go down to the Proposal
46 28. Delete requirement to remove skin of skull and claws
47 from the brown bear before taking a skin from the Western
48 Alaskan Brown Bear Management area.

49
50 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. Proposal 27

00078

1 (in Yup'ik).

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

4

5 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

8

9 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We do have a
12 teleconference.

13

14 REPORTER: Microphone, sir. Your
15 microphone's off again.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Huh?

18

19 REPORTER: Your microphone.

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oh, I'm sorry. We do
22 have a teleconference on the phone?

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Yeah.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Someone want to -- I
27 thought we're supposed to take that tomorrow, but --

28 okay.

29

30 MR. NICK: 33.

31

32 MR. COFFING: Sorry, Mr. Chairman, this
33 proposal Pete's going to do, so the teleconference will
34 be at 10:00 tomorrow.

35

36 MR. DeMATTEO: No, that's 33.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, that's the other
39 one.

40

41 MR. COFFING: For 33. We're doing 28 now
42 then.

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think we've got 33?

45

46 MR. COFFING: Yeah, tomorrow morning.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Tomorrow morning.

49 Okay.

50

00079

1 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, if I may, Don
2 Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management.

3
4 We've got a couple of things here. We've
5 got Mr. Willard Church would like to hear this
6 conversation, I guess comment on it for Proposal 28, and
7 right now we also have the telephone line is being used
8 to broadcast on the local radio station. So we need to
9 get the radio person here to disconnect this before we
10 would take up 28, otherwise we're going to disrupt their
11 broadcast right now. I don't think we want to do that.
12 We might be able to go to another proposal until we get
13 somebody over here.

14
15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: If there's a possible
16 to delay this until tomorrow, 28, because of someone want
17 to have a comment through radio.

18
19 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Lester.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I would move
24 that we suspend the rules to include 28 and 33 tomorrow
25 for the teleconference.

26
27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
28 the floor to suspend the rules, take 28 and 33 tomorrow
29 when the radio station available. Is there a second?

30
31 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion, Mr.
32 Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a second.
35 Second the motion, and all who favor say aye.

36
37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38
39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

40
41 (No opposing votes.)

42
43 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, what time is
44 that teleconference.

45
46 MR. NICK: 10:00 o'clock?

47
48 MR. RIVARD: 10:00 o'clock.

49
50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 10:00 o'clock

00080

1 tomorrow.....

2

3 MS. GREGORY: 10:00 o'clock March 7.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE:morning.

6

7 MS. GREGORY: Okay. Thank you.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. Next
10 on our agenda is Proposal 29.

11

12 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair?

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

15

16 MR. DeMATTEO: If I may, there's one
17 little bit of unfinished business.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Unfinished.

20

21 MR. DeMATTEO: And that.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead.

24

25 MR. DeMATTEO:if the Council could
26 return to Page 93.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 93. 93.

29

30 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: That's 27.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 27?

33

34 MR. DeMATTEO: This Proposal 26.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's no 93.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Page 93.

39

40 MR. DeMATTEO: Page 93.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Page 93?

43

44 MR. DeMATTEO: Yeah.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

47

48 MR. DeMATTEO: When the Council voted to
49 support, I just want to make sure everybody understands
50 what you were supporting was the proposal with the

00081

1 modification that was made by Staff to increase the
2 harvest limit to 10 wolves. Okay.

3

4 MS. GREGORY: That's what I voted for.

5

6 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. Just as long
7 everybody understands what you voted on. You didn't vote
8 on the proposal, you voted on the proposal with the
9 modification as printed on Page 23.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: That's correct, Pete.

12

13 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. Thank you, Mr.
14 Chair.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Next proposal is 29,
17 align Federal regulation with the state regulations to
18 include meat on bone restrictions for moose in part of
19 Unit 18. Go ahead, Pete.

20

21 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 29 was
22 submitted by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Council.
23 This would require that all edible meat of a moose
24 harvested in Unit 18 south of the Yukon River prior to
25 October 1 must remain on the bone until the meat is
26 removed from the field or is processed for human
27 consumption.

28

29 Mr. Chair, this Council submitted this
30 following the proposal that you submitted and was adopted
31 by the Board last year, and that was for caribou for the
32 same area. And you wanted to see the same restrictions
33 made for moose. So that's what prompted the submission
34 of this proposal.

35

36 Mr. Chair, if you look on Page 134, on
37 Page 134 it goes through a thorough list of current
38 Federal regulations as they pertain to your proposal. In
39 this proposal -- I'm sorry, in this proposal you also
40 mention that the meat when it's removed from the field.
41 Currently I'll point out that there is no definition in
42 Federal regulation for the word field, so that could be
43 confusing for a hunter. We wanted to see, well, where's
44 the field, and when am I in the field, when am I out of
45 the field. So that can provide some confusion for the
46 hunter.

47

48 This proposal if adopted would favor
49 reduction in the meat storage during the transport of
50 meat from the harvest site and would align with State

00082

1 regulations.

2

3 A meat on the bone requirement would also
4 comply with local harvest and transport methods that
5 refrain from deboning harvested meat. Local methods
6 traditionally call for transporting meat on the bone from
7 the harvest site, and hanging the front and hind quarters
8 until processed for human consumption. Because of this,
9 adoption of the proposed regulation would not adversely
10 affect Federally-qualified subsistence users.

11

12 Current Federal regulations do not
13 provide a definition for the term field and I mentioned,
14 which appeared in the proposed language.

15

16 So then, Mr. Chair, preliminary
17 conclusion is to support the proposal with the
18 modification, and the regulations -- or rather the
19 language would read as all edible meat of front quarters
20 and hindquarters from a moose harvested in Unit 18 south
21 of the Yukon River prior to October 1 must remain on the
22 bones until the meat is removed from the field or is
23 processed for human consumption. And that's pretty much
24 the same language that you proposed last year for
25 caribou. This would be for moose.

26

27 Staff also recommends to you that the
28 proposal be modified to include a definition for the word
29 field as it appears in the proposed language, so I
30 borrowed the one from the State and I'll read it to you.

31

32

33 Field means an area outside of
34 established year-round dwellings, businesses, or other
35 developments usually associated with a city, town, or
36 village. Field does not include permanent hotels or
37 roadhouses on the State road system or State or Federally
38 maintained airports.

39

40 Mr. Chair, I just throw that out as a
41 start point. You can modify that as you wish to to suit
42 Unit 18, but just see that as a draft, a possible draft
43 definition I'll present to you. And I'll stop there.
44 Thank you.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
47 Fish and Game.

48

49 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, Mike Coffing,
50 Department of Fish and Game.

00083

1 Our comments on the original proposal are
2 in the booklet there on Page 133. We support the
3 proposal. We think adding the definition for the term
4 field is consistent with the State's definition. This
5 proposal as it's being modified would align the State
6 requirements, the Federal requirements with the State
7 requirements.

8

9 One item that's mentioned in our comments
10 on the original proposal though still stand, and that is
11 the Department recommends that the preliminary conclusion
12 be modified to also apply to caribou taken in Unit 18
13 south of the Yukon River prior to October 1, which would
14 be consistent with the State regulations. So basically
15 apply the same sort of salvage requirements to caribou in
16 that area on the Yukon River prior to October 1. And
17 that would align the salvage requirements for Unit 18 and
18 also reduce confusion to hunters that might result with
19 different regulations. So those are the State's
20 comments, Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other organizations,
23 agencies, do you have a comment on 28 Proposal. Myron
24 Naneng, AVCP.

25

26 MR. NANENG: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
27 Myron Naneng, President of AVCP. If you take the
28 proposal word-for-word, and (in Yup'ik). If we do not
29 alter any of this language as written, in the field are
30 processed for human -- removed from the field or
31 processed for human consumption.

32

33 (In Yup'ik)

34

35 Perhaps if we use this other language it
36 probably would be confusing. Perhaps some may interpret
37 it as having to consume at the site of the kill. Some
38 may misinterpret it, misinterpret the language as
39 written. And if we were to leave the meat on bone, if
40 this regulation was enforced, perhaps it may be taken
41 literally. Therefore, if this Board -- for enforcement
42 if it was read as written, it may be confusing. If
43 enforcement is imposed, perhaps they might use this to
44 regulate, and there may be some understanding on the
45 issue of the meat on bone question. Quyana, Mr.
46 Chairman.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete, will you
49 respond to that question?

50

00084

1 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes, Mr. Chair, I
2 understand Mr. Naneng's concerns there. And with
3 differences in languages I could see where people can
4 misinterpret things, particularly when it comes to
5 regulations.

6
7 I guess Staff would welcome some
8 suggestions here on how to make this more readable, more
9 understanding.

10
11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. We will help you to
14 write some specifics in there in regards to the hunter
15 taking part of the meat that he just got and not -- we
16 will make it easier for people to eat what they catch,
17 and the field.

18
19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

20
21 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, with that, the
22 Council could conceivably take a vote now and at the
23 break we could clarify some of the language if you agree
24 with the intent of what is here, even though we need to
25 iron out, make it a little smoother on the edges.

26
27 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I would
28 rather that we put the language in there first before we
29 vote on it.

30
31 MR. DeMATTEO: Okay. Do you have a
32 recommendation now, Ms. Gregory?

33
34 MS. GREGORY: I have a concern that you
35 guys should put it into words that if my husband is going
36 moose hunting, and he wants to eat some of the meat, that
37 he will take some of the bone meat off, that he's allowed
38 to do that, or if he want to give one of our relatives
39 along the way, that he's allowed to do that. Can you put
40 that into words or Gussuk (ph) words, so that native
41 people or whoever is hunting will not be intimidated by
42 the law when approached by enforcement officers.

43
44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So that will be the
45 modification. Modify or what?

46
47 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes. If I understand, her
48 concern is that the hunters want the flexibility so that
49 they can consume some of the meat in the field, or remove
50 it from the bone to give it to a passing hunter going up

00085

1 the river, right?

2

3 MS. GREGORY: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

4

5 MR. DeMATTEO: So what we need to bring

6 out here is that the meat cannot be deboned or taken off

7 the bone purely for the reasons of transport out of the

8 field. Okay. So that.....

9

10 MS. GREGORY: You can do whatever you

11 want with it.

12

13 MR. DeMATTEO: Right.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Because it's your catch.

16 It's your catch, you can be the boss of your catch, not

17 let somebody else watch over you.

18

19 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

22

23 MR. L. WILDE: According to the proposed

24 regulations, it says the front quarters, the hind

25 quarters, until the meat is removed from the field or is

26 processed for human consumption. I think that would take

27 care of that concern, the last few words there, or is

28 processed for human consumption.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, the way it is

31 written, it is confusing to some of us.

32

33 (In Yup'ik)

34

35 The way the language is written, a hunter

36 could cut some of the meat for consumption at the site of

37 the kill, and I wanted to add this on.

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

40

41 MS. GREGORY: Because sometimes people go

42 miles and miles to go hunting for their moose, and it

43 takes them like three to four days to get home, and I'm

44 certain they're not going to starve, to take some of the

45 meat, whatever the meat they want to eat off of the

46 carcass.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

49

50 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, here's one

00086

1 possible modification. All edible meat from the front
2 quarters and hind quarters from a moose harvested in Unit
3 18, south of the Yukon River, prior to October 1, must
4 remain on the bones until the meat is removed from the
5 field, or is processed for human consumption. Meat from
6 the front quarters and hind quarters may be removed for
7 human consumption in the field, but not for purposes of
8 transport out of the field.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. Yeah. That's a good
11 one.

12

13 MR. DeMATTEO: Would that help?

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, that helps me. And
16 I'm sure it will help other people who can't read into
17 certain languages.

18

19 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, can I
20 request Mr. DeMatteo to please repeat that again.

21

22 MR. DeMATTEO: Certainly. Mr. Chair,
23 with Ms. Gregory's modification, it would read as
24 follows: All edible meat from the front quarters and
25 hind quarters from a moose harvested in Unit 18, south of
26 the Yukon River, prior to October 1, must remain on the
27 bones until the meat is removed from the field, or is
28 processed for human consumption, period. Meat from the
29 front quarters and hind quarters may be processed for
30 human consumption in the field, but not for purposes of
31 transport out of the field. Would that work?

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think I'm having a
34 little bit problem here. I think we're running a little
35 bit too fast. We have to give other organizations chance
36 to comment on a certain -- this proposal. It look like
37 that Regional Council it seems to me running ahead of
38 other organizations before they comment.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I was
41 commenting to help out Mr. Naneng before I forget what I
42 had to say. I'm sorry if I messed up the meeting.

43

44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: No, you didn't, but
45 still I'm going to request give opportunity others like
46 local advisory committee, if they have a comment on this
47 28 Proposal. If there's none -- James.

48

49 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman, I don't know
50 if I'm going to represent local advisory committee, but

00087

1 I'm on the Lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee, and we've
2 talked about this proposal with the State before, and I
3 don't remember the current regulation on this proposal.
4 What -- is there a current regulation for the State on
5 this proposal?

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mike.

8

9 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman. Yes, James,
10 there is. There are current state regulations that allow
11 for this, provide for this, and this is on Page -- are we
12 on the -- it starts on Page 134, at the very bottom of
13 Page 134 of your Council booklet, continues over onto
14 Page 135. So, yes, there are State regulations that
15 provide for this regulation, and this Federal proposal
16 would result in -- except for the caribou portion, would
17 result in the same proposal for moose. And certainly I
18 don't think there's any intent for folks who are
19 travelling home on the way from catching a moose to
20 prevent them from giving any meat to people along the
21 way. If they give meat to someone, in the back of I
22 think the regulation book, State regulation book, there's
23 a form to use for transfer possession of meat that's been
24 around for a long time. So there's nothing certainly
25 intended in the regulation to prevent people from sharing
26 meat, or holding them accountable, and keeping that on
27 the bone until they get home.

28

29 The idea here is to be able to account
30 for what's harvested, and some of the problems as I
31 recall them in other parts of the Y-K Delta has been some
32 individuals, and not always residents of the area, but
33 have harvested an animal, have removed the bones, and
34 then -- and have bags of meat, and then when they're
35 checked, it's difficult for the enforcement officer to
36 know whether they have all the meat. So this regulation
37 has been put on place to help people be accountable. As
38 we know, most subsistence hunters always leave the bones
39 in when they're bringing meat home. That's the way we
40 hang meat. That's how we take care of it. But there
41 have been some that perhaps come from outside the area
42 that have not. So this regulation again would mirror
43 what the State has, except that the State also requires
44 the same thing for caribou south of the Yukon before
45 October 1.

46

47 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mike.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: James.

50

00088

1 MR. CHARLES: I remember one time we
2 talked about it, but we didn't see for front and hind
3 quarter. We were talking about meat on bone. That's how
4 we did it, and at that time the upriver people in
5 Kuskokwim were trying to prevent antler hunters taking
6 just the antlers and meat and leave the bones behind.
7 And that's why we talked about it in the past, and I
8 remember seeing meat on bone, not just on the hind
9 quarters or front quarters. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10
11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Written public
12 comments.

13
14 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, there's one
15 written comment from Asa'carsarmiut Tribe of Alaska of
16 St. Mary's. Written comment is to support Proposal 29.

17
18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Regional Council
19 deliberation.

20
21 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, (in Yup'ik).
22 Mary said she's already deliberated.

23
24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Thompson.

25
26 MR. THOMPSON: Unless there's a
27 clarification on the language, I believe it's for the
28 trophy hunters for that bone. If it's going to be
29 transport, and if someone bring home a moose to his home,
30 there might be some little confusion there. If you take
31 the bone off and some enforcer would say that, you know,
32 you're supposed to have the bone in your meat. But if
33 there is language, unless they are transport by plane to
34 another place, then the language that would clarify the
35 transporting without bone. You understand me? Thank
36 you.

37
38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

39
40 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mr. Thompson,
41 the regulation does not specifically focus on anyone
42 transporting by boat or by airplane. It just talks about
43 what you do with the meat before you transport it, and
44 during transportation. That's why we've added this
45 modification, and I think I'll read it one more time, and
46 can tell me what you think about it, okay?

47
48 MR. THOMPSON: What I'm saying is if it's
49 in a boat, you're bringing it home, but transporting by
50 plane is another different -- there's a difference there.

00089

1 So it's okay if there's no bone in the boat, because you
2 know well that he's not hunting for trophy. But trophy
3 hunters usually go by plane.

4

5 MR. DeMATTEO: Thanks for clearing that
6 up. Thank you.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Phillip.

9

10 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

11

12 INTERPRETER: Phillip Moses. As I
13 understand what is being deliberated, this is not the way
14 of our Yup'ik people. Whatever is caught from the wild,
15 many partner hunt and fish together. It has been a rule
16 from the beginning, if one or if a pair of hunters were
17 to be hunting together, the one that catches or harvests
18 is to share with the other and the other way around.
19 Whoever harvests, the resource belongs to the person that
20 harvests and can pass around and share to those that they
21 are hunting with. When they return home and transport
22 the game, many times upon arrival at home, the hunter,
23 much more often the male head of the house, will pass it
24 on to the wife, and at that point relinquishes the catch
25 or decisions over the catch to the wife. At that point
26 the wife takes over. Traditionally that is the way it
27 happens. The hunter, the male hunter decides what to do
28 with the catch at the hunting site, and this is
29 tradition. When they reach home the wife takes authority
30 over what to do with the harvest, and can pass it around
31 to those that who she wishes to share with. I want us to
32 not need to consider these -- this traditional method or
33 practice in our deliberation.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana. (In Yup'ik)
36 Turn off your mike.

37

38 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik) I tend to forget,
39 says Phillip.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any more deliberation
42 from the council or....

43

44 MR. ANDREW: Nick Andrew, Sr. As I
45 understand it, what we've been deliberating today, this
46 applies to the sport trophy hunter. Those of us who
47 subsist consider the bone a delicacy, and it is what we
48 take home, because the marrow is a delicacy. This issue
49 of where the meat on bone regulation, this applies to the
50 sport hunter that is hunting for the heat. Around the

00090

1 Ohok (ph) area, there was caribou that hunters had left
2 behind the carcasses where they had just salvaged the
3 meat and left behind a good amount of the carcass.
4 Whoever caught this caribou had in our opinion had wasted
5 wantonly. Doy. Quyana.

6
7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We're ready for
8 action. We're ready for action.

9
10 MR. CHARLES: Question.

11
12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik).

13
14 MR. CHARLES: Okay.

15
16 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: The Lester Wilde
17 method.

18
19 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman I move to
20 accept the report.

21
22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Uh-huh. There's a
23 motion on the floor, if there's any second.

24
25 MS. GREGORY: I second with the
26 modifications.

27
28 MR. DeMATTEO: It would be best if I
29 read.....

30
31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

32
33 MR. DeMATTEO:the modification,
34 okay?

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

37
38 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, the proposed
39 regulation with the modification is as follows: Unit 18
40 south of the Yukon River. All edible meat of the front
41 quarters and hind quarters from a moose harvested in Unit
42 18, south of the Yukon River, prior to October 1, must
43 remain on the bones until the meat is removed from the
44 field, or is processed for human consumption, period.
45 Meat of the front quarters and hind quarters can be
46 processed for human consumption and consumed in the
47 field, but cannot be removed from the bones of the front
48 quarters and hind quarters for purposes of transport out
49 of the field.

50

00091

1 MS. GREGORY: That's correct. Yeah.

2

3 (In Yup'ik)

4

5 INTERPRETER: What we're deliberating is

6 now delving into the issue of sport hunters for

7 transport. The way the regulation with modifications is

8 to not remove meat from the bone, but can be removed for

9 consumption out in the field.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The motion has been

12 made and second. And you hear the modification. Myron.

13

14 MR. NANENG: Mr. Chairman, Myron Naneng,

15 AVCP.

16

17 I don't want to be argumentative or (in

18 Yup'ik). I don't want to be against this proposal, but I

19 am leery if a Fish and Wildlife Enforcement officer was

20 to see a portion of meat removed from the bone, if part

21 of the meat was consumed on route, the way the language

22 is written, would they -- would it be grounds for a

23 citation or would it be used to instigate an

24 investigation as a violation on this regulation. I

25 wanted to bring this, the way the language is written

26 perhaps a hunter may remove some of the meat while

27 hunting, and returns home and if an enforcement officer

28 was to see this, would they use this as grounds for

29 citation, and I wanted to bring this up on the issue of

30 enforcement of this regulation.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

33

34 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, as the proposed

35 regulation reads with the modification, I think the

36 intent would still be met to meet the law as it is

37 stated, because the meat would pretty much still be

38 attached to the bone, because generally hunters, you

39 know, carve the outside of the meat up if you're going to

40 give some away or eat it in the field. I think any

41 reasonable person would agree with this. And as you have

42 it modified, it clearly states that you could process and

43 consume the meat in the field. It puts no limit on how

44 much though.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I'm going to request

47 for a roll call.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Charles?

50

00092

1 MR. CHARLES: Yeah.
2
3 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde.
4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.
6
7 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson.
8
9 MR. THOMPSON: Thompson or Johnson?
10
11 MS. GREGORY: Thompson. Thompson.
12
13 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.
14
15 MS. GREGORY: Myself is yes. Andrew.
16
17 MR. ANDREW: Yes.
18
19 MS. GREGORY: Moses.
20
21 MR. MOSES: Yeah.
22
23 MS. GREGORY: Harry Wilde -- I mean
24 Lester Wilde.
25
26 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.
27
28 MS. GREGORY: I meant Hanson when I said
29 Johnson. Hanson.
30
31 MR. HANSON: How come you left me out?
32 Yeah.
33
34 MS. GREGORY: Okay. (In Yup'ik) Eight
35 yea's, no nays, and two absent.
36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, will you
38 please remember every time when you move, turn on your
39 mike before you so our recorder could hear you when you
40 make a motion. I won't tell you this after. Thank you.
41
42 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair.
43
44 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.
45
46 MR. DeMATTEO: There's one more item of
47 business. That takes care of the first time. The second
48 item is how does the council feel about the adoption of
49 the word field? I didn't mention that first, because I
50 didn't want to confuse the issue, but the other part of

00093

1 the proposed language would be to adopt the definition of
2 the word field in the federal regulation. And I think to
3 keep things clear, you should probably take a vote on
4 that.

5
6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We didn't finish the
7 rest of the proposal is what you mean?

8
9 MR. DeMATTEO: Correct. We didn't finish
10 the discussion on the proposed definition of field. Does
11 it suit your needs? There was no deliberation on that.

12
13 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

14
15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

16
17 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

18
19 INTERPRETER: She says she understands
20 field as anywhere out there in the wilderness. I don't
21 think we need to deliberate further on it, because to me
22 field is outside of the village on the tundra or on the
23 upriver. Field is uspuuk (ph) to me.

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: I think it's even
26 though I'm going to request for revote on this so we
27 could do it right way, after you let us understand the
28 whole thing of that proposal, and I think it would be
29 good if we revote, we do it the right way.

30
31 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, the proposed
32 regulation which would -- the modification would adopt a
33 definition for the word field, and it is as follows:
34 Field means an area outside of the established year-round
35 dwellings, businesses or other developments usually
36 associated with a city, town or village, but field does
37 not include permanent hotels or roadhouses on the State
38 road system, or State or Federally maintained airports.

39
40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I give him -- I
41 give you opportunity to say something.

42
43 MR. NOTTI: That definition sort of
44 worries me when it goes and says year-round dwelling, and
45 I'm trying to think of an instance in Unit 18. Maybe
46 it's fine for Unit 18, because every instance I think of
47 is just outside of 18, like 21(E) or 19, where a lot of
48 people use the same camp as a moose camp and a fish camp,
49 where most people in Unit 18 when they go moose hunting,
50 when they come back from the field, they're at their

00094

1 year-round residence. But say Paimiut where some of the
2 people from Holy Cross might still be living at fish
3 camp, or around Aniak they might still be living at fish
4 camp during moose season. And it seems like there may be
5 an instance of one or two people who live at fish camp
6 until freeze-up. And if it's not necessarily a
7 year-round residence, that could -- you know, if they
8 process it at -- or, you know, if they put it away at
9 their fish camp, maybe they've got a freezer there or
10 something. I don't know. And I know in another part it
11 does say or processed for human consumption, but still
12 having the word year-round in the definition of field
13 worries me. Thank you.

14

15 REPORTER: Excuse me, what is your name?

16

17 MR. NOTTI: Dario Notti.

18

19 REPORTER: Thank you.

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Pete, under
22 subsistence taking of wildlife in the Federal, State -- I
23 mean definition, there's nothing about a field. How that
24 think will be worked out?

25

26 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes, Mr. Chair. As Staff
27 recommended that you modify your proposal to include a
28 definition, since I didn't have one, I essentially just
29 borrowed one from the State regulation book, which you
30 see there on Page 138. I borrowed the State's. You can
31 either adopt that one as your own proposed regulation or
32 you can modify it.

33

34 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, Mr. DeMatteo.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: What's the rationale behind
39 including the field definition?

40

41 MR. DeMATTEO: To eliminate confusion,
42 because the proposed regulation above mentions the word
43 field, until the meat is removed from the field or is
44 processed for human consumption. As we said before, if
45 someone doesn't know what the limits of the field are,
46 where it starts and stops, there could be a problem
47 there.

48

49 MS. GREGORY: That just between here and
50 the high school, if you go around this lake, that's a

00095

1 field to me, because that's outside of here. Anywhere
2 that's within 100 yards away from your dwelling is a
3 field.

4

5 Mr. Notti has a good point, because some
6 people do stay in their camps to hunt moose, and some
7 people do stay in moose hunting areas as their fall camp,
8 spring camp and summer camp.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Hanson.

11

12 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman. I don't know what we're getting into here. We
14 voted for this Proposal 29, and in the proposal where
15 it's written, it has support with modification, and that
16 has field. After we voted, we passed it, and then you
17 came back and said we have to vote for field. Because
18 where I am, people, they go up as far as Innoko and all
19 them place, and they have to bring their meat back down
20 to where their residence are, so they catch the moose in
21 the field, it carry it all the way back down, three, 400
22 miles down.

23

24 So didn't this -- when we voted Proposal
25 29, didn't we vote for field at the same time, because it
26 says field means an area outside of established year
27 round dwelling, business or other developed. Didn't we
28 vote field into it? That's the modification. And the
29 Department of Fish and Game supports it, and so did
30 Asa'carsarmiut Tribe of Alaska supported it.

31

32 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mr. Hanson,
33 yes, you certainly did adopt the regulation with the word
34 field in there, but if you line up 10 people, you might
35 get 10 different definitions of what field is, and
36 therein lies the problem. So to be thorough, in the
37 Federal regulations book there should be a definition of
38 the word field where say a newcomer could look at the
39 definition and say, ah, this is what field means. This
40 is where I have to be when and where and how the meat has
41 to be transported. And that's why Staff is recommending
42 that you adopt the regulation field into Federal
43 regulation for that purpose.

44

45 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Ida, we need
46 help.

47

48 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
49 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member.

50

00096

1 I agree with John Hanson's statement that
2 when you adopted this proposal with the modifications,
3 those modifications included field and the definition of
4 field. You have already acted on that proposal, and
5 there's no need to re-act or re-move on the word field.
6 You have already voted in support of it.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik). Pete,
9 you understand what she's saying?

10
11 MR. DeMATTEO: Absolutely. The question
12 originally, does everyone agree with that proposed
13 definition that Staff is recommending to you. That was
14 the original question that we never addressed here. Staff
15 is saying that we adopt -- that you adopt a definition of
16 field, and we never went back to that, so that's why I
17 brought it back up.

18
19 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

20
21 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes, you did vote on it,
22 yes, it -- to adopt it. I just want to make sure
23 everybody is aware of this.

24
25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Let me take
26 one, two, three. John Thompson, Lester and Mary.

27
28 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
29 I think what you meant is a year-round, year-round. It's
30 not a year-round hunting, it's a seasonal. So I would
31 much rather see not saying year-round. Seasonal. Only
32 one month, one month out of a year, but it's -- I don't
33 go for year-round hunting. It's a seasonal.

34
35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

36
37 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, if I understand
38 Mr. Thompson's comment, he's saying that he doesn't go
39 for the year-round. A question. Are you saying that it
40 should be a seasonal.

41
42 MR. THOMPSON: This is a seasonal hunt.

43
44 MR. DeMATTEO: Correct. But in this case
45 year-round refers to year-round dwellings like your home
46 in your village is a year-round dwelling. You live in it
47 year round. That's what it's referring to, not a season
48 like a hunting season, it's not referring to a time of
49 the year. It's just saying a building that you live in
50 year-round, all year. Okay?

00097

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, when we made
4 the motion, my understanding was that prior to the --
5 during the presentation, Mr. DeMatteo stated that the
6 modification would be the definition of field, and that's
7 what I was voting for. I was -- the motion was to accept
8 the proposal with modification. So I think that
9 everything is taken care of.

10

11 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, that is exactly
12 what we need to hear on the record. Thank you.

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So you go it on the
15 record. Okay.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

18

19 INTERPRETER: She does not want a revote
20 since she did vote already, and that motion is carried.
21 Thank you, Lester.

22

23 MR. L. WILDE: You're welcome.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Then I'll say
26 motion carried. That was kind of tough for me.

27

28 We'll go to the next on our Proposal 30
29 and 34, align Federal regulations with the State
30 regulations to include meat on bone restrictions for
31 caribou and moose in Units 21 and 24. Pete.

32

33 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, these two
34 proposals were both submitted by the Western Interior
35 Regional Council. They were written -- they were
36 analyzed together for purposes of similarity, and also
37 streamlining, but only Proposal 34 pertains to people of
38 the Y-K Delta region.

39

40 The Unit 21 moose, it's residents of
41 21(E) and people of Russian Mission only who have C&T use
42 determination for moose in Unit 21. So only people of
43 Russian Mission are affected by Proposal 34.

44

45 And then Proposal 30, the first proposal
46 there, no one in Unit 18 is affected by that proposal.
47 So Proposal 34 only affects people of Russian Mission.
48 Okay.

49

50 Proposal 34 would require that all edible

00098

1 meat of a moose harvested in Units 21 and 24 prior to
2 October 1 must remain on the bone until the meat is
3 removed from the field or is processed for human
4 consumption.

5
6 Mr. Chair, this proposal is very much
7 similar to the one we just covered for Unit 18 that deals
8 with moose. the Federal Subsistence Board has adopted
9 similar regulations for meat on the bone for moose in
10 Unit 9(B), Unit 17 and 19(B), and also as you well know
11 Proposal 29 requests the meat on the bone requirement for
12 Unit 18 south of the Yukon River.

13
14 Adoption of the proposed regulations
15 would favor reduction in meat spoilage during transport
16 from the harvest site, and would align with current State
17 regulations. The meat on the bone requirement would also
18 comply with local harvest and transport methods that
19 refrain from deboning meat.

20
21 Mr. Chair, the preliminary conclusion for
22 Proposal 34 would support the proposal with modification
23 that all edible meat of the front quarters and hind
24 quarters and ribs from the moose harvested in Units 21
25 and 24 prior to October 1 must remain on the bones until
26 the meat is removed from the field, or is processed for
27 human consumption.

28
29 And, Mr. Chair, as before, Staff also
30 recommends that the addition of a definition of the word
31 field be also adopted for this as the word field appears
32 in the proposed regulation.

33
34 That's all I have. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
37 Fish and Game.

38
39 MR. COFFING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
40 Michael Coffing.

41
42 The Department supports the regional
43 proposals, Proposal 30 and 34, and the Department
44 supports the proposal as modified on Page 150 of the
45 Council book. Adopting the proposal as modified will
46 align both the State and Federal regulations. Thank you.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies,
49 organizations, comment on 30, 34. If there's none, fish
50 and game local advisory committee. If there's none local

00099

1 advisory committee, is written public comment.

2

3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, take a moment
4 here. I'm a little lost. Okay.

5

6 MR. DeMATTEO: 150.

7

8 MR. NICK: Okay.

9

10 MR. DeMATTEO: Page 141 for written
11 public comments. There's none, Alex.

12

13 MR. NICK: Okay. Pardon me, I got
14 confused on the other pages here. Mr. Chair, there are
15 no written public comments.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Public comment for
18 specific proposal. If there's none, Regional Advisory
19 Council deliberation.

20

21 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Are we doing both 30 -- are
26 we deliberating on both Proposal 30 and 34 at the same
27 time, or are they separate?

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Pete.

30

31 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, for
32 thoroughness sake, it would probably be best if you
33 deliberate on both of them separately, and give your
34 recommendation on 30 and then give your recommendation on
35 34. And as 30 does not pertain to your region, you could
36 say, if you have no comment, you could say defer to the
37 home region for that if that makes it easier for you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So you recommend take
40 one first, then other.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

43

44 MR. DeMATTEO: Yes, Mr. Chair.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay.

47

48 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, then I defer
49 to the people who made the proposal. (In Yup'ik) Because
50 it was proposed by Western Interior, and it's their

00100

1 proposal and I have no comments, because I respect their
2 judgment.

3

4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Counsel, anyone for
5 Proposal 30. We'll take that first.

6

7 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I move to
8 adopt Proposal 30.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
11 the floor to adopt Proposal 30. If there's any second to
12 the motion.

13

14 MR. ANDREW: I second it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion has been
17 second. Discussion.

18

19 (No discussion)

20

21 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Question.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question's been
24 called for. All who favor say aye.

25

26 IN UNISON: Aye.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

29

30 (No opposing votes.)

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carry. Now
33 next is for action is 34.

34

35 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

36

37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

38

39 MR. L. WILDE: I move we adopt Proposal

40 34.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion on the floor
43 to adopt 34. If there's a second?

44

45 MR. HANSON: Second.

46

47 MR. CHARLES: Second the motion, Mr.

48 Chairman.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by James.

00101

1 Discussion.

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to
4 include with modification.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Include modification.
7 James?

8

9 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Modification has been
12 included. Pete.

13

14 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, the proposed
15 regulation would read as follows: Special provision,
16 units 21 and 24, all edible meat of the front quarters,
17 hind quarters, and ribs from a moose harvested in Units
18 21 and 24 prior to October 1st must remain on the bones
19 until the meat is removed from the field or is processed
20 for human consumption. The modification would also
21 include the same definition for the word field as we have
22 read previously.

23

24 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You understand the
25 modification? Any more discussion.

26

27 (No discussion)

28

29 MR. HANSON: Question.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question has been
32 called for. All who favor say aye.

33

34 IN UNISON: Aye.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

37

38 (No opposing votes.)

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. 30,
41 34, they are accepted.

42

43 Next is Proposal 31, align season and the
44 harvest limit for moose in Unit 19(A) with State
45 regulations. Pete.

46

47 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, this Proposal
48 31 was submitted by the Western Interior Regional
49 Council, and this would eliminate the antlerless moose
50 season and change the February 1 through February 10

00102

1 season to February 1 through 5 in Unit 19(A), that
2 portion north of the Kuskokwim river upstream from, but
3 not including the Kolmakof River drainage and south of
4 the Kuskokwim River drainage from, but not including, the
5 Holokuk River drainage.

6

7 Mr. Chair, you're reviewing this because
8 residents of Unit 18 within the Kuskokwim River drainage
9 upstream from, including the Johnson River, and rural
10 residents of Unit 19 have customary and traditional use
11 determination to harvest moose in Unit 19(A). So it does
12 affect many residents in Unit 18.

13

14 If you look on page 156 of your book,
15 page 156, halfway down the page, it says proposed Federal
16 regulations for moose in Unit 19(A). The proposed
17 regulation would change the word moose to bull, so the
18 harvest limit would be one bull. It would also remove
19 the antlerless moose season, that's February 1 through
20 10, and in it's place you would have a bull season,
21 February 1 through 5.

22

23 Mr. Chair, this proposal follows
24 regulatory changes that was made by the Alaska Board of
25 Game for the same area, and agency and public concerns of
26 continued declines in the area moose populations
27 substantiate the proponents request to eliminate the
28 provision for antlerless moose harvest, and to shorten
29 the February season. The proposed changes follow the
30 concerns as I mentioned that prompted the Board of Game
31 to place similar restrictions in State regulation.

32

33 In Unit 19(A) there has been
34 deterioration of the bull component, there's been
35 deterioration of the calf component, and also the number
36 of cows have also declined. This has been monitored now
37 for a number of years. The factors influencing these low
38 numbers include poor calf survival through the fall
39 season, low yearling bull recruitment, and also poor
40 over-winter adult survival. Also, the reported annual
41 moose harvest in Unit 19(A) declined from 1996 through
42 the year 2002. Analysis of reported total harvest for
43 this period revealed a 20 percent annual average decrease
44 of moose harvested in 19(A).

45

46 There's a table at the top of Page 160
47 that shows this information in a table form. And
48 starting in 1996/97, there's been a substantial decrease
49 of moose harvested. And this is a concern of local
50 residents.

00103

1 If this proposal was adopted, shortening
2 the February season would decrease inadvertent cow moose
3 harvest during a period when bull moose have shed their
4 antlers. A reduction in the total cow moose harvest
5 would increase -- could increase productivity. The
6 proposed change follow the concerns that prompted the
7 Alaska Board of Game to place similar restrictions in
8 State regulations. The proposed regulatory change also
9 follows the ongoing cooperative management efforts that's
10 going on between the agencies, State fish and game
11 advisory committee, and also the Western Interior
12 Regional Council. Adoption of the proposed regulatory
13 change would support these efforts and would help to
14 manage the Unit 19(A) moose population for continued
15 subsistence uses. Also, local residents support these
16 self-imposed restrictions.

17
18 This is a grass roots within proposal
19 that's being carried over from the State into the Council
20 that was put forth by the Western Interior Council.

21
22 The ongoing cooperative management
23 working group that's going on, they see a need for
24 additional restrictions down the road, but this is a
25 start point.

26
27 Mr. Chair, with that, the preliminary
28 conclusion is to support the proposal, and again the
29 proposed language is at the top of Page 161, for 19(A)
30 that portion north of the Kuskokwim River from, but not
31 including the Kolmakof River drainage, and south of the
32 Kuskokwim River upstream from, but not including the
33 Holokuk River drainage. The harvest limit is one bull,
34 and the February season is now February 1 through
35 February 5th. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

36
37 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
38 Fish and Game, Proposal 31, for comment.

39
40 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
41 Mike Coffing, Department of Fish and Game.

42
43 The Department of Fish and Game supports
44 the preliminary conclusion as well as the original
45 proposal. So we support the proposal and the conclusion
46 provided on Page 161.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies or
49 organizations for comment, Proposal 31. If none, fish
50 and game local advisory committee comment on 31. Summary

00104

1 of written proposal comments.

2

3 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, no summ --

4 rather, no written summary of written comments for

5 Proposal 31.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Public comment on

8 specific proposals. If none, Regional Council

9 deliberation.

10

11 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Mr. DeMatteo, where is

16 Holokuk River drainage? Where's the Holokuk River

17 drainage?

18

19 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Gregory,

20 Holokuk River drainage is real close to the Paimiut.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

23

24 MR. DeMATTEO: Real close to the Paimiut

25 on the Kuskokwim.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

28

29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: James.

30

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

32 Mike, how does State regulations say about this

33 regulation, one bull or one bull moose? In this

34 regulation it says one bull. It doesn't say moose. Do

35 we have to leave out moose? We're talking about moose.

36 Are we going to hunt bulls or moose?

37

38 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Mr. Charles'

39 comment, you can recommend that it's a one bull moose

40 rather than just one bull to make it more clear.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, we're ready

43 for action.

44

45 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move we

46 adopt Proposal 31 with modification.

47

48 MR. HANSON: Second.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on

00105

1 the floor to support Proposal 31, and been by who?

2

3 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Johnson.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Hanson.

6 Discussion

7

8 (No discussion)

9

10 MR. ANDREW: Question.

11

12 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been
13 called for all who favor say aye.

14

15 IN UNISON: Aye.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose, same sign.

18

19 (No opposing votes.)

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

22 Proposal 31 accepted.

23

24 Proposal 33 tomorrow.

25

26 Proposal 36, align coyote hunting season

27 and harvest limit with State regulations in Units 19, 21

28 and 24. Pete.

29

30 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 36 was

31 submitted by the Western Interior Regional Council. And

32 this would extend the coyote hunting season in Units 19,

33 21 and 24 by 20 days, opening the season on August 10th

34 instead of September 1st, and also allow the existing

35 harvest limit of 10 coyotes to be taken throughout the

36 season. This would align Federal And State seasons and

37 harvest limits, and would eliminate the current

38 restriction of no more than two coyotes may be harvested

39 before October 1st.

40

41 Mr. Chair, you're reviewing this, because

42 the current C&T determination is all rural residents have

43 a customary and traditional use determination for coyote

44 in Units 19, 21 and 24, so this does affect all residents

45 of Unit 18.

46

47 The existing Federal coyote season dates

48 for Unit 19, 21, and 24 are currently more restrictive

49 than the current State regulations. The intent of the

50 proposal is to provide the qualified -- provide qualified

00106

1 users of Unit 19, 21 and 24 with more opportunity to
2 harvest coyotes. The proposed change would provide an
3 additional 20 days of hunting opportunity for the current
4 dates -- from the current dates of September 1 to April
5 30th to August 10th through April 30. And it would allow
6 the harvest of 10 coyotes to be taken throughout the
7 entire season.

8

9 It should also be noted the adoption of
10 this proposal would increase opportunity to harvest
11 coyotes with a rifle in National Park Service lands.

12

13 The status of the coyote population in
14 Units 19, 21 and 24 are not fully known due to the lack
15 of surveys and sealing requirements for coyotes.
16 However, all indications suggest that the populations in
17 these units are naturally low. No specific coyote
18 harvest data for Federal lands are available. Coyote
19 harvest from 1990 through 1995 totalled 47 coyotes for
20 Unit 19; however, there are no data available for Units
21 21 and 24. Harvest data are based on trapper
22 questionnaires conducted by the Alaska Department of Fish
23 and Game, but do not differentiate between trapping and
24 hunting methods.

25

26 If this proposal were adopted, coyote
27 harvest levels are not anticipated to increase even in
28 the event this proposed change were adopted, because
29 coyote harvest by firearm generally occur on an
30 incidental basis, and commercial demand for coyote has
31 decreased in recent years.

32

33 The proposed expansion of the Federal
34 season and removal of restrictions on the harvest limit
35 for coyote in Units 19, 21, and 24 would not likely
36 adversely impact the existing population.

37

38 Mr. Chair, with that, the preliminary
39 conclusion is to support the proposal. Thank you.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
42 Fish and Game comment on 36, Proposal 36.

43

44 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
45 Mike Coffing.

46

47 Department of Fish and Game supports the
48 proposal.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies,

00107

1 organizations comment on 36. Fish and game local
2 advisory committee comments on 36. Written public
3 comments on 36.

4

5 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, no written
6 summary of public comments for Proposal 36.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Public comments on
9 specific proposal. If there's none, Regional Advisory
10 Council deliberation.

11

12 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move we
13 adopt Proposal No. 36.

14

15 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
16 the floor to adopt Proposal 26. If there's any second.

17

18 MR. HANSON: Second.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by John
21 Hanson. Discussion.

22

23 (No discussion)

24

25 MR. HANSON: Question.

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question been called
28 for. All who favor say aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

33

34 (No opposing votes.)

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.
37 Proposal 36 are accepted.

38

39 Proposal 38, increase wolf harvest limit
40 in Unit 24. Pete.

41

42 MR. DeMATTEO: Mr. Chair, Proposal 38 was
43 submitted by the Western Interior Regional Council, and
44 this would increase the existing Unit 24 wolf hunting
45 harvest limit from five to 10 wolves.

46

47 Mr. Chair, this proposal is being
48 presented to the Council because residents of Unit 18
49 have a customary and traditional use determination to
50 harvest wolves in Unit 24.

00108

1 The existing Federal and State harvest
2 limits for hunting wolves in Unit 24 is five wolves
3 during the August 10 through April 30 seasons. The
4 proponent's intent is to increase opportunity for
5 qualified users who want to harvest additional wolves in
6 Unit 24.

7
8 The total area population of wolves for
9 Unit 24 most recently was estimated between 374 to 541
10 wolves. And that's distributed between 58 and 66 packs.
11 And the overall population appeared to be healthy.

12
13 An estimated total of 130 to 140 wolves
14 are harvested each year in Unit 24.

15
16 Through preliminary discussions with area
17 trappers, hunters, Department of Fish and Game personnel
18 and Fish and Wildlife Service Staff, the wolf population
19 trend in Unit 24 appears to be stable to increasing.

20
21 If this proposal were adopted, the
22 proposed regulations would meet the proponent's intent to
23 increase opportunity for qualified users who want to
24 harvest additional wolves in Unit 24. If adopted,
25 additional harvest of wolves is not likely in most of
26 Unit 24, because rural subsistence users who hunt wolves
27 in that unit may currently do so under the trapping
28 regulations. Most area hunters have a trapping license,
29 and so are able to harvest an unlimited number of wolves
30 during the shorter trapping season. Most wolves are
31 harvested during the trapping season, which is November 1
32 through April 30, due to the better fur conditions, and
33 better transport conditions at that time.

34
35 This additional opportunity would have
36 the greatest impact in the Gates of the Arctic National
37 Park where hunting regulations are primarily -- are the
38 primary means to harvest wolves with firearms. The
39 additional opportunity in the Park may slightly increase
40 wolf harvest within the park boundary, but is not likely
41 to have much if any impact over the overall wolf
42 population for Unit 24. The number of hunters eligible
43 to hunt wolves within the Park is also limited by the
44 existing National Park Service eligibility regulations.

45
46 Mr. Chair, under current Park Service
47 regulations, an eligible trapper cannot use a firearm,
48 okay, on a wolf in Park Service lands. So if this were
49 adopted, this would allow a trapper with a hunting
50 license able to harvest a wolf within Park Service lands,

00109

1 it would give those people more opportunity within Park
2 Service boundaries.

3

4 Mr. Chair, the preliminary conclusion is
5 to support the proposal. That is all I have.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alaska Department of
8 Fish and Game comment on Proposal 38.

9

10 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, Mike Coffing,
11 Department of Fish and Game.

12

13 The Department supports increasing the
14 bag limit for wolves in Unit 24; however, they would like
15 to see the increased bag limit authorized only for that
16 time beginning November 1 through April 30th when the
17 wolves are in better condition. So again the Department
18 supports increased bag limit, but would like to see the
19 proposal modified so that that increased bag limit is
20 only available from November 1 through April 30th.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other agencies,
23 organizations comments on Proposal 38. Local advisory
24 committee comment on Proposal 38. Summary of written
25 public comments.

26

27 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, there is one public
28 comment in opposition of Proposal 38 from Defenders of
29 Wildlife. Comment, the summary of comment reads: The
30 current wolf and wolverine hunting regulations are
31 adequate to provide subsistence needs in this unit where
32 most furbearers are taken by trapping, with no limits.
33 ADF&G objectives here are for a sustained harvest of no
34 more than 30 percent of the wolf population. These
35 levels are probably now reached or exceeded, even though
36 it is impossible to accurately measure because sealing
37 and reporting is so chronically low. In addition,
38 planned aerial wolf population surveys in winter 2001 to
39 2002 did not occur due to weather conditions. Similarly,
40 wolverine reporting is low and population data is scarce,
41 requiring that hunting regulations remain conservative.

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Public comments for
44 specific proposals. If there's none, Regional Advisory
45 Council deliberation.

46

47 MR. HANSON: Mr. Chairman, I move to
48 adopt -- move to support Proposal 38.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on

00110

1 the floor to support proposal 36. If there's any second.

2

3 MS. GREGORY: 38.

4

5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: 38, I'm sorry. Is
6 there a second to the motion.

7

8 MS. GREGORY: Second.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Mary
11 Gregory. Discussion.

12

13 (No discussion)

14

15 MR. HANSON: Question.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question's been
18 called for. All who favor say aye.

19

20 IN UNISON: Aye.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose, say no.

23

24 (No opposing votes.)

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.

27 Proposal 38 is supported.

28

29 And we're going to recess until 7:00

30 o'clock tonight.

31

32 (Off record - 5:08 p.m.)

33

34 (On record - 7:05 p.m.)

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: This evening we'll go
37 into fisheries. You'll find the fisheries in Tab C on
38 your booklet. And results of Federal Board action on
39 2003 fisheries regulatory changes proposals. We call on
40 Jerry Berg.

41

42 MR. BERG: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman,
43 members of the Council. Actually the results of the
44 Federal Board actions taken this past December were --
45 that was the 805 letter that was read into the record
46 under Tab A this morning. And so that was the letter
47 back to you, to the Council, letting you know the actions
48 of the Board this past December. I can go over those
49 proposal again if you'd like to, but we did go -- we had
50 that letter read into the record this morning.

00111

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We did already, so
2 don't really have to go over.

3

4 MR. BERG: So we can just go onto the
5 next one I guess.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So let's got to (B)
8 report on meeting with North Pacific Fisheries
9 Management, Council, Staff and others.

10

11 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)

12

13 INTERPRETER: Alex Nick will be speaking
14 in Yup'ik. This winter when they attended a meeting, the
15 agenda item right now, the North Pacific Fisheries
16 Management Council, when they held a meeting, Harry, did
17 you come with us along with Vince Mathews. Who of us
18 were there at that meeting. Oh, excuse me, I think that
19 was Mike Savage representing Harry Wilde, yeah.

20

21 During that time they talked about some
22 of the questions that the Regional Councils had regarding
23 fishery issues, and Vince Mathews has the write up on
24 that I believe. Jerry? I think. Ida? Excuse me.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Ida, go ahead.

27

28 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
29 Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff Committee member.

30

31 The Yukon Councils had asked the North
32 Pacific Fisheries Management Council about issues on deep
33 sea by-catch and the impacts they were having on the
34 Yukon and the Kuskokwim and in-river fresh waters. And
35 so they met with representatives of the Eastern Interior,
36 Western Interior, and Y-K Delta Council in Anchorage at
37 the Office of Subsistence Management. And they brought
38 in members of the pollack fishery who do a lot of the
39 by-catch, and they reported on what they were doing to
40 monitor the by-catch and to try to reduce the by-catch,
41 and they gave figures and written reports and a statement
42 of all their efforts to reduce by-catch. And although
43 they said it was like .02 some percent, when you consider
44 the biomass which was several million, that is quite a
45 lot of fish. But despite the fact, they were still
46 monitoring themselves and fining boats, very large fines
47 if they went over the cap or if they went anywhere near
48 that they were catching a lot of salmon or other fish
49 that were important to the river people.

50

00112

1 And the members of the Councils that were
2 present were satisfied that they were actively seeking to
3 find ways to reduce the by-catch, and that they were
4 actively fining boat members, and creating maps of where
5 there were pockets of salmon, so the trawlers and the
6 pollack fisheries would stay away from the areas that had
7 a lot of salmon in them.

8

9 And they offered to meet again if the
10 Council chairs requested them to, but that regardless of
11 whether they met with the Council chairs or not, they
12 would continue their effort to monitor and reduce the
13 by-catch.

14

15 And they were also concerned that there
16 was a lot that's happening in the ocean that needs to be
17 studied to see what exactly is impacting the fish, where
18 do they go when they leave the rivers, and where are they
19 in their sea life, and what else is impacting, because of
20 the poor runs. And they're concerned about poor runs,
21 because when one fishery goes down, it has a domino
22 effect to affect negatively other fisheries, and theirs
23 included.

24

25 But they do have a very serious effort to
26 reduce the by-catch. And the other Council chairs said
27 that they were pleased to hear that there was such an
28 effort.

29

30 But they did say they were willing to
31 come back speak with the Councils if they were invited.
32 So if you wanted them to come to your council, they
33 would respond to your invitation.

34

35 And that's the last of my recollection,
36 but basically that's what that meeting was about.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, who are these
39 people?

40

41 MS. HILDEBRAND: North Pacific Fisheries
42 Management Council, and they had members of the pollack
43 fishery from Seattle, Washington that were coming up to
44 address the issues that the council raised about by-catch
45 and the impacts of deep sea trawl and other deep sea
46 fisheries and activities on Yukon and Kuskokwim fish.

47

48 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman. Ida, you could
49 correct me if wrong on this, this meeting was in, I
50 believe it was in response to the tri-Councils'

00113

1 request....

2

3 MS. HILDEBRAND: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

4

5 MR. NICK:to get information on
6 some of the by-catch incidents in the deep seas with
7 respect to trawl fisheries.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Ida. John
10 Hanson.

11

12 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman. Yeah, Ida, when we had our meeting in Kotlik
14 24, 25, 26, last week, you know, there was a guy from
15 North Pacific Council, NOAA was the one. They gave us
16 the report on by-catch, and their by-catch was more like
17 sketchy figures, because they gave the observers on the
18 mother ships, and anything over 125 feet long vessels,
19 but they only had one observer. Anything from 125 down,
20 they didn't have observers. And that's why I say
21 sketchy, scratchy figures that they gave us, so if they
22 don't have observers, you know, 125 feet down, some of
23 those are 100 feet long, and no observers, well, they're
24 the ones that's been discarding the salmon. But the
25 figures they gave us were 45,000 king salmon at that
26 meeting. I have the papers in my other -- in my bag. So
27 that's the way I look at it, because if they don't
28 observers from 70 feet on up to 125, that's a lot of fish
29 they're throwing away.

30

31 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, in
32 response to John, John is correct in his statement.
33 However, the North Pacific Management Council also has a
34 council similar to this that has to pass recommendations
35 and regulations, and they did try to get observers on the
36 smaller boats, but it didn't pass. And they tried it a
37 number of times. And they said they'll continue to work
38 on improving that, but if it doesn't pass their Council,
39 they can't put it into regulations.

40

41 But you're absolutely right, although
42 they give us figures, it's not the best figures. There's
43 lots of gaps in the information.

44

45 But I think the other -- oh, I forgot to
46 say, Della Trumbel from the Kodiak-Aleutian Council, the
47 chairman of that council, was also present there. And
48 she was very aware of -- in fact, she sat and told me
49 these were the holes in figures, because they deal with
50 those kinds of numbers a lot, because they have a really

00114

1 heavy ocean fishery, commercial fishery, and she did
2 challenge those numbers.

3

4 But despite the fact that there are gaps
5 in it, the other Council members were pleased to hear
6 that there was an effort to do something about it,
7 because they know that there's a potential that if the
8 subsistence users on the rivers say they aren't getting
9 their subsistence needs, it could either impact them
10 negatively or close down their fishery, and that's why
11 they're paying attention. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12

13 MR. HANSON: Yeah. Thanks, Ida. Well,
14 we can always have them again next October after we have
15 our meeting, because the Department of Fish and Game told
16 us in Kotlik that this coming summer is no better than
17 this past summer, so it's going to be four years disaster
18 in a row for the Yukon, and even Kuskokwim. So we can
19 have them next October again.

20

21 MS. HILDEBRAND: They said they would be
22 gladly come out to meet with the Council, so if you send
23 an invitation, probably a written invitation, they would
24 probably come and report to you again.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Ida.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

33

34 INTERPRETER: The North Pacific Fisheries
35 Council, maybe when we meet in October she moves to
36 extend an invitation to the North Pacific Fisheries
37 Council to attend this body's October meeting.

38

39 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, I believe the
40 next -- or rather the fall meeting is scheduled for
41 October, is it October 3 and 4, I believe, in St. Mary's.
42 October 3 and 4 in St. Mary's.

43

44 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I'd like to have the
45 people from the North Pacific Rim Fisheries, what's that
46 call, the Councils? A representative from that group to
47 come and make report to this body here at our October
48 meeting.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on

00115

1 the floor to -- Don, is that October something, that St.
2 Mary's meeting will be?

3

4 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, in the back of,
5 the very last page of your Council book are the fall 2000
6 (sic) meeting schedule. Second to the last page. And
7 your Council at your last meeting selected October 3rd
8 and 4th for your fall meeting, and you can confirm that.
9 That was going to be a discussion topic at the end of
10 this meeting, to confirm those dates, and then set the
11 next one as well. So as of right now you have October
12 3rd and 4th as your meeting dates for this fall.

13

14 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don.
15 There's a motion on the floor that if we have a meeting
16 at October 3 and 4 at St. Mary's, they want North Pacific
17 Fisheries Management Council, one of them should be a
18 report, give us a report in that October meeting at St.
19 Mary's. If there's any second to the motion?

20

21 MR. ANDREW: I second.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Nick.
24 Discussion.

25

26 (No discussion)

27

28 MR. HANSON: Question.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question been
31 called for. All who favor say aye.

32

33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose say no.

36

37 (No opposing votes.)

38

39 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. So
40 we've got to request, someone have to make a request to
41 Council meeting -- North Pacific Fisheries Management to
42 attend our meeting there.

43

44 MR. NICK: Mr. Chair, I need
45 clarification on the motion. Is it to invite North
46 Pacific Fisheries Council?

47

48 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

49

50 INTERPRETER: She'd like to hear more

00116

1 information about the by-catch from the North Pacific
2 Fisheries Council and the vessel sizes, that there are no
3 observers on vessels, fishing vessels under 125 feet, so
4 here on the Yukon and Kuskokwim, we know the salmon
5 returns have been low. So she's requesting that she'd
6 like to hear a report from the North Pacific Fisheries
7 Management Council.

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik) So they
10 will invite someone. We had one at the meeting at Kotlik
11 from -- representative from, and I think it was
12 information of North Pacific Fisheries. So we continue
13 on our agenda.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

18

19 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

20

21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oh, yeah?

22

23 MR. NICK: (In Yup'ik)

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Oh, we never

28 vote yet?

29

30 MS. GREGORY: No.

31

32 MR. NICK: (In Yup'ik)

33

34 UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: Yes.

35

36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We vote already.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Oh, yes, I'm sorry.

39

40 MR. HANSON: We voted already.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Old age catching up.

43

44 MR. HANSON: I mean I called question, we

45 voted.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: Okay. I'm sorry.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: All right.

50

00117

1 MR. HANSON: The Chairman gave this
2 advice, make sure that they send us a good person so we
3 can hammer his head.

4
5 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: On our agenda, Item
6 C, Alaska Board of Fisheries, ACRs. Subsistence
7 fisheries schedules. Item 1, Yukon River BOF ACR. Tom
8 Kron supposed to be. Jerry, you'll go over that?

9
10 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have
11 copies of both of those ACRs. Mr Chairman, members of
12 the Council, an ACR, of course, is the term the State
13 uses for an agenda change request, and that is to request
14 changes to Board of Fishery or fishery regulations out of
15 their normal cycle. They typically addresses in the AYK
16 area every third year, which will be next year, so if you
17 want to have an issue addressed this year, you have to
18 submit an ACR.

19
20 And there were two ACRs that were
21 considered -- that are going to be considered by the
22 Board of Fisheries this year. On addresses both the
23 Yukon and the Kuskokwim, and then there's another one
24 that addresses just the Yukon. And I believe that YRDFA
25 also addressed these down in Kotlik last week, so maybe
26 Harry and John are somewhat familiar with these ACRs.

27
28 I'll address -- the first one is 462 on
29 the front page in front of you. That was an ACR
30 submitted by Virgil Umphenour. Virgil used to be a Board
31 of Fish member, and he's currently an Eastern Interior
32 Regional Council member. And his request basically,
33 without reading through the whole ACR, he's basically
34 requesting that the subsistence schedules that have
35 recently been implemented on both the Yukon and the
36 Kuskokwim be in -- remain in place on both rivers
37 irregardless of whether there's a commercial fishery or
38 not. For example, this past year on the Kuskokwim, when
39 it was determined that there was enough salmon to allow a
40 commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim, meaning that there
41 was enough salmon in the river to allow for a commercial
42 fishery, then we lifted the schedule and we went to seven
43 days a week fishing as opposed to the three days closed
44 and four days on on the Kuskokwim. So under the proposal
45 that Virgil has submitted, even if there's enough fish
46 for a commercial fishery, the schedules would remain in
47 place for both the Yukon and the Kuskokwim.

48
49 Now, both of these ACRs are before you
50 today, so if you choose to take some sort of action, you

00118

1 can support them or oppose them or not take any action.
2 It's up to you. But we are sending a representative from
3 the Y-K Council. Harry has nominated James Charles to go
4 on behalf of the Council to the Board of Fish meeting
5 which is going to begin March 17th in Anchorage. So if
6 you want James to be able to present the views of your
7 Council, he needs to have a motion from the Council so
8 that he can present that at this meeting in Anchorage.
9 So it would probably be better -- if you want to do a
10 motion to do each one separate, I would recommend -- if
11 you want to discuss or take any motions on 462.

12
13 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, I was over in a
14 meeting in Kotlik when Yukon Drainage Fisherman
15 Association meeting. The time when I was there, when
16 they work on these two proposals, Proposal 462, Yukon
17 Drainage Fisherman Association Board reject that. They
18 didn't want to support it. And then other proposal from
19 Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 463, they support
20 that. So that's the only thing that they support, this
21 Proposal 463. I suppose it's up to this Council if they
22 want to support both or not. It's up to them.

23
24 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

25
26 INTERPRETER: Mary's requesting that
27 these two proposals be discussed separately.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So, Mike, yeah.

30
31 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, thank you.
32 Mike Coffing, Department of Fish and Game. I thought I
33 would share with the Council what the Department's going
34 to be recommending on these proposals to the Board of
35 Fish. The Board of Fisheries will be meeting beginning
36 the 17th of March, and these two proposals are scheduled
37 to come up on the 22nd of March. That's what is on the
38 road map. Now, that may shift. You know how meetings go.
39 It could come a little earlier, it could come a little
40 later, but right now it looks like the 22nd of March is
41 what they're scheduled on the road map.

42
43 The Department has put together comments
44 on both of these proposals to the Board of Fisheries, and
45 the Department's position on 462 is to oppose 462. As
46 many of you know, particularly when we met with the Board
47 of Fisheries back in January of 2000 and we discussed the
48 subsistence fishing schedule and rebuilding, the
49 rebuilding plan for the Kuskokwim, it was discussed in
50 the committee that dealt with that rebuilding plan what

00119

1 would happen if we had enough chum salmon specifically to
2 allow for a commercial fishery. And the regulations that
3 we currently have in place do provide for seven days a
4 week subsistence fishing on the Kuskokwim river when
5 there are enough chum salmon to allow an open commercial
6 fishing season.

7

8 So we think the regulations that are in
9 place now for the Kuskokwim already provide for that, and
10 we see no reason why we should have subsistence fishing
11 only three days a week and have a commercial fishery
12 open. So for that reason, on the Kuskokwim the
13 Department's going to oppose 462.

14

15 463 obviously is a proposal the
16 Department supports. It is a proposal put in by the
17 Department of Fish and Game, and there will be some more
18 background material provided for both of these proposals
19 at the Board of Fish meeting.

20

21 So I thought I'd just share with the
22 Council what the Department is recommending to the Board
23 of Fisheries on these two. Thank you.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Mike.
26 Proposal 462 and 463, other agency, organization comment.
27 AVCP, Myron Naneng. John Hanson.

28

29 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.
30 Chairman. I was in Kotlik with Harry on these two
31 proposals. And this first one, 462, had a six-inch at
32 the end of what will happen if nothing is done, like it
33 had a six-inch -- mention of six-inch gear instead of
34 eight inch. But when YR DFA took this 463, they passed it
35 instead of the 462. Before they voted, I told the YR DFA
36 Board that if they're going to put six-inch on the Lower
37 Yukon, that they're going to holler their heads off,
38 because they're not going to catch king salmon. I told
39 them to look at Bethel, Kuskokwim where Aniak is just
40 getting very few kings, and that's been over 30 years
41 that they switch to six-inch. So I guess the Board
42 members started thinking, well, we follow Virgil
43 Umphenour's proposal, then we're going to be just like
44 the Kuskokwim, so they -- instead of voting for Virgil's
45 proposal, they voted for the Department's proposal, which
46 is 463.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: AVCP, Myron Naneng.

49

50 MR. NANENG: Yeah. Quyana, Mr. Chairman.

00120

1 Myron Naneng. (In Yup'ik).

2

3 INTERPRETER: It is AVCP's position not
4 to be in support of Proposal 462. This is Virgil
5 Umphenour's proposal. Reflecting on last summer's
6 fishery and what happened from Russian Mission on down,
7 where there was a closure I guess for subsistence fishing
8 when there was a commercial opportunity was announced.
9 But there was no opening because there was no buyer in
10 the area. Regardless of the schedule, because people
11 take as much -- only what they need for harvest,
12 subsistence harvest. Even though the run forecast may be
13 somewhat low, I don't think it will be detrimental even
14 to have a seven-day a week schedule, because it's a
15 hardship with openings and closing to set nets and then
16 to take them out and then following that schedule, it
17 would be to the benefit of our people, subsistence users
18 to keep the openings for seven days a week.

19

20 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Thank you,
21 Myron. We are working on 462 right now. Fish and game
22 local advisory committee comments on 462.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: I move that we oppose
29 Proposal No. 462.

30

31 MR. CHARLES: Second.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. There's motion
34 on the floor, oppose 462, and it's been second. Yeah, it
35 been second. Discussion.

36

37 (No discussion)

38

39 MR. THOMPSON: Question.

40

41 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question has been
42 made. All who favor it say aye.

43

44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Oppose same sign.

47

48 (No opposing votes.)

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. 462

00121

1 Proposal was rejected.

2

3 Now then Proposal 463. 463,
4 introduction. Maybe you could do it?

5

6 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Proposal
7 463, as Mike Coffing mentioned, was submitted by the
8 Alaska Department of Fish and Game. It only addresses
9 the Yukon River, and it basically would relax the
10 subsistence if enough fish are present for a commercial
11 fishery in a certain district. So the fish are still
12 going to be managed by district as the fish move up the
13 river, but if there's enough fish, determined to be
14 enough fish in a specific district or subdistrict to have
15 a commercial fishery, then the subsistence schedule would
16 then be relaxed at that point.

17

18 It was just not clear the way I guess it
19 was written before of how that would be handled, which
20 created some confusion last summer, so they're just
21 trying to clarify how that would be handled on the Yukon
22 for this coming year. And as you said, YR DFA did
23 support this proposal, and so I'll leave it up to the
24 Council on how you'd like to handle this one.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Yukon Drainage
27 Fisherman Association support it. And also AVCP support
28 it. So I think it's up to the Council here how they want
29 to deal with it at this time.

30

31 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

32

33 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

34

35 MR. L. WILDE: I'd like to move Proposal
36 463 be adopted.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
39 the floor to adopt 463, if there's any second to the
40 motion

41

42 MR. CHARLES: Second.

43

44 MR. HANSON: Second.

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by James.
47 Motion been second. Discussion.

48

49 (No discussion)

50

00122

1 MR. HANSON: Question.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: One more time
4 discussion.

5

6 MR. L. WILDE: Question.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: The question's been
9 called for. I'm going to request roll call.

10

11 MS. GREGORY: You caught me. Proposal
12 463. You'll have to excuse me while I write the names
13 down. Lester.

14

15 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Hanson.

18

19 MR. HANSON: Yeah.

20

21 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Mr. Wilde.

22

23 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: I'm sorry. James Charles.

26

27 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

28

29 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Andrew.

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Yes.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: Phillip Moses.

34

35 MR. MOSES: Yeah.

36

37 MS. GREGORY: Johnny Thompson.

38

39 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

40

41 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik).

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Proposal 463 is
44 supported by the Council.

45

46 Next on our agenda here, number 2, Yukon
47 and Kuskokwim BOF ACR. Jerry Berg.

48

49 MR. BERG: Mr. Chairman, that's just one
50 -- that was one of the two we just covered. So that was

00123

1 the second one. You guys already covered that one.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. Let's go to

4 the next one, third, call for Alaska Board of Fish

5 proposal for 2004.

6

7 MR. BERG: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that's just

8 to make sure the Council is aware that the Board of Fish

9 will be taking up AYK proposals this next year, in 2004.

10 That's once every three years they address fishery issues

11 on the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers, and the call -- the

12 period is open right now to submit proposals. And we

13 could submit proposals through April 10th. And my

14 understanding is that the Board of Fisheries meeting will

15 be in Bethel next January, so just a little less than a

16 year from now they'll be addressing Yukon and Kuskokwim

17 proposals in Bethel, unless they change that location

18 between now and then. But anyway, proposals need to be

19 submitted by April 10th, so it's just to let you know if

20 there's any proposals you're interested in submitting

21 myself or the State staff can help proposals together

22 between now and April 10th. We can work on some here or

23 if you have people back in your home villages that would

24 like to submit proposals, you can contact any of us and

25 we'd be more than willing to sit down and work out a

26 proposal for you and with you. Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Jerry.

29 John Hanson.

30

31 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you, Mr.

32 Chairman. I'd like to give the Regional Council the

33 proposal I sent to the Board of Fish, and I would like

34 for the Council here to support it. I gave a copy to

35 YRDFA Board in Kotlik, but evidently they never act on it

36 yet, because maybe they never had a quorum.

37

38 So this proposal is to close all spawning

39 streams from District 1 to all the way to the Canadian

40 Border, District 6. And when I present it to YRDFA

41 Board, I explain why I had to do this. It took me three

42 years, and I just kept thinking of it. Every year we

43 kept getting disaster, and then at the Kotlik meeting the

44 Department said this coming summer, 2003, isn't going to

45 be any better than 2002, that it was going to be the

46 same. And so I told the YRDFA Board about it, and I told

47 them it's for their member communities purpose and the

48 conservation of salmon stocks. That's what this proposal

49 is for, to close all spawning stream mouth, half a mile

50 down, quarter mile upstream, so it would be a straight

00124

1 line, and nobody fishes in there, even sports don't go
2 fishing way back in there.

3

4 The Department and Fish and Wildlife will
5 have to work together and monitor the closure. And when
6 they say that they have an adequate escapement, a little
7 more, that wouldn't hurt, then they can open it for
8 fishing, for commercial fishing or personal use or sport
9 fishing, after the spawning takes place.

10

11 And that's what the proposal that I sent
12 to Board of Fish January 7th pertains to. So if the
13 Regional Council support it, I'll abstain, because I'm
14 the guy that made the proposal.

15

16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Lester.

17

18 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, since we're
19 having a call for fish proposals, Mr. Chairman, I would
20 like to ask this Regional Council to support this. I'd
21 like to move that the Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Advisory
22 Council supports the proposal presented by John.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: Second.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: You made a motion,
27 Lester?

28

29 MR. L. WILDE: Yes, sir.

30

31 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
32 the floor, and second by Mary. John Hanson proposal.
33 It's already admitted to State Board of Fisheries, so he
34 request to support it from Council. And now it's a
35 motion and second to support this proposal. Any
36 discussion.

37

38 MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John Thompson.

41

42 MR. THOMPSON: Well, I support this
43 resolution for this reason. Andrafsky, the mouth of
44 Andrafsky has been closed I don't know how many times,
45 and traditional site is closed also. I don't see why the
46 other streams can't close. If Andrafsky could, why
47 can't the others. So for the disaster reasons. Thank
48 you.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: John, for you

00125

1 information, it's not a resolution, it's a proposal.

2 Yeah. James.

3

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

5 Would you have somebody read the proposal as it is

6 written? Read it aloud.

7

8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Go ahead, Lester.

9

10 MR. L. WILDE: On the proposal form,

11 excuse me, item 1, Alaska Administrative Code Number 5

12 AAC, it doesn't have a number, I'm sorry. No regulation

13 book number. I'll keep going.

14

15 What the problem is, the proposal is that

16 all spawning streams within the Yukon.....

17

18 MS. GREGORY: 1 through 6 on the Yukon.

19

20 MR. L. WILDE: Districts 1 through 6, all

21 the spawning streams within the areas known as Districts

22 1 through 6 be closed for -- what is that, John? The

23 spawning streams be closed for fishing. To close all --

24 I'm sorry, I'll start over. To close all spawning

25 streams starting from Andreafsky all the way to the

26 border, half mile down from the stream of each spawning

27 stream and a quarter mile on the upper stream side. No

28 fishing until escapement is reached, escapement goal is

29 reached, or over. Then subsistence can be opened at that

30 time. That's the proposal.

31

32 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Does that proposal

33 have any number on it?

34

35 MR. HANSON: No, it doesn't have. I

36 wrote to Division of Boards and told them.....

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Will you go in your

39 -- make sure that microphone.....

40

41 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

42

43 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

44

45 MR. HANSON: I didn't know what number to

46 put, so I just wrote a note to Division of Boards and

47 told them to put the number themselves. So Division of

48 Boards will put the AAC number and the proposal number.

49

50 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. James. Any

00126

1 other discussion from the Council. Other discussion.

2

3 (No discussion)

4

5 MS. GREGORY: Question on the motion.

6

7 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question on the

8 motion. Roll call.

9

10 MS. GREGORY: Lester.

11

12 MR. L. WILDE: Yes.

13

14 MS. GREGORY: John.

15

16 MR. HANSON: Abstain.

17

18 REPORTER: Your microphone, Mary.

19

20 MS. GREGORY: John, abstain?

21

22 MR. HANSON: I abstain.

23

24 MS. GREGORY: Gregory, yes. Harry.

25

26 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yes.

27

28 MS. GREGORY: James Charles.

29

30 MR. CHARLES: Yes.

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Andrew.

33

34 MR. ANDREW: Yes.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Moses.

37

38 MR. MOSES: Yeah.

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Thompson.

41

42 MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

43

44 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

45

46 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried. John

47 Hanson proposal is supported.

48

49 I do have a little bit problem here. On
50 D, Yukon River and Kuskokwim River, preliminary 2003

00127

1 outlook and preseason management plan, my understanding
2 that tomorrow these people will be coming, so all these,
3 (a) Yukon, State and Federal manager, (b) Kuskokwim,
4 State and Federal Managers, and, E, U.S. Canada Salmon
5 Agreement, F, Yukon River Drainage Fisherman Association,
6 G, fishery resource monitoring program reports. These
7 people will come in tomorrow, and we was requested to
8 delete these tonight. Don.

9

10 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Don Rivard with
11 the Office of Subsistence Management. If the Council so
12 chooses, you could do Item G tonight, because we do have
13 -- this is the Federal program, the fisheries resource
14 monitoring program reports, and Cliff Schleusner and Beth
15 Spangler are here, and they could give that tonight.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you, Don. So
18 we'll go into item G at this time. Fisheries.....

19

20 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

23

24 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, since we're
25 working on approved agenda, I would like to suspend the
26 rules until tomorrow for C, D, and E and F.

27

28 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: There's a motion on
29 the floor to suspend the rules and there was a motion to
30 suspend these until tomorrow, D down to F. If there's
31 any second to the motion?

32

33 MS. GREGORY: Second.

34

35 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Second by Mary
36 Gregory. Discussion.

37

38 (No discussion)

39

40 MS. GREGORY: Question.

41

42 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Question has been
43 called for. All who favor say aye.

44

45 IN UNISON: Aye.

46

47 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Opposed say no.

48

49 (No opposing votes.)

50

00128

1 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Motion carried.
2 Those items, D to G -- I mean F....

3

4 MS. GREGORY: D, E, F.

5

6 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. They're
7 suspended until tomorrow. So right now is G, fisheries
8 report resource monitoring program report.

9

10 MR. SCHLEUSNER: Mr. Chairman, Council,
11 good evening. My name is Cliff Schleusner, and I work
12 for the Office of Subsistence Management in the Fisheries
13 Information Service on the Yukon River.

14

15 This evening I'd like to present to you
16 several topics related to the Fisheries Resource
17 Monitoring Program. First I'd like to give you a brief
18 overview of the status reports located in Tab C of you
19 Council books. And then second I'd like present an
20 update to the Council on the current status of the 2004
21 call for proposal. This will be followed by an up date
22 on the Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program,
23 presented by Beth Spangler, sitting here, and
24 introductions of our new partners biologists.

25

26 We had planned to have special
27 presentations for the council from some of the
28 investigators working on projects supported by the
29 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, but they haven't
30 come in yet, so hopefully we'll still get that. Jill
31 Klein from YRDFA and Paul Salomone from the Alaska
32 Department of Fish and Game were planning on giving you
33 presentations on projects that were funded through this
34 program.

35

36 Like I just mentioned, if you could turn
37 to Tab C in your Council books, you'll find the report on
38 the status and accomplishments of projects funded under
39 the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program for the Yukon
40 and Kuskokwim regions. Specifically table 1 on page 207,
41 if I could draw your attention to that, this table is a
42 list of all the projects that have been funded on the
43 Yukon River since 2001, the beginning of the program.
44 It's a total of 48 projects funded for over \$5.4 million.

45

46 Table 2, which is on 224 lists all the
47 projects that have been funded on the Kuskokwim River
48 through the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program since
49 2000. And that's been funded for over \$5.3 million.

50

00129

1 All of these projects have provided
2 information in support of Federal subsistence fisheries
3 management.

4
5 Following each of these tables in your
6 Council books is a status report for each of these 84
7 projects. The Yukon River projects begin -- status
8 reports begin on page 210, and the status reports for the
9 Kuskokwim River projects begin on page 226. These
10 projects are a mixture of stock status and trends, and
11 harvest monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge.
12 Most of the stock status projects have focused on salmon,
13 although pike and whitefish studies have both been
14 funded.

15
16 The harvest monitoring and traditional
17 ecological knowledge studies have addresses both salmon
18 and nonsalmon species, and with a few exceptions, the
19 performance on these projects has been good. Most of the
20 study objectives have been met, and the study schedules
21 have been followed.

22
23 The data from these projects are being
24 used to support in-season management of Federal
25 subsistence fisheries, and to assess changes in the
26 regulatory management plans.

27
28 Capacity building is one of the pillars
29 of our program. Rural and tribal organizations are
30 serving as investigators. The program supports hiring
31 and training of local residents, and information from
32 these funded projects is being provided through
33 consultations, meetings, and reports. Over half of the
34 projects funded have tribal or rural organizations as
35 investigators. These include TCC, AVCP, KNA, CATG, ONC
36 and AITC. Tribes that have served as co-investigators
37 include the McGrath Native Village Council, Hooper Bay
38 Tribal Council, the Native Village of Kwethluk, Emmonak
39 Tribal Council, Tuluksuk Native Community, Goodnews
40 Village Tribal Council, the Native Village of Eagle, and
41 Native Village of Circle, Tanana Tribal Council, Nulato
42 Tribal Council, Kaltag Tribal Council, Arctic Village
43 Tribal Council, and the Native Village of Venetie. Along
44 with this, rural residents are also involved in various
45 projects as investigators, technicians, and project
46 coordinators.

47
48 The Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program
49 plays a major role in providing data for subsistence
50 fisheries management in the Yukon and Kuskokwim regions.

00130

1 Presently the program supports 25 percent of the
2 monitoring projects in the Yukon, and 50 percent of
3 monitoring projects in the Kuskokwim River.

4
5 The program's focus is supporting the
6 collection of technically sound fisheries data for
7 Federal subsistence management. As you all know, the
8 sustainable subsistence fisheries management requires key
9 information, including accurate estimates of run size,
10 timing, spawning escapement and age and sex composition
11 of the stock. Our stock status and trends program has
12 supported the collection of data in all these areas. For
13 example, the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program is
14 supporting indexing salmon abundance with subsistence
15 catches of Black River, the test drift netting of salmon
16 near Emmonak, and total run estimates of Yukon fall chum
17 salmon at Rampart. In addition, eight salmon
18 escapements projects have been funded through our program
19 for the Yukon.

20
21 Similarly for the Kuskokwim, total run
22 abundance for chinook, chum, sockeye and coho salmon
23 projects are being funded as well as six escapement
24 projects.

25
26 Whitefish studies are being conducted in
27 the Yukon Flats, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, and in
28 Whitefish Lake near Aniak.

29
30 Projects like the Tanana conservation
31 outreach program, and the KNA intern program give special
32 emphasis and opportunity for local students to be
33 involved with fisheries monitoring projects.

34
35 Funds are also being allocated for the
36 development of genetic stock identification techniques,
37 allowing better identification of stocks intercepted in
38 mixed stock fisheries.

39
40 In addition, special studies addressing
41 concerns like Ichthyophonus in Yukon chinook salmon and
42 Beaver/whitefish interactions have been supported.

43
44 On the Yukon River, for harvest
45 monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge, the
46 projects have been diverse.

47
48 A number of the projects have focused on
49 the subsistence fisheries harvest assessment, but the
50 harvest assessment has not just been limited to salmon,

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1 but rather has focused on all fishes.

2

3 In addition, a number of projects in the
4 Yukon have focused on the collection of traditional
5 ecological knowledge, covering a variety of topics from
6 local taxonomies and fish life history to traditional use
7 area and methods of harvesting and preservation, to local
8 perspectives on the relationship between movement of
9 whitefish populations and beaver dams.

10

11 Harvest monitoring projects on the
12 Kuskokwim have primarily focused on in-season and
13 post-season subsistence salmon harvest monitoring. This
14 information has direct management application, and the
15 post-season harvest assessment projects are an assessment
16 -- are an essential management tool.

17

18 In addition to these types of projects, a
19 few projects on the Kuskokwim have focused on the
20 collection of traditional ecological knowledge.

21

22 I'd like to, if I could, ask the Council
23 to look at figure 1 on Page 205. That's the first figure
24 under Tab C. This is a bar graph giving the funding
25 history of the program from inception. I'd like to draw
26 the Council's attention to the bar for 2004. The top of
27 that bar, the \$5 million represents what is available to
28 fund projects that -- in 2004. And this was the call for
29 proposals that went out that we discussed at our last
30 Council meeting. Since that time, we have received a
31 total of 48 stock status and trends proposals, and 27
32 harvest monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge
33 proposals for the Yukon and Kuskokwim regions. Of these,
34 the Technical Review -- yes, Mary?

35

36 MS. GREGORY: Yeah, I have a question on
37 48. What was the 48 number?

38

39 MR. SCHLEUSNER: It was the number of
40 proposals that we received for funding requests for the
41 stock status and trends for 2004. The 27 harvest
42 monitoring and traditional ecological knowledge studies.

43

44 The Technical Review Committee just met
45 earlier this week, and of these proposals, the committee
46 recommended 25 stock status and trends projects, which is
47 14 on the Yukon and 11 on the Kuskokwim, and 16 harvest
48 monitoring and TEK projects, which is nine on the Yukon
49 and seven on the Kuskokwim, for the advancement to the
50 investigation plan stage. These are the projects that we

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1 will bring before you during the fall meeting for your
2 funding recommendations, those investigation plans.

3

4 MS. GREGORY: Okay. What's your 25?

5

6 MR. SCHLEUSNER: It's 14....

7

8 MS. GREGORY: 25.

9

10 MR. SCHLEUSNER: The 25 proposals
11 represent 14 stock status and trends projects for the
12 Yukon and 11 stock status and trend projects for the
13 Kuskokwim.

14

15 And that is the update I wanted to
16 provide and I'd open it up now to any questions that you
17 might have.

18

19 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, do you have
20 a question.

21

22 MS. GREGORY: I have a question, Mr.
23 Chairman.

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

26

27 MS. GREGORY: On the Ichthy study, the
28 Ichthy disease, the germ.

29

30 MR. SCHLEUSNER: The Ichthyophonus?

31

32 MS. GREGORY: Yeah.

33

34 MR. SCHLEUSNER: Yes.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: There is no conclusions
37 made according to the report.

38

39 MR. SCHLEUSNER: The final report for
40 that study has not been received.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: Okay.

43

44 MR. SCHLEUSNER: They're drafting it, but
45 if it is the wish of the Council, we could have that as a
46 presentation during your fall meeting. We could ask Dr.
47 Kosand (ph) to come up and present his results if that is
48 the wish of the Council.

49

50 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

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1 INTERPRETER: She's translating her own
2 comments, and she wants to hear more about the Ichthy
3 study. And in this report, the final report has not been
4 submitted, and when they use the chum salmon at their
5 meetings in Goodnews, is it either chum salmon or herring
6 in Goodnews that they were studying. On page 215,
7 experiments had encountered difficulty infecting the
8 laboratory raised chinook salmon and no results. What
9 does that mean?

10
11 MR. SCHLEUSNER: One of the of that study
12 if I understand your question correctly, was to try and
13 determine the source of infection the Ichthyophonus for
14 these -- for this salmon, where they were actually
15 getting the disease from. So one of the sources of it is
16 the herring population, and it has been in the Puget
17 Sound area been identified as the source of
18 Ichthyophonus. So in an attempt to identify the source
19 here, they were sampling herring from that area, and they
20 were unable to find Ichthyophonus within the herring
21 population. And back in the University of Washington
22 they were running experiments trying to infect the fish
23 with Ichthyophonus by exposing them to infected fish, and
24 they were unable to do that in a laboratory. So the
25 mechanism for the infection has not been identified.

26
27 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

28
29 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any other question
30 from Council? John Thompson.

31
32 MR. THOMPSON: There's something that you
33 mentioned about whitefish and the other species. There
34 is two kinds of fish -- (In Yup'ik)

35
36 INTERPRETER: As in his observance,
37 there's red meat and white meat. So the red meat, you
38 could count the eggs, but white meat has countless eggs.
39 So some time ago when AVCP was -- when they had the
40 meeting, and they didn't want to -- they opposed to white
41 meat like whitefish, pikes, all those species, because
42 those are the local fish. They don't migrate too much
43 southeast, and they are in rivers or like Kuskokwim and
44 Yukon. But red meat is the ones that migrates. So they
45 wanted to control the white meat themselves, and they
46 don't want to put it up to a commercial -- as a
47 commercial use. So I would much rather advice to sheets
48 (ph) wherein -- trying to control the white -- or red
49 meat. That's the main thing to me. So they should spend
50 more money to that resource, because the white meat is

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1 local fish. Quyana.

2

3 MR. SCHLEUSNER: Mr. Chairman, Mr.
4 Thompson, if I understand your statement correctly,
5 you're saying that you think the salmon resource is more
6 important, and by far it has dominated the funding of
7 this program, probably over 95 percent of the funding has
8 gone towards salmon research.

9

10 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question from
11 Council? If it's not, we'll go to item 3, update on the
12 Partners in Fishery Monitoring.

13

14 MR. SCHLEUSNER: Mr. Chairman, I'd like
15 to introduce Beth Spangler. She is a new employee of the
16 Office of Subsistence Management, and she is taking the
17 Partners Coordinator position. She's going to be giving
18 you a presentation, updating you on that program and some
19 of the partners biologists that have been recently hired.

20

21 MS. SPANGLER: Thank you, Cliff. Mr.
22 Chair, first I'd just like to thank you for having us at
23 Chevak.....

24

25 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah.

26

27 MS. SPANGLER:and the hospitality
28 has been wonderful. Thank you.

29

30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Glad to have you.

31

32 MS. SPANGLER: And as Cliff said, my name
33 is Beth Spangler, and I'm the new Partners Coordinator
34 for FIS. And I'm just going to give a brief update of
35 the program, and then introduce a couple of the new
36 partners.

37

38 The Partners Program is part of the U.S.
39 Fish and Wildlife, Service Office of Subsistence
40 Management, Fisheries Information Services, and the main
41 purpose of this program is basically to build capacity
42 and expertise of Alaska native and rural organizations to
43 participate in subsistence management and research.

44

45 The Program was initiated in the fall of
46 2001 with a call for proposals, just backing up a little
47 bit. And in May 2002, just last May, the Federal
48 Subsistence Board approved seven proposals. These
49 proposals included one full-time social scientist, two
50 part-time social scientists, six fisheries biologist and

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1 seven student interns, paid interns. These proposals
2 were accepted and the -- at -- the Association of Village
3 Council Presidents, the Bristol Bay Native Association,
4 the Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments, the
5 Kuskokwim Native Association, the Native Village of Eyak,
6 and the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

7
8 And the four basic goals of our program
9 are to promote cooperative partnerships among Alaska
10 native and rural organizations with the Federal agencies,
11 the State agencies, different universities and others who
12 wish to participate in the program to ensure local
13 involvement from the communities.

14
15 Another one of our goals is to
16 participate, have our partners participate in either
17 ongoing projects, this year would be the first season
18 that they're going to start participating in those
19 projects, or to implement new ones. And if they do
20 choose to implement new projects that are identified from
21 the local communities, they'll go through the process of
22 -- through the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, and
23 actually just this past February we did receive 25
24 proposals, 10 of which were forwarded for investigation
25 plans. And if these were to go forward, the partners
26 would help ensure local involvement and get the programs
27 in the water, and they'll go through with all the final
28 reports on those projects.

29
30 Another goal is to support community
31 outreach and education, and we're focusing to get
32 understand fisheries issues.

33
34 And our last main goal is to mentor and
35 train students, and I think this is just a really
36 important aspect to our program basically because we hope
37 that these student interns will fill the partners
38 positions in the future.

39
40 And the handout that I gave you, the top
41 copy is an example of the poster that we're bringing out
42 to all the areas that have partners positions. We're
43 getting posters out to the high schools, and so you'll
44 see these posters around.

45
46 To introduce the partners on the Yukon
47 and the Kuskokwim, AVCP has four positions. There is one
48 fisheries biologist for the Kuskokwim, and my
49 understanding is they're in the final negotiations for
50 that position. And we have two part-time social

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1 scientists that they're still recruiting for. And then
2 they have just hired David Waltmeyer, he's here with us
3 tonight. David. And he comes just last week as the
4 fisheries biologist for the Yukon, and he comes with 23
5 years of experience from the State.

6
7 Also on the Kuskokwim, at the Kuskokwim
8 Native Association is the fisheries biologist that they
9 hired there is Dave Canon. He has about 23 years of
10 Federal experience primarily in fisheries. And he
11 actually started last August. He was the first partner
12 on board.

13
14 And to give you an overview of the rest
15 of the Yukon, the Tanana Chiefs Conference also has a
16 fisheries biologist that they hired, Ken Elkin, and the
17 Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments hired Joe
18 Schlossman (ph).

19
20 And just for -- just so you know, the
21 Bristol Bay Native Association is still recruiting, and
22 the one full-time social scientist is at the Native
23 Village of Eyak.

24
25 So I'm really excited about this program,
26 and I think it holds great promise in promoting
27 understanding and identifying key issues facing
28 subsistence issues now and in the future. Thank you.

29
30 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, do you have
31 questions on update on the Partners in Fishery
32 monitoring? James.

33
34 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
35 Does your program help with this subsistence data
36 collection or.....

37
38 MS. SPANGLER: The question was do they
39 help with data collection, and, yes, the partners will be
40 going out to -- like, for example, AVCP, CATG, and TCC,
41 all those partners work cooperatively on the Yukon, and
42 so projects that are being implemented by the Fisheries
43 Resource Monitoring Program, they'll be going out to
44 those projects this year to get a better understanding of
45 the areas, and we'll be helping with those ongoing
46 projects.

47
48 And then some of them have put in
49 proposals for the 2004 year that we just received, and
50 probably in 2005. So next year we'll be seeing a lot

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1 more proposals, but yes, they'll be out there helping on
2 the projects.

3

4 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: I just have a comment.

7 This is.....

8

9 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

10

11 MS. GREGORY:Mary Gregory. I feel
12 like a goldfish in a fish bowl. As a native person of
13 Alaska, I'm being watched from every direction. I'm
14 being monitored from every direction, and I'm wondering
15 what happened to the disaster funds that were supposed to
16 help the fishermen who been suffering from four years
17 now. Me thinks that these programs are the by-product of
18 the disaster funds, and I don't think that's fair.

19

20 MR. SCHLEUSNER: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Don.

23

24 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Don Rivard with
25 the Office of Subsistence Management. If I may direct
26 the comments to Mary. Mary, this money that's provided
27 for the fisheries monitoring program is a separate fund
28 and it has nothing to do with the disaster funds.

29

30 MS. GREGORY: Because this thing didn't
31 start until all the fishermen had the disastrous years
32 and I want -- I often wonder what happened to the
33 fishermen. I'm letting the cat out of the bag, and it's
34 been bothering me for as long as I've been sitting on
35 this Council. And I'd like some answers.

36

37 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, Mary, when the
38 Federal take over of fisheries started in 19 -- it was
39 started in October 1999, this Fisheries Monitoring
40 Program was already conceived and started being
41 implemented when the Federal Fisheries takeover started
42 to take place in early 2000. So this has always been a
43 part of the problem, and it was independent of anything
44 that was happening with the fisheries in the waters. So
45 again, it's a completely separate fund from any disaster
46 relief funds.

47

48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Myron Naneng, AVCP.

49

50 MR. NANENG: Yeah, good evening, Mr.

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1 Chairman, Myron Naneng, AVCP. (In Yup'ik)

2

3 INTERPRETER: In response to the decline
4 in salmon stocks, Senator Stevens, it started from
5 Senator Stevens. Since we did not have any data to back
6 up what we say, and I'm sure John Hanson knows what the
7 regulatory agencies or the Board of Fish, when we
8 testified in front of them, they would say even though
9 you would come to testify, you do not have any scientific
10 data to back up your comments. So they did not take
11 their testimony seriously, because they're comments were
12 not backed up with scientific data.

13

14 And the biologists on the Yukon and
15 Kuskokwim, even though they would go before the Board of
16 Fish, the biologists did not have any data as well.
17 Sufficient data.

18

19 So for the last few years along with
20 Virgil Nelson and Russell, the Yukon and Kuskokwim -- and
21 he knows that when John Hanson was on the board, he
22 strongly supported all of our fisheries concerns on the
23 Yukon and Kuskokwim, and to bring it to the Board of Fish
24 board members attention. But they would be outvoted from
25 the delegation from Anchorage and Southeast, and with
26 Area M. They would vote down Yukon-Kuskokwim concerns,
27 because they have scientists to back their data, or their
28 comments, and they continued to disregard our comments.
29 Because we did not have any scientific data.

30

31 And Senator Stevens, he's in support of
32 this program as well.

33

34 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Quyana, Myron.

35

36 MS. GREGORY: I stand corrected.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any other question
39 from Council. Carl Jack.

40

41 MR. JACK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, members of
42 the Council, my name is Carl Jack. I'm a native liaison,
43 actually a BIA employee. I'm assigned to OSM to try to
44 them out of trouble with the native community. That's my
45 job, one of my jobs I guess.

46

47 He wants to help Myron in telling about
48 how this Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program. The
49 Office of Subsistence Management did not start this
50 program. When there was a Federal take over of fisheries

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1 management in 1999, and he was an employee for RuralCAp
2 along with AFN and AITC. When they met -- how it
3 started, it seems like during those meetings they were
4 trying to start all kinds of projects without tribal
5 input, and they brought it to their attention that it
6 might be a good idea if you had tribal involvement on
7 these various fisheries projects.

8

9 And to tell them as well that it may be a
10 good idea to help -- if you're going to help the people,
11 you need to provide staff, qualified staff, along with
12 the native and tribal and rural organizations to continue
13 research.

14

15 So that's how the program started. And
16 it so happened that program also included the native
17 liaison. And if there's one credit that I have to give
18 for promoting that, it's AVCP, because I remember sitting
19 at DC office at the Director of Policy with John Skye
20 Starkey who was the attorney for AVCP along with Julie
21 Kitka.

22

23 And that's how the program started, of
24 which out of 40 positions authorized for OSM to hire, the
25 set aside so many of those to native organizations or
26 rural organizations, and that's how this program got
27 started. It's a set-aside of number of positions to the
28 tribal or native organizations for them to hire
29 biologists and social scientists and along with those, an
30 intern to work with people like him.

31

32 (In Yup'ik) For example, using him as an
33 example, with your years of experience, mentoring a
34 student. So this program, this particular purpose
35 program came out of the concern of the native community
36 to have more of the natives to be more involved in
37 fisheries management. It didn't come out the goodness of
38 the heart of OSM, I can tell you that, because I was
39 there before when this program was started. It was kind
40 of forced upon OSM, and it's a good thing that they
41 accept it, at least the people in DC where that directive
42 for the guidance talk document came down to the Anchorage
43 office. So it's a set aside, and it's example how
44 responsive the Federal program is to the concerns of the
45 native community.

46

47 So I just want you to give you a better
48 understanding of how this program started. It's a good
49 program, because on a long run it will develop the
50 capacity of the native or tribal organizations in

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1 fisheries management, how to do research. Not just
2 counting fish, it's capacity building of the tribal
3 organizations. Yeah. Quyana.

4

5 MS. GREGORY: Quyana. So if that is the
6 case, I'd like to make another comment that those people
7 who are teaching their interns, teach them. Some
8 organizations like for instance Y-K, she was supposed to
9 have interns to take over some the programs, and there's
10 seldom that happened. People who are supposed to teach
11 them kept on working and working, and those kids end up
12 going to organizations, so I'd like to -- I'll hope the
13 people who are on this partners program could try and
14 really teach these people that you are helping out to
15 take over your jobs, not to continue like some
16 organizations end up doing.

17

18 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other question,
19 discussion. Thank you, and we're going to have a break
20 at this time before we get into our next on our agenda.
21 My good cup is empty, so we'll take a five minutes break.

22

23 (Off record)

24

25 (On record)

26

27 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: We will go till 10:00
28 o'clock. At this time we're on our agenda item 10, 2002
29 Annual Report review and approval. Alex Nick.

30

31 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, (In Yup'ik) so
32 those of you who are going to -- who needs translators,
33 put on yours. I am going to present this in Yup'ik.
34 Give you a minute. (In Yup'ik) As you know, we had our
35 fall meeting in October, and at that time we discussed
36 the annual report review and approval. I asked members
37 at that time what topics and issues need to be directed
38 to the Federal Subsistence Board. And concerns and
39 issues from our region towards game and fish were
40 directed to brought up.

41

42 I spoke with Mary recently, a little
43 while back. Including Billy McCann in the dialogue,
44 discussion. This is -- there seemed to be no significant
45 things to report, and now Mary will correct me if I'm
46 wrong.

47

48 Although this was questioned by the
49 Council, this has not been -- we know that on staff that
50 we need to correct, including our manager, we can correct

00141

1 it. I have not presented this and written it down for to
2 present at the -- and this is directed towards travel,
3 because we could fix this.

4
5 Okay. I was advised I was too close to
6 the mike.

7
8 (In Yup'ik) Currently we could bring up
9 issues and we could record them as a team. This annual
10 report, if we feel that an issue that has been brought
11 has not been adequately addressed regarding our region.

12
13 This annual report will be fairly simple
14 together, but I cannot do it without your help. I could
15 draft it if you give us a number of topics to work with.
16 We brought up a few issues, including the beaver issue,
17 but because we have already discussed this by proposal
18 and it was brought, and Staff -- this question was
19 responded to, but it is unclear whether this question
20 will be included in the annual report as a topical
21 discussion material. You all know when you present
22 proposals in the last year, and Staff have helped you to
23 develop these proposals, and we have brought up concerns,
24 and what you expect to be dealt with in the subsistence
25 -- with the subsistence issue within our region, as it
26 affects our region. If we could talk about that, we
27 could draft it, and we could formulate it and put it
28 together perhaps by tomorrow, because I cannot put
29 something together that you have not directed me to put
30 together, and those from the Refuge. It is up to you as
31 Council members, because you are aware and know what you
32 want and have asked for in the past.

33
34 Regarding problems towards fish and game
35 issues, and some of the problems we have to deal with
36 regarding hunting and fishing. Although we have time at
37 this point, if we would draft these things and tomorrow
38 we could complete it if we could draft it. If it is
39 approved, we could approve it and as recorded. We have
40 Staff here, too, that could direct us. Jerry Berg has
41 directed this, and there are other staff members that
42 have helped that are here today.

43
44 If you have any questions or need
45 clarification, we have experts here or those that know
46 Don Rivard is our direct supervisor, and Jerry and we
47 work with Jerry directly in our work. If we come
48 together in a circle while Staff is here, we have the
49 expertise that is the exit of the report.

50

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1 This is not complete. This report is not
2 complete at this time, because we don't have tools to
3 work with. Mary and I discussed this along with Billy
4 McCann as to how to proceed in regards to annual report
5 review and approval. I mentioned this to James Charles.
6 The annual report, since I have started, we have not
7 finished it, we have not drafted and put it together.
8 And it's up to you. Do you have any questions, if we
9 could respond, we will at this point. Mr. Chairman.

10

11 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Mary.

12

13 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

14

15 INTERPRETER: You had a long statement
16 but that it lead anywhere. Annually we have a report to
17 put together that should be put together. A lot of the
18 issues that we bring up are not done. If and when you
19 give this report when the time comes, you need to report
20 that this -- what action and what process was taken in
21 addressing the issue. That's how this annual report
22 needs to be. It is up to you as Staff to put this
23 together. What the annual report to me is what the
24 Council has wanted, the issues that we raised. They
25 should be reported to the proper authorities, and
26 inquired what is happening to them, and where we stand at
27 that time with the issue that we brought up. Annual
28 report should be that way to me, of what we as a body
29 sitting here want, and our people who are trying to help
30 us should speak to those things when we have an annual
31 report. How many proposals were brought up, and what
32 kind they were and where they went, whether they produced
33 anything or not. To me that's an annual report. What we
34 tried to do as a body and if we had staff and people to
35 respond to us like the letter from Mr. Mitchell Savage?
36 What's his name? Demientieff. That was -- that could be
37 in the annual report on what had happened, now the big
38 Board had responded to our wants and our concerns. Coy.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Alex.

41

42 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, annual report,
43 the way I understand it, then I could be corrected by any
44 of the Staff, annual report is something that you ask for
45 and the Board, the Federal Board did not act upon, you
46 know. For example, something that Federal Board did not
47 resolve. And what I was told when I worked with several
48 people, I was told that issue like beaver, for example,
49 if it's not resolved, if noting is done, then that would
50 become an annual report by the Council.

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1 805 letter Mary referred to is a response
2 to the Regional Council from the Federal Board, what they
3 acted on.

4
5 MS. GREGORY: That's what we wanted.

6
7 MR. NICK: That's a different -- I could
8 be wrong, but that is different from annual report.

9
10 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) Mr. Chairman,
11 (in Yup'ik). Mary Gregory, this letter from Mitch
12 Demientieff that she's used -- Mary has used as an
13 example, should be a part of annual report, because it is
14 what we wanted to hear as a body.

15
16 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Hilda.

17
18 MS. GREGORY: Ida.

19
20 MS. HILDEBRAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21 I am now Hilda Idabrand. Ida Hildebrand, BIA Staff
22 Committee member.

23
24 In response what the annual report is, if
25 you read Title VIII of ANILCA, in Section 805 it tells
26 you what the annual report is. You're making a report to
27 the Secretary and to the Congress saying these are our
28 subsistence needs. This is how much we think we need,
29 this is how our needs are not being met, these are the
30 issues that we've been talking about during the past
31 year, or during the past five years. And if you had your
32 minutes from your meetings, the things you spoke about in
33 your last two meetings are what go into your annual
34 report, and other issues that are of concern to this
35 Council.

36
37 I'm somewhat hesitant to say this, but
38 I'm going to say it. Alex, you need to pay attention to
39 your minutes from this Council, because that's where you
40 get your annual report. You bring it back to them and
41 say, this is what you've been talking about all year. Is
42 this what you want to go into the annual report?

43
44 And if you have issues that you raise to
45 the Board and they didn't seem responsive to you, you can
46 bring that back to their attention and say, we have been
47 asking you for this or we've been saying this for these
48 amount of years or times, and nothing has happened, and
49 we would like some resolve. We'd like something done.
50

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1 Or if something positive happened. There
2 are other Councils that write and say, this is what
3 worked, and we really appreciate it. It doesn't always
4 have to be negative, but it has to be relative to your
5 subsistence use and your subsistence needs. Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman.

7
8 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Let ask you myself,
9 is how about Council problems, it could be going to
10 annual report. I'm saying there has been problem with
11 the transportation ever since we start. That thing never
12 been cure. Seems to me it's getting worse, worse, worse.
13 One of the Council was telling me, asking me we have to
14 go to higher position people in order to straighten out
15 the problem we have. I think that's -- this is very
16 important. We has been ever since -- over 10, 15 years.
17 That could be put on annual report?

18
19 MS. HILDEBRAND: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

20
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Thank you. Lester.

22
23 MR. L. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, one subject
24 that I would like to include in the annual report is the
25 problem that we are going to be facing on the lower Yukon
26 with the growth of the moose in the lower Yukon.
27 Predation of our subsistence moose on the lower Yukon is
28 getting pretty bad by wolves. I think in the future
29 we've got to look and to see if there can be something
30 done about the moose predation in our area, or if we can
31 get a count of the moose in the area included with the
32 count of the -- I'm -- let me back up, the count of the
33 wolves in the area on the lower Yukon side that are
34 preying on the moose calves.

35
36 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Other from the
37 Council for included on our annual report, review and
38 approve. If there's any other, what -- this isn't -- I
39 mean, how are we going to work this? Will you give us
40 how we're going to work this annual report? We cannot
41 approve it right now, because it's not there.

42
43 MR. NICK: Mr. Chairman, the procedures
44 are in your manual. The Council have manual and it tells
45 you all of what we deal with, you as a Regional Council.
46 I mean, there's directions in your Council manual how you
47 could direct your staff to draft a report.

48
49 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman. (In Yup'ik)
50

00145

1 INTERPRETER: We're going around in
2 circles now. Alex, we have brought up issues that we
3 would like to be on the annual report. What is addressed
4 in the 501(c) letter needs to be addressed, and what is
5 not addressed -- it goes back to where? Where does it
6 go, Hilda?

7
8 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, the annual
9 report process is the coordinator and the chairman, or
10 the whole Council talk about are these the issues, and
11 then the letter is drafted for the chair to sign and look
12 at it, and it's generally brought back to the council to
13 review and see if they wanted to add or correct it. And
14 when it's in the final form, it's presented to the
15 Federal Subsistence Board, but it's actually directed to
16 the Secretary of the Interior through the Federal
17 Subsistence Board.

18
19 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

20
21 MR. HANSON: John Hanson.

22
23 MR. HANSON: Yeah, thank you Mr.
24 Chairman. You know, Ida, I'm supposed to be one of the
25 Protocol members. I met in Anchorage last year, 2001,
26 with the Chairman, which is Pete Tabasco or.....

27
28 MS. HILDEBRAND: Probasco.

29
30 MR. HANSON:and Bill from
31 Southeast.

32
33 MS. HILDEBRAND: Bill Thomas. Thomas,
34 yeah.

35
36 MR. HANSON: Sitka Council. Well, Pete
37 was supposed to call me back. I have a problem on that,
38 but he never. So actually I'm just up in the air. I'm a
39 member. They hold their meetings, they don't -- he
40 doesn't call me. Now, that could be on this deal we're
41 talking about.

42
43 MS. HILDEBRAND: Mr. Chairman, on your
44 agenda is a discussion of the Regulatory Protocol, and
45 that's the protocol that you were working on. And when
46 that discussion is -- when you're discussing it as a
47 Council, I can give you some information on it. But,
48 yes, I believe Pete said he did try to contact you, but
49 wasn't able to. But if that's a concern for you and for
50 this council, it certainly can be put into your annual

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1 report.

2

3 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Council, any more
4 question on annual report? Phillip.

5

6 MR. MOSES: Yeah. (In Yup'ik)

7

8 INTERPRETER: Although I have been a part
9 of this group, as far as fisheries, Yukon and Kuskokwim
10 is always a focal point, and not much from our area.
11 That's Nelson Island.

12

13 There was a lot of burbot that was caught
14 through traps. That has diminished through the years.
15 And fish numbers have gone down drastically to where it's
16 not worth any more to harvest. The beaver problem is the
17 major problem out there. The passageways from the fresh
18 water areas that drain out into the Bay are being
19 blocked. Blackfish is disappearing. It's not all rivers
20 and waterways, but I am reflecting on a while back when
21 black fish was abundant in our area, but it's now gone
22 from our area. Our surrounding villages share their
23 catch with us, because we don't catch it in our area any
24 more. And burbot. There is only one White River that
25 has -- that is passageway for burbot. We're less fish.
26 The freshwater fish that normally swim out from the lakes
27 are, even those areas that are not blocked, the beavers--
28 fish that spawn like the red fish that normally go up the
29 streams to spawn are not able to pass through because of
30 the blockage, in their path.

31

32 INTERPRETER: And I believe Phillip is
33 talking about the beaver dams and the overabundance of
34 beaver dams, beavers in the areas that's affecting the
35 freshwater fish, and the cycles that they follow in that
36 area.

37

38 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah. Qu yana. We
39 are on our annual report. I'm going to ask Alex to go
40 over annual report how to make a report through our
41 manual. It's on number 6. Will you go over this, Alex?

42

43 MR. NICK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
44 mentioned that how we go about writing up the annual
45 report is in your Regional Council Operating Manual. And
46 Ida is correct by stating that the coordinator is
47 responsible for writing the draft annual report. Here's
48 what -- to make Regional Council understand it better,
49 here's what your operating annual says.

50

00147

1 Each year the Regional Council make a
2 report that identifies subsistence issues and
3 recommend.....

4
5 REPORTER: Alex, move the microphone
6 back.

7
8 MR. NICK: I'm sorry. I'll start over.
9 Each year the Regional Council may submit a report that
10 identifies subsistence issues and recommends strategies
11 to resolve them to the Chair of the Federal Subsistence
12 Board. This report is the annual report. In it's annual
13 report, the Regional Councils can discuss subsistence
14 related policies they think should be addressed by the
15 Board and recommend specific actions needed. Regional
16 Council discuss what should be in the annual report at
17 their fall meeting.

18
19 And it goes to who writes the annual
20 report. The Regional Coordinator drafts the report based
21 on the Council's discussions at the fall meeting. Then
22 the coordinator distributes a draft report to all
23 Regional Council members for review. Afterward the
24 coordinator incorporates all comments and finalize the
25 annual report.

26
27 The Regional Council approves the report
28 at the winter meeting, and then the coordinator sends it
29 to the Federal Subsistence Board for review and reply.

30
31 And then there's a box tells about annual
32 report. It says annual reports give Regional Councils
33 the opportunity to bring forward subsistence issues they
34 think the Federal Subsistence Board should address.
35 These reports should include an identification of the
36 current and the anticipated subsistence uses of fish and
37 wildlife population within the region and evaluation of
38 the current and the anticipated subsistence needed --
39 rather needs for fish and wildlife populations within the
40 region, recommended strategies for the management of fish
41 and wildlife populations within the region that
42 accommodates subsistence uses and needs, recommendations
43 concerning policies, standards, guidelines and
44 regulations to implement that strategy. Subsistence take
45 of fish and wildlife on Federal public lands. These
46 types of requests occur on an as-needed basis.

47
48 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: So according to this,
49 you could write annual report and it could be approved
50 next meeting?

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1 MR. NICK: If it's the desire of the
2 Council. Now that we have something you want us to draft
3 with, rather the Staff here. It is my understanding that
4 from Mr. Wilde, Lester Wilde, he wants us to add moose
5 predation in Lower Yukon with respect to growing numbers
6 of wolves. And also the Chair addressed travel problems.
7 And also Mr. Phillip mentioned some problems that are
8 occurring with respect to burbot and black fish popula --
9 rather declines in the coastal areas. These are some of
10 the tools that we could use to write your annual report.
11 And if it's incorrect one of the Staff could correct me.

12

13

14 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) You're in the
15 right direction. You have my blessing to go ahead.

16

17 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Any other for annual
18 report from Council. If there's not, we'll go to next on
19 our agenda. Next on our agenda is item 11, Office of
20 Subsistence Management report. Leadership team. You
21 could find it on your Tab D. Don.

22

23 MR. RIVARD: Yes, good evening, Mr.
24 Chair, Council members. I'm Don Rivard with the Office
25 of Subsistence Management. And as Chairman Wilde
26 identified, we're on Tab D.

27

28 And these are just -- the first three
29 items are basically just written reports there in your
30 Council books, if you would like to discuss any of those,
31 we could discuss those as well. I also have for the
32 customary trade issue, our office has developed
33 questions. So this might be something if you get to look
34 over this evening or tomorrow we could talk about it a
35 little bit more if you so choose, or we could discuss it
36 right now.

37

38 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Mary.

41

42 MS. GREGORY: She said she read her
43 packet up to Tab D. She's requesting that this agenda
44 item be discussed tomorrow. She'd like to I guess read
45 it first. If it is -- when it is discussed right now,
46 she will -- she has not read the briefing on the 2003
47 Winter Regional Council Meeting on Customary Trade.

48

49 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Yeah, Don, my
50 understanding most of Council, they never really go over

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1 what customary trade, that written on this paper here,
2 and they would like to sleep over it, or read it and put
3 it on agenda will be continued by tomorrow, this item 11,
4 customary trade. Sounds like, the way my understanding
5 is item (A) customary trade update, written briefing, so
6 tomorrow morning we could start on that. Because we've
7 got some other items that we could work on. You know,
8 we've got to have two teleconference 10:00 o'clock.

9
10 And also I am urging three, four
11 committees, we've got to work on this minutes, March 6, 7
12 and March 22. We need to approve these two, and we had
13 committee to work on them and present this tomorrow.

14
15 So the way it looks now, we're going to
16 recess until 9:00 o'clock in the morning. Don, it's
17 okay?

18
19 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, you're the boss.

20
21 CHAIRMAN H. WILDE: Okay. If I'm really
22 the boss, I'll be the boss. We're going to recess until
23 nine in the morning.

24
25 (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

00150

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