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YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC MEETING  
October 4th, 1994  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Conference Room  
Bethel, Alaska

**VOLUME I**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Harry O. Wilde, Sr., Chairman  
Paul John, Member  
Steven White, Member  
Antone K. Anvil, Member  
Gene R. Petola, Member

John Andrew, Coordinator

Sophie Evan, Interpreter

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CHAIRMAN WILDE: Meeting come to order.

I would like to introduce this morning new member and  
reappointed member of Council. First, new member, Gene Petola.  
You -- a lot of people know -- in Y-K know about Gene Petola.  
He's a new member.

And also who had -- you had reappointed -- you were  
reappointed, Antone?

MR. ANVIL: Uh-huh (affirmative).

CHAIRMAN WILDE: You were reappoint, too?

MR. WHITE: (In Yup'ik)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who were they reappoint? There's  
some people that reappoint.

UNIDENTIFIED: Chaliak.

MR. PETOLA: Chuck Chaliak, yeah. Harry, Chuck Chaliak  
was reappointed.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Chuck Chaliak? Chuck Chaliak and  
somebody else.

MR. PETOLA: Antone Anvil.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Antone. Okay. You are welcome aboard  
Council.

We ask Paul John invocation (in Yup'ik).

MR. JOHN: (Gives invocation in Yup'ik.)

CHAIRMAN WILDE: Koyana, Paul.

MR. JOHN: Uh-huh.

CHAIRMAN WILDE: You just now have -- he says you have  
quorum, even though some of your members are not here.

You need to review and approve the agenda. And if we  
look at the agenda before it's approved, and also you need to  
review and approve the minutes. You need to approve your  
previous meeting's minutes.

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1  
2 And then you will have to elect officers. You are  
3 supposed to do that today, but since all of your members are  
4 not present, it's up to this Council to decide what to do about  
5 election of officers. There are five Council members here.  
6 Maybe it won't be -- we do not have a full quorum for electing  
7 -- in electing officers. We need kind of advice here. I need  
8 kind of advice here for election of officers. We're only five  
9 of us, and the rest of the board is not here. How are we going  
10 to do this?

11  
12 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman?

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

15  
16 MR. ANVIL: I think it would be wise that if we have  
17 the full board, because we need -- we need to vote on those  
18 other -- how many of us missing now? Two or three?

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There are five of us. Four. Four  
21 missing.

22  
23 MR. ANVIL: Yeah. I would strongly for election of  
24 officers to have the full board attend -- attend this.

25  
26 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman?

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh (affirmative).

29  
30 MR. PETOLA: I recommend that election of officers be  
31 deferred to the call of the chair, .....

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

34  
35 MR. PETOLA: ..... when you feel that .....

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay.

38  
39 MR. PETOLA: ..... you have sufficient participation of  
40 the members to do so, you can go to that on the agenda.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I think for the purpose for the  
43 rest of our board, they might want to run for the office. We  
44 take this off until next meeting. We take it off for next  
45 meeting. Put this off to the next meeting, since some of the  
46 absent Council members may want to run -- want to be an  
47 officer.

48  
49 MR. PETOLA: Do you want that in the form of a motion  
50

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1 So we can have it on the records, the minutes?

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think after -- yeah, we should.

4

5 MR. PETOLA: Okay. Mr. Chairman, I move that we  
6 approve the agenda as amended, and table item seven, election  
7 of officers, until the next formal meeting.

8

9 MR. JOHN: Second.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion and second.

12

13 MR. ANVIL: Question.

14

15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question been called for. All in  
16 favor, say aye?

17

18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

21

22 (No opposing responses)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion carried. We take that  
25 section of officer, take it off from our agenda and move till  
26 next meeting.

27

28 Review deferred proposals. Since these -- the first  
29 proposal, number 54, moose, 19(A). And proposal number 58,  
30 moose, 21(E).

31

32 INTERPRETER EVAN: He's just reading the agenda.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Annual report, old business, Lower --  
35 Lower Yukon Moose; B, update brown bear project; C, charter; --  
36 what's this, designated hunters?

37

38 MR. ANVIL: Uh-huh.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: New business, caribou north of Yukon  
41 River; B, Subpart D process; C, customary and traditional  
42 coping process; people to be heard, open; benediction;  
43 establish time and place of next meeting; adjourn. That's our  
44 agenda.

45

46 Is there anything to be added on agenda? This agenda  
47 going to be used also tomorrow -- tomorrow at KVNA.

48

49 I don't know, I need an understanding. Last year when

50

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We have KVNA meeting at this time, I think it's supposed to help the audience filling out proposals, but we never done that before. It should -- it should be start that, you know.

4

5 And also, on old business, remember that we're supposed to talk about Yukon-Kuskokwim boundaries, that we did -- we modified by teleconference. We're supposed to present that to the public. What the public want. Right now that -- on Federal regulation, there's no Yukon River. Both of them is August 29th and September 29th, Yukon and Kuskokwim. So when we have a teleconference, we want to, you know, present that modification of Yukon and Kuskokwim. So I think we should put it on agenda, and someone -- someone have to talk about it. Why and what's the reason that we modify Yukon and Kuskokwim for those hunting. Put it on I think old business. We could put it on old business, A, B, C, D, E. Remainder of Unit 18. Remainder of Unit 18, we talk about it.

18

19 Any more else? Any more to put on agenda?

20

21 MR. LUKE: Mr. Chairman?

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah?

24

25 MR. LUKE: I'm with .....

26

27 COURT REPORTER: Could you come up to the table, sir, where there's a microphone?

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go .....

31

32 COURT REPORTER: And identify yourself?

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go over there. Go sit over there.

35

36 MR. LUKE: Mr. Chairman, my name is James Luke, I'm with Yukon Bush Management Planning Committee, and I'm working with Kuigpagmiut, Incorporated out of Mountain Village.

39

40 I do have a couple of draft proposals that I would like this committee to review, and then I think they might be on our agenda. One is caribou north of Yukon, and the other one is remainder of Unit 18.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

46

47 MR. LUKE: Okay? Thanks.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Koyana, James.

50

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1  
2 MR. JOHN: Mr. Chairman?  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ee-ee?  
5  
6 MR. JOHN: Paul John also wants to under old business  
He wants to talk -- comment on subsistence.  
8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. (In Yup'ik) new business,  
 customary, traditional scoping process. Okay. He says that he  
 could comment on subsistence under new business, customary and  
 traditional scoping process.  
13  
14 And if there are any more additions to the agenda, open  
 for approval.  
16  
17 MR. WHITE: Steven White moved to accept the agenda.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the floor.  
20  
21 MR. JOHN: Second.  
22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And a second to approve agenda with  
 additional. Any discussion?  
25  
26 MR. PETOLA: Question.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Question been called for. All who  
 favor, say aye?  
30  
31 IN UNISON: Aye.  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, say no?  
34  
35 (No opposing responses)  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. Okay. Review and  
 approval of minutes. Council action.  
39  
40 MR. PETOLA: Do we have -- the minutes were mailed out  
 to the board members?  
42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Huh?  
44  
45 MR. PETOLA: Have the minutes been mailed out for  
 review by the membership?  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, never been mailed out, and I don't  
 even know where they are. Who's got the minutes?  
50

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1  
2 MR. ANDREW: They're not printed, they are not  
distributed.  
4  
5 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman?  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?  
8  
9 MR. PETOLA: Since the minutes are not available for  
review by the membership, I move that this item be tabled until  
the next .....

12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Tomorrow.  
14  
15 MR. PETOLA: Until the call of the chair at a  
later .....

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.  
19  
20 MR. PETOLA: ..... point in this -- on this agenda.  
21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. (In Yup'ik) Maybe we could  
request to send them to our -- send them to the Council,  
minutes. Council action.  
25  
26 Election of officers for next meeting. So next on our  
agenda is deferred proposal. Proposal 54, moose, 19(A). Who  
going to take this?  
29  
30 MR. ANDREW: Mike, you don't have your homework?  
31  
32 MR. COFFING: No, John, this wasn't mine. But I'll  
help out here, and maybe .....

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.  
36  
37 MR. COFFING: ..... Dave Fisher can step up to the  
table and help out as well.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, I think before you -- before you  
talk about moose, 19 -- in 19(A) and 21(A), when I -- when I  
went over to Anchorage and testified on behalf of Council,  
modify Yukon-Kuskokwim moose hunting, subsist- -- the Federal  
Subsistence Board didn't accept these two, because of -- they  
didn't approve it, because of somehow that Yukon Delta  
Council's against these two, the way the proposal was written.  
47  
48 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, I've got a question.  
Proposal #54 that we're addressing now is -- was submitted to  
50

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this Council by who?

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Upriver.

4

5 MR. COFFING: The State of Alaska, Fish and Game.

6

7 MR. PETOLA: The State of Alaska Fish and Game.

8

9 MR. COFFING: Yeah.

10

11 MR. PETOLA: And can I ask Randy a question?

12

13 MR. KACYON: Now, I've just read this.

14

15 MR. PETOLA: Randy, is 54 status quo of what the State  
reg is today?

17

18 MR. KACYON: Yes, sir, and if -- when I read the --  
When I read the comments, I guess -- my reading is that -- that  
Proposal 54 was submitted by the Department of Fish and Game to  
retain existing regulations. The last time the Western  
Interior Regional Council had a meeting, they said that they  
supported the amendment, or the proposal. That's pretty much  
all I know about it. And I was told that the Western Interior  
Regional Council was to meet with this Council prior to  
deliberating on this.

27

28 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, I've got a .....

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

31

32 MR. PETOLA: ..... question, Randy, also. On the  
issues, the last item where it says "amendment of proposal by  
the Western Interior Council, one moose. However, antlerless  
moose may be taken only from February 1 to February 10, and  
only in that portion of 19(A) upstream from, but not including  
the drainages of the Kolmakoff River and the Holokuk River,  
excluding the Lime Village Management Area." What was the  
rationale behind that? The way I understand it, it's strictly  
politics between upriver and downriver, and it's putting a  
limitation on downriver winter hunters from being access- --  
having adequate access to these -- this resource. And I don't  
believe that politics should play a role in game management.

44

45 MR. KACYON: Yeah, the only -- I guess .....

46

47 MR. PETOLA: There's no -- there's rhyme or reason why  
that language should be in there.

49

50

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1 MR. KACYON: I don't understand why the language is in  
2 there, why it was put in, but I was told that the Department  
3 requested to have a cow season in February and November;  
4 However, the up- -- I guess you'd call it the upriver, I'm not  
5 - the Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee are the ones that  
6 came up with that boundary.

7

8 MR. PETOLA: Politics, yeah.

9

10 MR. KACYON: So .....

11

12 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman?

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

15

16 MR. PETOLA: Does everybody understand this?

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I don't even know .....

19

20 MR. PETOLA: This is strictly by the upriver advisory  
21 committee to limit lower river hunters.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

24

25 MR. PETOLA: And so if you go up there, you can hunt in  
26 (A) February 1 to February 10, but unless you go upstream of  
27 the confluence of the Kolmakoff and the Kuskokwim, you can't  
28 shoot a cow. So it's -- it's basically there to limit our  
29 access to those animals during the winter. And I don't think  
30 there's any biological rhyme or reason why that should be in  
31 there. It should be the way it used to be up until last --  
32 before last year, that if John was living in Kwethluk and he  
33 had a permit, he could go up there and shoot an antlerless  
34 moose like they could.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead. What's your name?

37

38 MR. MATHEWS: Vince Mathews.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

41

42 MR. MATHEWS: I need to just get some points out on the  
43 table so everyone is clear what has transpired.

44

45 I am filling in for the coordinator for Western  
46 Interior Regional Advisory Council, which is the Council that  
47 adopted with modification Proposal 54. I think it was  
48 mentioned, I want to make sure everyone knows that, that we  
49 attempted to have a joint council meeting which the Board

50

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requested with the Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Council and Western Interior. We were unable to have that due to scheduling conflicts and a lack of a quorum. We are pursuing having the Chair and possibly the Co-Chair or a good representative of the Area that's affected meet with the Chair and a good representative from Western Interior to discuss the common points of interest on this Proposal 54 and 58.

8

9 I understand the proposals are before you. We're kind of in a dilemma here. The proposal is -- well, I would probably defer to Fish and Game on that, but I'm not sure where the State still stands on that proposal, if it reflects existing regulations. In addition to that, since the proposal has been deferred twice, it's not clear what the board will do with the proposal. Western Interior when I coordinate their meeting will probably suggest to them, and they'll probably suggest to me, to write a new proposal, which means the issue would come back up again at your late winter meeting, your next meeting, for you to comment on it. But we're trying to have representatives from these two councils meet to just discuss the issues, to see where there are some common ground. The reason we want to do that, otherwise we're going to end up with what I would consider a volley system. One Council does X, the other Council does Y, and we just keep going back and forth, and so that's what I wanted to summarize for you. Thank you.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?

28

29 MR. PETOLA: I want to clarify your position,  
30 you're .....

31

32 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

33

34 MR. PETOLA: ..... the coordinator for the  
35 Western .....

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: No, I'm not a coordinator.

38

39 MR. PETOLA: You're not.

40

41 MR. MATHEWS: Essentially what's happened is Mr. James, who was the coordinator for Western Interior, has taken another position, so I am now in a new position called "staff assistant at the division chief," but essentially I'm within the Anchorage office, and until they hire someone permanently for that coordinator position, I'll be fulfilling the coordinator's duties. So I am coordinating the meeting in McGrath when they're meeting on October 27th and 28th.

49

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1 And I do apologize for not having my file on this  
2 proposal. I have what's provided here, but there's quite a bit  
3 of material associated with this.

4  
5 MR. PETOLA: Okay. Getting back to issue number one,  
6 change the bag limit from one moose; however, antlerless moose  
7 may be taken from January 1 through 10 and February 1 through  
8 8, to one bull," Randy, is there any biological rationale  
9 behind that proposal? I thought that -- I -- and the way I  
10 understand it, that -- that moose population is relatively  
11 healthy?

12  
13 MR. KACYON: I don't have anything to do with that  
14 moose population, but the -- the Department back last spring  
15 when -- when cow seasons are supposed to be  
16 re-authorized, .....

17  
18 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

19  
20 MR. KACYON: ..... or last fall, I can't remember  
21 which, the Department asked the Board to re-authorize the cow  
22 moose season. But there were also proposals in place, correct  
23 or if I'm wrong, Mike, but that -- that wanted to have an area  
24 between the Kolmakoff and Aniak River to not have cow hunting.  
25 Is that true or --? I'm not sure, but -- I wasn't at the  
26 Board meeting, so Mike -- Mike might be able to fill us in on  
27 it.

28  
29 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, if I may, let me explain a  
30 bit. The Proposal 54, the way it's written, would -- would  
31 only allow bull moose to be harvested, if it's adopted.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

34  
35 MR. COFFING: Currently the Federal regulations allow  
36 antlerless moose to be harvested during a January season and  
37 the February season on Federal public lands.

38  
39 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

40  
41 MR. COFFING: What the State is asking for in that  
42 proposal is to make it a bull-only harvest on Federal lands.

43  
44 MR. PETOLA: I'm aware of that.

45  
46 MR. COFFING: That's what they're asking.

47  
48 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh (affirmative).

49  
50

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1 MR. COFFING: Now, since the State put that in, the  
2 State regulations have changed, so the current State  
3 regulations are not what the State's proposing there. The  
4 State regulations are now different. The State regulations now  
5 allow a cow harvest only in that portion upriver of Kolmakoff  
6 and Holokuk River. It is a bull harvest only downriver from  
7 there.

8

9 So now we have a situation where we have a Federal  
10 season that allows for antlerless harvest during January, ten  
11 days, and February ten days, but a State season that only  
12 allows bulls to be harvested. That's one difference.

13

14 The other difference are the season dates. The season  
15 dates don't -- don't correspond right now.

16

17 MR. PETOLA: Well, when this language down here that  
18 include -- enabled cows or antlerless moose to be taken  
19 upstream, but not including the drainage of the Kolmakoff and  
20 Holokuk River was introduced at the State level a couple of  
21 years ago, I talked to an individual from Aniak at the time.

22

23 MR. COFFING: Last year.

24

25 MR. PETOLA: Yeah. And I said, do you realize what  
26 you're doing? And he said, "yeah, we're eliminating your  
27 downriver hunters from shooting our cows." And I said, "No,  
28 you're eliminating yourself, too." And he said, "Well, we'll  
29 go out and shoot what -- what we want to, but you guys can't."  
30 Well, and I -- that's -- that's damn politics, and there's too  
31 much politics involved in fish and game management. And I'm --  
32 I want to know if there's any biological reason why this should  
33 be in place? If not, I don't think it should be there.

34

35 MR. KACYON: Well, you've got to understand that the  
36 Department's proposal was to reinstate the cow season.

37

38 MR. PETOLA: Yes.

39

40 MR. KACYON: But it wasn't .....

41

42 MR. PETOLA: And that's basically what I'm saying, it  
43 should be done.

44

45 MR. KACYON: But that's not what the Board did.

46

47 MR. COFFING: No, that's not correct.

48

49 MR. KACYON: Well, .....

50

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1  
2 MR. COFFING: The Department did not have a proposal to  
3 reinstate the cow season.

4  
5 MR. KACYON: Oh, they didn't?

6  
7 MR. COFFING: It was an advisory .....

8  
9 MR. KACYON: They didn't have a proposal.

10  
11 MR. COFFING: ..... committee proposal .....

12  
13 MR. KACYON: Right.

14  
15 MR. COFFING: ..... to reinstate the cow season, but --  
16 and this did come from the advisory committee there. They're  
17 the ones that proposed it. They wanted to reinstate the cow  
18 season that the State kind of took away because of an  
19 administrative technicality a couple years ago. But rather  
20 than wanting it reinstated throughout 19(A), they discussed it  
21 at the advisory committee meeting in Aniak. They were  
22 concerned about this -- the -- this was the point brought up at  
23 the meeting: They were concerned about cow moose being hit  
24 hard around the Aniak area. The folks up at Sleetmute and  
25 S5ony felt that there were adequate numbers of cow moose  
26 further up river to allow for a cow harvest. They talked about  
27 what area they thought cows should be harvested, what areas  
28 they thought cows should not be harvested, came up with a  
29 boundary, proposed it to the Board of Game, and the Board of  
30 Game then adopted their proposal.

31  
32 MR. PETOLA: Okay. I love your interpretation. Down  
33 here where it says, "and only in that portion of 19(A)  
34 upstream, but not including the drainages of the Kolmakoff and  
35 Holokuk River." That means that not -- exclusive of the  
36 Kolmakoff and Holokuk drainages, from the confluence of the  
37 Kolmakoff and the Kuskokwim, you can shoot a cow up? Or is it  
38 from the confluence of the Kuskokwim and the Holokuk.

39  
40 MR. COFFING: It's -- if I might clarify, it depends on  
41 which side of the river you're hunting on, Gene, whether you're  
42 hunting on the north side or hunting on the south side. If  
43 you're in the middle of winter, and the moose is on the ice,  
44 then I guess that's a dilemma, but it depends on whether you're  
45 hunting the south side or north side.

46  
47 MR. PETOLA: Okay. If you're hunting on the north  
48 side, not including the drainage of the Kolmakoff, .....

49  
50

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1 MR. COFFING: It's Kolmakoff.

2

3 MR. PETOLA: ..... you couldn't -- you can hunt from  
the Kolmakoff up a cow, but if you're hunting on the south  
side, you have to hunt from the Holokuk up?

6

7 MR. COFFING: That's right. And, Mr. Chairman, the  
season -- those rivers, for those of you that -- that aren't  
familiar with the geography, aren't directly across from one  
another.

11

12 MR. PETOLA: Yes.

13

14 MR. COFFING: The Holokuk is further upstream than the  
Kolmakoff.

16

17 MR. PETOLA: They're approximately 12 miles apart.

18

19 MR. COFFING: They -- they chose those drainages,  
because they wanted something that they could see, and that  
people would identify with and that protection could identify  
with when they were flying. So it shows those geographic  
markers.

24

25 MR. PETOLA: Now, that just leads to a confrontation  
between enforcement between enforcement and some hunter what's  
not totally aware of -- that hasn't interpreted these regs  
properly.

29

30 MR. COFFING: I'm aware (ph). Protection was at the  
meeting when they -- when we drafted the language for that.  
Participated in the discussion.

33

34 MR. PETOLA: I just don't like politics governing  
management, and that's exactly what's happening. I feel that  
the Lower Kuskokwim hunters should have the same access to that  
resource that they do up river, because I was told by a leader  
up there that, "Oh, this is to control you guys downriver.  
We're going to go out and take what we want anyway."

40

41 MR. COFFING: I think that -- and you'll see in the  
view that -- that was handed out or that Gene has there, it  
was also presented earlier in the Regional Council proposal  
booklets, the -- the green ones that you had the last meeting  
that you had.

46

47 MR. PETOLA: What is precisely the current State regs?  
You said they were a little different from the proposal?

49

50

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1 MR. COFFING: The current State regs allow for -- the  
 2 season dates are September 1 to 20 in 19(A), September --  
 3 excuse me, they have a November 20 to 30 season, .....

4

5 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

6

7 MR. COFFING: ..... and a February 1 to 10 season. And  
 8 cows can be taken only upstream of the Kolmakoff/Holokuk during  
 9 the February season. Those are the current State regs.

10

11 MR. PETOLA: Antlerless?

12

13 MR. COFFING: Yes.

14

15 MR. PETOLA: Is it cows or antlerless?

16

17 MR. COFFING: We're talking about antlerless. It is  
 18 antlerless.

19

20 MR. PETOLA: So you can't shoot any moose? In February  
 21 you can't shoot any moose, because a bull will be antlerless  
 22 February. That's -- that's reality.

23

24 MR. COFFING: The February season you can take either  
 25 sex.

26

27 MR. PETOLA: The February season?

28

29 MR. COFFING: Upriver of Kolmakoff, Holokuk you can  
 30 take either sex in February. But downriver of Kolmakoff,  
 31 Holokuk, it's always bull only, no matter what season you're  
 32 in. Those are the current State regs.

33

34 MR. PETOLA: Well, if it's -- if it's -- does it say  
 35 "bull" or does it say "antlerless"? Because from the -- the  
 36 downriver boundary of 19(A), below Kalskag, .....

37

38 MR. COFFING: Uh-huh.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: ..... to the Kolmakoff or to the Holokuk,  
 41 you would -- if it says "antlerless," you can't shoot any  
 42 moose.

43

44 MR. COFFING: No. Okay. From 19(A), Unit 19(A)/Unit  
 45 boundary up to Holokuk/Kolmakoff it's bulls only.

46

47 MR. PETOLA: Okay. It says "bulls" specifically?

48

49 MR. COFFING: And from Holokuk/Kolmakoff -- Holokuk/  
 50

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Kolmakoff on up, it's bulls during September, bulls during November and antlerless during February. So currently in the area where there is -- and there's Federal lands scattered around Unit 19(A), but in the Aniak area, or the area downstream of Kolmakoff/Holokuk, the current State regs are bull only, any season, although the season dates vary somewhat from the Federal seasons.

8

9 MR. PETOLA: Do we have the State regs here?

10

11 MR. COFFING: I've got them here, yeah.

12

13 MR. PETOLA: Could we see that?

14

15 MR. COFFING: Uh-huh. There's a September, a November and a February State season. There's a September, a January and a February Federal season. So there's a significant difference on -- a little bit on the dates, and -- no, those are the Federal regs there, Gene. These are State regs here.

20

21 Hunting under the current -- current Federal regs, you can hunt during January and February in the Aniak region. That's kind of the area that we're -- downriver of Kolmakoff/Holokuk is generally the area that's of difference. So you have a -- you actually have a January season in there that's you don't have under the State regs. You can also harvest antlerless moose in there during January.

28

29 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, but you're wrong. It does not say "bull," it says, "one moose; .....

31

32 MR. COFFING: One .....

33

34 MR. PETOLA: ..... however, antlerless moose may be taken only during the February 1/February 10 season."

36

37 MR. COFFING: Well, what does that mean? That means it can't be antlerless downriver of there.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: So you can't take -- shoot any moose in February. They're -- moose aren't going to have antlers in February, so all -- 100% of the moose will be antlerless.

43

44 MR. COFFING: I don't follow you.

45

46 MR. FISHER: You can take an antlerless moose in February. That's what .....

48

49 MR. PETOLA: But you can't take them downriver from --

50

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on the north side from the confluence of the Holokuk.

2

3 MR. COFFING: You can on the Federal regs, in the other  
book.

5

6 MR. PETOLA: But I'm looking at the State though.

7

8 MR. COFFING: Yeah, you can't under the State. Under  
the State regs, that's right. It's bulls only.

10

11 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, okay. I see down below it says one  
bull.

13

14 MR. FISHER: It's confusing.

15

16 MR. COFFING: Yeah, it is.

17

18 MR. KACYON: But you could take a bull downriver if it  
didn't have antlers.

20

21 MR. PETOLA: Well, down below it says "one bull," yeah,  
February 1 through February 10.

23

24 MR. COFFING: I don't think we have -- unfortunately  
there's -- as in the case in a lot of places, there's not a lot  
of current biological information on moose in that area, in the  
Aniak drainage, and that -- and that region. It's probably,  
you know, I'd -- I guess I'd defer to Dave on some of this,  
but, you know, it's probably better than it is in Unit 18, it  
may not be as good as it is in the Holitna, it may be somewhere  
in between. There isn't a lot of information there that we can  
present to the Council or the Federal Board, biological data  
that can really -- you know would be real decisive in this  
thing, to Mr. Koshner (ph) I think. That's kind of how I view  
it. Dave?

36

37 MR. FISHER: You're right.

38

39 MR. COFFING: But where we're at now is that the  
Regional Council, Western Interior Regional Council,  
Mr. Chairman, that represents 19(A) essentially, wants the  
proposal to be the same as the State regulations. That is --  
that is, they want the Federal regulation to be the same as the  
State regulations. The current Federal regulations are more  
liberal in terms of what you can do down river of Kolmakoff/  
Holokuk than are the State regulations.

47

48 MR. PETOLA: But is there any Federal property there?

49

50

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1 MR. COFFING: On Federal public lands, that is. Uh-  
2 Uh.

3

4 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman?

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

7

8 MR. MATHEWS: Vince Mathews here. This map that's in  
9 your packet shows the -- the grey areas are the Federal lands,  
10 and white is other -- other lands. So this gives you an idea  
11 of the Federal land make up.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: All this grey -- grey areas are  
14 Federal land?

15

16 MR. MATHEWS: Correct. And also, Mr. Chairman, I kind  
17 of intimated it earlier, but no one can predict what a council  
18 board will do, so I'm prefacing that, but if I was sitting  
19 on the Board, and it's been deferred twice, and the councils  
20 are still in disagreement, the logical answer there would  
21 either (sic) to make a decision one way or the other, or take  
22 action. My betting guess is that the Board will take no  
23 action on these proposals, but, please, I cannot predict what  
24 the Board will do, but it would be best if the Councils could  
25 could meet or representatives could meet to see if there's  
26 some common ground on this issue, because the Board has said to  
27 the Councils, "You need to meet to work this out and come back  
28 to us." I also realize this is a long -- long-term situation  
29 here, and we may not be able to reach a compromise, but that's  
30 what the Board was trying to do was trying to get the Councils  
31 to see if there was some common ground. Thank you.

32

33 MR. PETOLA: The position of the Western Interior  
34 Council is to make the regs commensurate with State -- current  
35 State regs?

36

37 MR. MATHEWS: That's correct.

38

39 MR. PETOLA: Yeah. And that's probably the right thing  
40 to do then.

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

43

44 MR. MATHEWS: And also, Mr. Chairman, it's been brought  
45 up, but I need to bring it up again, I don't know how your  
46 region works, but in Western Interior and Eastern Interior  
47 region, when a local advisory committee presents a proposal or  
48 an idea, generally the Council will -- will adopt that idea,  
49 because they feel they are the local experts or expertise for  
50

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that area. So if we did pull off this joint meeting, which we were unable to, we were hoping to have a good representation from the Central Kuskokwim Advisory Committee. So .....

4

5 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman? I really believe that the 19(A) seasons and harvest restrictions on Federal land should be the same as State lands. Look at this map. Our people are going to go out, they don't know where they're at, you know. They don't know where the State land stops and Federal land starts. On top of this, all the riparian area next -- adjacent to the river is owned by the region- -- village corporations up there, and the State has jurisdiction on that, so I think it's important that this Council take the same action that the Western Council did, Western Interior Council, and consequently I would move that we propose that seasons and bag limits for those in 19(A) be commensurate, or identical to current State regulations. Because our people are going to go out and they don't know if they're on Federal land or State land, and I don't want our people going out and getting cited for -- by an enforcement officer just because they might be 50 feet from State -- you know, Federal property. So we all -- we all have the rule to go by. That's my motion. I move that it be the same as .....

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

26

27 MR. JOHN: (In Yup'ik)

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

30

31 MR. ANVIL: Second. Second to the motion.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Antone -- Antone second. Now discussion. Now you can talk. Go ahead.

35

36 MR. JOHN: Uh-huh. Right now he want -- he doesn't see that -- in seeing that our traditional ways are being changed through this document. It is our way as Yup'ik people since some immemorial that it is important to feed our people, and we have teachings for them to try to go out and feed -- get food for our animals, no matter from where they -- where they come from. That when they come, that we help them, and want them to catch game to feed their families, because it is our way, because that is how we are alive. And he's hearing and seeing our ways almost being changed.

46

47 Also, he wants to say that this subsistence issue, that is -- people do not understand subsistence in and of itself. So us subsistence is handed down to us from us. There are a

50

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lot of meanings to subsistence. A person trying to eat, trying to be alive, trying to live, wanting to live, and then someone going out to hunt, and then actually catching game, and there are different definitions. There -- in Yup'ik there are different words to subsistence. And a person with a lot of children, while they are still very young, trying to raise his children, and those are the different ways that we use subsistence.

9

10 And then here they are on document. Documented subsistence. They do not fully understand substances, even the Yup'ik people, since we are losing -- since we -- our kids are growing up in the schools. They do not fully understand it as well.

15

16 And then a gussak asked him, not only one gussak, why is subsistence so important to us. And the part -- it is our survival. He did not even have a concept of our trying to live our way. Not only one gussak did not ask me, there were two. Since he was involved in subsistence conferences, they ask him "Why is it so important to you?"

22

23 And then the eldest child of his, there were four peers asking his eldest child why they want -- why she was for subsistence when they were -- she was in a university. And his child explained subsistence to those four peers. And then those four peers just did not like his child any more, because they did not agree with her or him.

29

30 Those four men, four young men felt that the agriculture harvested and then brought into the shelves of our grocery store, but our life, we work hard using the strength of our bodies, and sometimes we don't think we'll survive because of the weather. We do not simply live off plants. And there are a lot of people in our villages that do not have jobs to go to the grocery stores.

37

38 Since the many meanings of subsistence, he's meant.

39

40 MR. ANDREW: As the Regional Council, he is there as your staff. Last spring when you met, the Proposal 54, the problem of Proposal 54 that you did not like, that one of the openings, January 1 to 10, you did not want to eliminate the January 1 to 10 season. At the previous meeting there were not a lot of -- it's during the Russian Orthodox Christmas, and even though it is in midwinter, they go hunt for the Russian Orthodox Christmas. And that has not -- that concern has not been brought up, that the January 1 through 10 season. I'm just reminding you of that -- of that concern. Koyana.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?  
3  
4 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, with the approval of the  
5 second to my motion, I'd like to -- I'd like to amend that  
6 motion. I will just -- I will withdraw the motion if the  
7 second approves of it, .....

8  
9 MR. ANVIL: Yeah.  
10  
11 MR. PETOLA: ..... and rewrite -- reword it.  
12  
13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion being -- the motion being  
14 dropped?  
15  
16 MR. PETOLA: Being struck. Yeah.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.  
19  
20 MR. PETOLA: Okay. I move that the Federal seasons and  
21 limitations be commensurate with the State regulations, that's  
22 that was my motion, with the exception that on Federal  
23 property we have a January 1 to January 10 hunting season.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let me make sure that secretary, you  
26 got that, what -- his .....

27  
28 MR. ANVIL: Recorder. Recorder.  
29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Recorder.  
31  
32 COURT REPORTER: I know it's on the tape, and I think  
33 I've got it down here, too.  
34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
36  
37 COURT REPORTER: And I think you have it?  
38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Will you please repeat what he was  
40 saying?  
41  
42 MR. MATHEWS: The motion was to -- I believe the motion  
43 was amended, so you have a new motion on the floor.  
44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Uh-huh.  
46  
47 MR. PETOLA: Yes, I withdrew the motion with the  
48 concurrence of the second, so there's no motion.  
49  
50

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1 MR. MATHEWS: The motion on the floor then is to have  
Federal seasons and limitation commensurate with the State  
3 seasons except on Federal lands there would be the January  
4 season.

5  
6 MR. PETOLA: January 1 to January 10th season, yes.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more discussion?

9  
10 MR. ANVIL: Second.

11  
12 MR. WHITE: What he -- he's supporting what Paul John  
said, comment on since the people that he spoke about, what his  
14 constituents, that he's expressing, Paul John expresses same  
15 views as his constituents.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more discussion?

18  
19 MR. JOHN: Question.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question has been called for. All  
22 favor say aye?

23  
24 IN UNISON: Aye.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no?

27  
28 (No opposing responses)

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.

31  
32 Next on our agenda is proposal number 58, moose, 21(E).  
33 don't know who could take that? That was you?

34  
35 MR. COFFING: Mike Coffing here. Here .....

36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

38  
39 MR. COFFING: ..... again a discussion going on, and we  
40 on .....

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: In regards to that. Uh-huh.

43  
44 MR. COFFING: ..... we can all participate.

45  
46 Mr. Chairman, this is also a proposal that this Council  
47 looked at at least once before. This is also a proposal that  
48 was submitted by the State of Alaska under a request for  
49 consideration I believe. The intent here again is to have  
50

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State regulations the same as the Federal regulations, or have Federal regulations mirror the State regulations.

3

4           Currently in Unit 21(E) under State regulations, during the February season moose cannot be harvested within one-half mile of the Yukon River. Under Federal regulations, they can be. You can harvest a moose within one-half mile of the Yukon River. If this regulation was adopted under the Federal regulatory frame work, there would be consistency and there would be no moose could be harvested within one-half mile of the Yukon River during the February season of Unit 21(E) by anyone.

13

14           The position again of the Western Interior Regional Council was to support this and adopt it as to their recommendation. The earlier recommendation from this Council was to oppose it, and as I recall, the discussion off the top of my head here at the last meeting, and this is reflected in the minutes, the -- this Council did not support it, because it felt that during winter time, that's where many of the moose would be. Many of the moose would be within one-half mile of the Yukon River, and they felt there should be some opportunity to harvest those moose.

24

25           I think I'll stop there for the time being. I may have some more to add. I'd like maybe to ask Dave Fisher if he has any information, biological information that might -- that might help the Council here?

29

30           MR. FISHER: I don't have any. Randy may have some.

31

32           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?

33

34           MR. PETOLA: Randy, what is the current status of the moose population on 21(E)?

36

37           MR. KACYON: Yes, this is Randy. This is Randy Kacyon of Fish and Game.

39

40           We don't have any good census information, although all indications are that the moose population in Unit 21(E) is healthy or sustainable.

43

44           The main concern of the Department is, of course, to have the regulations the same as the State. The second concern of both the GASH (ph) Advisory Committee members and Western Interior and Fish and Game is that because moose at that time of year are yarded up on the islands, they feel that any kind of disturbance may cause, you know, unnecessary mortality to

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yarding moose. And there's adequate moose numbers within one-half mile of the Yukon. A good example of that is Paimuit Slough, Twelve-Mile Slough, you know, Big Fatchon Slough, Horse Island area. So I guess -- well, that -- but the main concern of the Department isn't that there's a biological problem. It's that they want the regulations to be the same.

7

8 MR. PETOLA: Once again this is politics and -- playing a role in resource management. You talk to members of the GASH Advisory Council up there, and they can put together a good argument about disturbance of the moose while they're yarded up, but I've been told specifically by a member of the advisory council a few years back when this was adopted, that this was an effort to restrict downriver people from taking their moose, and it's a bunch of, excuse my English, but B.S. And I don't think it should be -- I would like to see the regs the same, but I would like to see the State change theirs, so if Harry wanted to go up there, I mean, to shoot a moose where they're acceptable.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think Gene made adequate answer. Some of this -- I think this is the reason that this Council opposed this .....

24

25 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... when this come up. Because no one really don't have no opportunity to go up that way. And we were opposing it, you know. (In Yup'ik) Go ahead.

30

31 MR. JOHN: Yeah. The one-half mile from the Yukon River, he's going to comment on that. When he was 40 years old, the doctor looked at him, and said that he could not lift more than 25 pounds. That -- as a hunter, that if the hunter captures something, how is he going to bring down the moose down to the river, so he opposed to that. When he was 40 years old. That he told him not to live more than 25 pounds.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We was requested by the subsistence boards to meet with these people upriver at Anvik.

41

42 MR. ANDREW: No, Aniak.

43

44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Aniak. Aniak. I don't know if there's -- some of -- some of the board I think they are reluctant to meet with those people upriver.

47

48 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, they said that the Western Interior Council and this Council should meet in Aniak, meet in

50

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1- they were supposed to meet on the 28th and 29th of September, and then the people from the Yukon and the Koyuk since they experienced those flooding, that meeting was cancelled. In fact, some of those Council members lost their homes, lost their food as well. So that meeting was cancelled.

6

7 And this Proposal #58 says that the fall or the winter, that they want to use this in February 1 and hunt. We know that those of us who go out in the hunt, they go down to the river during the winter, because that's when the trees are, and a lot of -- the half mile from the winter. We do not know.

12

13 MR. WHITE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman? Since we did not want that half mile restriction, and a lot of the older people may not know what the half mile is, even though he -- even he is not that old, he does not quite picture what a half mile length is, since if -- when we do not know that half mile, it will only lead to him or other hunters being cited and charged with a violation, hunting violation. And this half mile, particularly in the winter. The State would population -- cite population controls, and then the State and Federal governments conserve, but we all know that even though we hunt, God replaces the animals. That they will always be, and it is a promise that if we care for them well and not waste that they will always be there.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Whatever come up to these two proposals, tomorrow we have to present it to the public, not only that -- if there's going to be any renewal or alternates for these two proposals. We have to make sure that -- to State advisory boards involved in this, some of this problems. I was request over in Anchorage to Federal Subsistence Board to make sure some of these things that need to be -- some problems that we have to be solved, that it should be good to State advisory boards and make sure everybody take part of it, like people and also others.

37

38 Gene?

39

40 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, based on the comments I heard, and based on the previous position of this Council, I move that Proposal 58 be denied, that we maintain our current position.

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the floor .....

46

47 MR. ANVIL: Oppose it. Oppose it.

48

49 MR. PETOLA: That we oppose it. Yeah.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Oppose this Proposal 59.  
3  
4 MR. PETOLA: 58.  
5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's any .....  
7  
8 MR. PETOLA: 58.  
9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: 58. If there's any second?  
11  
12 MR. WHITE: Second.  
13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Steven White. Discussion?  
15 s discussion?  
16  
17 MR. JOHN: Question.  
18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question has been called for. All  
20 who favor say aye.  
21  
22 IN UNISON: Aye.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no?  
25  
26 (No opposing responses)  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. Yeah, go ahead.  
29  
30 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, did you indicate that you  
31 wanted the local advisory committee to be informed of your  
32 actions on 54, 58?  
33  
34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Both of them, yeah. Both of these or  
35 any new proposal that is going to be, we do not want to face  
36 the same problems that we have the month of September. Or  
37 August when we had to teleconference because of not enough  
38 notice out to the public.  
39  
40 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, I've got a question towards  
41 Randy or whoever can answer it. Is there any -- or even on the  
42 Federal side, is there any intentions in the near future like  
43 this whenever they're yarded and that in 21(E) on the -- on the  
44 river system and the island system within the rivers to do a  
45 survey?  
46  
47 MR. KACYON: I don't -- I'm not too sure about that  
48 area in particular, but there are plans to do gasolee (ph)  
49 censuses sometime probably -- I'm not sure what Whitman's  
50

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planning, but I know he was talking about doing maybe the  
 Holitna or Hoholitna this year. The problem with doing a  
 censuses is you can only usually do one a year, because of the  
 weather and cost. But they did attempt to do a census in 21(E)  
 and I think that's in the -- some of the data that you have  
 here, but it was -- it was a failure, because of the weather.

7

8 MR. PETOLA: Weather and lighting conditions?

9

10 MR. KACYON: But I think one point I'd like to make,  
 Gene, I agree with you, is that I think the main thing that  
 needs to happen here is the Western Interior Regional Council  
 and your Regional Council need to sit down and hash out your  
 differences, .....

15

16 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

17

18 MR. KACYON: ..... because that's the reasons the  
 regulations are diverging so much. I really do think that you  
 guys have a lot in common. It's just that right now you're  
 opposing each other.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more on 58 Proposal? If it's not,  
 we're going to have five minutes break.

25

26 (Off record)

27

28 (On record)

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Meeting come back to order. Before we  
 have annual report, we've got some guests here.

32

33 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, the annual report (in  
 Yup'ik) .....

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Wait. Wait. I would like to  
 see visitors and guests .....

38

39 MR. PETOLA: Introduce themselves.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... introduce themselves, yeah.  
 Ida? Start from Ida.

43

44 MR. PETOLA: And your affiliation, who you represent.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah. And who you represent  
 and what your name.

48

49 MS. ALEXIE: My name is Ida Alexie. I work as a

50

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Coordinator for the Board Support Section of Admin in Fish and Game here in Bethel.

3

4 MR. STROM: Yeah, my name is Dennis Strom, and I work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service here at Bethel.

6

7 MR. MOGART: I'm John Mogart. I'm the supervisor of Wildlife biologists for the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge here in Bethel.

10

11 MR. LARSON: I'm Oscar Larson from the organized Village of Kwethluk.

13

14 MR. BOOTH: I'm Tony Booth. I work for the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Regional Office, Division of Refuges in Anchorage.

17

18 MR. AFCAN: I'm Paschal Afcan, Fish and Wildlife Service in Bethel.

20

21 MR. FISHER: Right here?

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, right there. We'll go over that way.

25

26 MR. FISHER: Dave Fisher, Subsistence Office, Anchorage, Fish and Wildlife Service.

28

29 MR. MATHEWS: Vince Mathews, Fish and Wildlife Service, Subsistence Office, here to help you with the input in the Western Interior Regional Council.

32

33 MR. KACYON: Randy Kacyon, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation Division in Bethel.

35

36 MS. DOWNING: Meredith Downing, R & R Court Reporters in Anchorage.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: And back there?

40

41 MR. ANDREW: She's Sophie.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Sophie?

44

45 INTERPRETER EVAN: Sophie Evan, the interpreter.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka with the Association of Village Council Presidents, Natural Resources. And along with ~~he~~ also is a gentleman who has just hired on as a resource

50

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Specialist as well, James Berlin.

2

3 MR. COFFING: I'm Mike Coffing, previously of Alaska  
 Fish and Game, and for the next couple of years, I'm working  
 with Fish and Wildlife Service out of the Bethel office here as  
 an anthropologist.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

9

10 MR. WHITE: I'm Steven White. I'm on the Federal  
 Advisory Council.

12

13 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

14

15 MR. WHITE: Eek.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Eek.

18

19 MR. MARTIN: I'm Calvin Martin. I'm a professor of  
 History at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

21

22 MR. ANDREW: John Andrew. (In Yup'ik)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anton?

25

26 MR. ANVIL: My name's Antone Anvil, and I'm a  
 Subsistence Regional Council member here in Bethel.

28

29 MR. LUKE: James Luke, Mountain Village for  
 Kugipagmiut.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

33

34 MR. JOHN: My name is Paul John from Toksook Bay, and  
 everything to -- Subsistence Advisory council.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Harry Wilde, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta  
 Regional Council Chairman from Mountain Village.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: I'm Gene Petola, Regional Council member  
 from Bethel.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Koyana. You feel better or the same?

44

45 (Laughter)

46

47 UNIDENTIFIED: The same.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The same. Okay. Next on our agenda

50

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1s annual report.

2

3 MR. ANDREW: After the -- under ANILCA each Council,  
 there are ten statewide starting from up north through down the  
 coast, down to Southeast, and every year these councils -- each  
 council individually, the chairman has to stop (ph) a -- the  
 chairman is required to write an annual report. The length --  
 the Western Interior Council writes a two to three-page report,  
 and some has nine to 12 pages. And in the report there has to  
 be you have to address the chairman and -- in that bill, these  
 need to -- it has to contain background information first, and  
 have to identify sea mammals, land mammals, everything that our  
 people hunt to eat, and to identify them individually. Using  
 the South Central Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council  
 report, that is for the Anchorage area, they identify  
 ptarmigans, spruce hens, rabbits, moose, caribou, bear, clams,  
 cockles, crab, and they also identify wild sow (ph), where they  
 identify whether they are land mammals or marine mammals. Also  
 berries and small mammals, small land mammals. They identify  
 fish, they identify birds, mushrooms, wild vegetables, trees,  
 shrubs, and forward (ph) dock (ph), watercress, butte greens.  
 They identify everything that a person can eat. The name and  
 where they -- the habitat. How they are eaten or used, and to  
 draw a map with the habitat, or identifying where all of those  
 grow or live.

26

27 So since -- when they first started, that this Council  
 28 this Council's annual report, that he wanted to make -- tell  
 you what this annual report is and that the coordinators cannot  
 work on this, but that the chairmen or the vice chairmen or  
 designee must, or the officers of the Council, they're  
 responsible for this annual report.

33

34 After he makes copies, you will be mailed copies of  
 these annual reports. Annual reports. That's it.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Koyana. I've got a question for  
 Federal staff here. I would like to request supply something,  
 a map like this, location of Federal lands on 21(E), on this  
 20(E). We'd like to have the location and the -- where the  
 Federal land required. I mean, a map like this on 21(E). See,  
 this -- yeah. I'm looking a map, 21(E) with nothing on it, all  
 white.

44

45 MR. FISHER: Okay.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We would like to locate and see  
 something like that. Okay?

49

50

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1 MR. FISHER: Okay.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Koyana. Thank you.

4

5 New business. We're on old business. Lower Yukon  
6 moose. Dave Fisher?

7

8 MR. FISHER: I have a little bit on that, Mr. Chairman.  
9 Randy will help me with it. But we had a meeting in Mountain  
10 Village on August 11th, the Lower -- or the Yukon River Moose  
11 Planning Committee met, and at that time Randy talked a little  
12 bit about the population survey that was conducted in March. A  
13 moose survey in that area. And we also reviewed the goals and  
14 objectives of that plan. And since then we have also reviewed  
15 the goals and objectives and the entire plan at our office in  
16 Anchorage, and made some -- made a few changes. And we think  
17 the plan looks real good. It's -- it looks like we're off to a  
18 real good start as far as a cooperative effort for managing  
19 those animals there on the -- on the Yukon River. I think  
20 Randy's in the process now of incorporating those changes that  
21 need to be made, and, Randy, can you add on to that?

22

23 MR. KACYON: I guess -- this is Randy again.  
24 Chairman, I'd kind of like to put the overhead up if it's  
25 okay with the group, and show you what we worked on at our last  
26 meeting so that your -- your Regional Council is aware of the  
27 management plan that we're working on on the Lower Yukon. And  
28 I'll probably ask the representative from Kuigpagmiut  
29 Corporation to, you know, add some comments if he'd like to  
30 while I'm setting up.

31

32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Randy, put it on. We give  
33 you that permission. We may say no later on, but .....

34

35 (Laughter)

36

37 UNIDENTIFIED: About half way through.

38

39 MR. KACYON: I'll try to make it real brief.

40

41 UNIDENTIFIED: Set it about the middle of the table.

42

43 MR. LUKE: While he's setting up, could I say a few  
44 words?

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

47

48 MR. LUKE: I'll say it in my native tongue. This moose  
49 management plan was started two years ago from -- when they

50

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were trying to open the area from Mountain Village on down river, since it was closed for five years. Working with the State Fish and Game and Federal Fish and Wildlife Services. And they have come up with this moose management plan. Since the -- for the area from Mountain Village on down to the mouth of the Yukon. So the State and Federal agencies along with the people of the Lower Yukon have come up with this plan, and Randy will tell you more.

9

10 MR. KACYON: Let's see if I can get this on the screen. The Lower Yukon area that we're talking -- we're talking about here is -- let's see, this area down below Mountain Village, the season was closed from 1988 up until this last fall. And it was requested by the Lower Yukon Mayors Association in 1988 to have that area closed to moose hunting, because they felt that they wanted to get more moose down in that country. And according to joint Fish and Wildlife Service and Fish and Game surveys in 1988, there were no moose present below Mountain Village in those -- in those 20 areas that are delineated on here.

21

22 In 1992 we did a census of Pilot Station to Paimuit, and that's those 159 sections there. We sampled for a base population. And in that area we found that there were approximately 1,000 moose.

26

27 MR. PETOLA: What time of the year was this, Randy?

28

29 MR. KACYON: This was done in March, early March. And last year with the cooperation of two elders from Emmonak and suggestions from some of the people in Mountain Village, we went down to Emmonak and did a moose count in these areas down here, and we found out that there were a minimum of about 70 moose. That's not a lot of moose.

35

36 MR. PETOLA: In all 20 areas combined?

37

38 MR. KACYON: Right. That's not a lot of moose, but that's a lot more moose than there were there in '88.

40

41 The people downriver wanted to have a season opened, so we decided what we would do, it probably not biologically possible to have a season the same here as we would up here, because there's more moose down -- up here than down here. So what we did is we came up with a moose management plan. And the moose management plan treats the whole drainage from Paimuit to the mouth of the Yukon as one moose population, because the people down on the lower river and myself feel that the moose that are up here are the same genetic stock as the

50

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moose down here, as the moose are slowly migrating downriver as the population grows. And so what we did was we treated this whole area as one moose population. And that's part of the reason the management plan came about is we're not treating this area as separately any more. We're treating it as a whole.

7

8 And one of -- one of the things we're going to try and do this year is this cross-hatched area, is we're going to try and do a census in this area this year to get an over-all view of the population. And this is a section we've never done yet between Pilot and Mountain Village. But we do have good census information from this area, and fairly good -- this isn't a census, but it was just a survey.

15

16 Getting back to the plan itself, treating this whole area as a single population, we came up with some goals and objectives. And these are the goals of our management plan on the Lower Yukon. There's five goals. The first one is we want to protect the habitat, because without the habitat, we don't have moose. The second one is to ensure the continued health and viability of the moose population in Unit 18.

23

24 MR. PETOLA: I have a question.

25

26 MR. KACYON: Okay.

27

28 MR. PETOLA: On the lower 20 units, I know you said you're going to treat it as a whole, but the lower 20 units, do you have any idea what the habitat would be able to sustain as a viable population?

32

33 MR. KACYON: Okay. Let me put that back up here to answer your question. This area right here is approximately 3500 square miles, the census area, and we found approximately 36000 moose. This area here, down here, is approximately 3,000 square miles, and so -- and the areas one through 19 -- 20 is all open tundra. The areas 1 through 19 all raptarian habitat, so there is a potential of having twice as many moose down here as here.

41

42 MR. PETOLA: And will be able to sustain that?

43

44 MR. KACYON: It should be able to sustain it. There may be some problems with flooding, of course, because most of the land down here is below 50-foot sea level, and we don't have as many escape cover areas like we do upriver with spruce forests. We only have willow and cottonwood forests down here, so .....

50

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1  
2 MR. PETOLA: Okay. Up here, how close -- where are we  
at in -- you said you had about 1100 moose in that -- in that  
area?

5  
6 MR. KACYON: The estimate was 1,000 now.

7  
8 MR. PETOLA: 1,000. And the carrying capacity of that  
is approximately what?

10  
11 MR. KACYON: Well, based on areas just upstream from  
here, you know, it's -- it's hard to say, but it's way below  
carrying capacity.

14  
15 MR. PETOLA: It is?

16  
17 MR. KACYON: Yeah. Some of those areas, like this Unit  
20 and 19, it's -- everything's backwards. Up here. We got  
about five moose per square mile. Down around area 159, we got  
about one moose per square mile. Down here we have .01 moose  
per square mile. So that's different densities. Although the  
populations seem to be increasing. We've had -- one of the  
reasons for that is we've had six good winters in a row. We  
haven't had any winter mortality, and we haven't had any  
flooding mortality since '88, so the moose are doing fairly  
well.

27  
28 But one of the -- one of the ways we get at this  
ensuring continued viability, and also goal three, to provide  
for regulated harvest, is -- well, let me just go through these  
first and then -- we basically came up with five goals: To  
maintain the habitat, to insure conservation of the moose, to  
provide for a regulated harvest, and the -- the group of -- I  
think there's 11 villages, came up with the season and bag  
limit, and also goal four, to encourage cooperation between the  
agencies and the public. And encourage communication.

37  
38 Basically this plan is similar to the Kilbuck caribou  
management plan, in that it -- it's a cooperative thing. It's  
not a Fish and Game plan, it's not a Fish and Wildlife plan,  
it's not an AVCP plan. It's -- it's everybody cooperating  
together.

43  
44 Gene?

45  
46 MR. PETOLA: I've got a question I would ask James or  
Harry. Does this cooperative moose management plan have the  
support of the village people out there?

49  
50

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Yeah.

2

3 MR. KACYON: We've gone through several revisions of  
4 this. This is the last revision, but basically goal one talks  
5 about habitat, and it goes through how we're going to achieve  
6 that goal, which are the objectives. This is -- and under this  
7 goal one, objective, there -- there was -- at the last meeting  
8 this objective E was added by one of the elders, because he  
9 felt that this was really important, and I agree, that -- this  
10 is probably one of the main reasons that there's such animosity  
11 between upriver and downriver hunters is that people leave  
12 their trash on their moose camps and such. And they wanted to  
13 make sure that this was put in this plan so that -- to make  
14 sure that people were aware that they shouldn't leave their  
15 trash, and have respect for the land.

16

17 MR. PETOLA: Another question I have then. In the sub  
18 unit of the Lower -- the lower extremity of the lower river, of  
19 the 70 moose you did (ph) in that cen- -- the survey, what was  
20 the male/female sex ratio?

21

22 MR. KACYON: We have no idea, because the -- the area  
23 was done in March. Last year we didn't have adequate snow  
24 cover in December before they had dropped their antlers so  
25 we're trying -- this year we're going to try and do it earlier  
26 to get a composition.

27

28 MR. PETOLA: You didn't get any idea from the -- the  
29 subs and that what .....

30

31 MR. KACYON: No. No, the area was just too large to do  
32 real intensive surveys.

33

34 MR. PETOLA: And do you have collared moose in this  
35 population?

36

37 MR. KACYON: We don't have any collared moose, although  
38 there seems to be some support from Emmonak to maybe do a  
39 collaring project in the future to see what the migration  
40 patterns are, but .....

41

42 MR. PETOLA: Do you have collared moose up above?  
43 Because that's where they're coming from?

44

45 MR. KACYON: Yes, we do have collared moose up above.  
46 We -- we haven't had any enter into that area though.

47

48 MR. PETOLA: Based on the size of the moose in the  
49 survey in the lower river, can you say that the -- the ones

50

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that are populating the lower river are younger animals,  
or .....

3

4 MR. KACYON: A lot of -- a lot of moose that I've  
5 observed were younger animals, although there were a lot of  
6 mature cows with calves. Mr. John?

7

8 MR. JOHN: (In Yup'ik)

9

10 INTERPRETER EVAN: You're -- you're .....

11

12 MR. PETOLA: Too fast?

13

14 INTERPRETER EVAN: No, getting too soft. I can hardly  
15 hear this guy standing.

16

17 MR. KACYON: Oh, okay.

18

19 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Use your mike, maybe.

20

21 MR. KACYON: Okay. Sorry.

22

23 COURT REPORTER: That doesn't go to her though.

24

25 MR. PETOLA: Oh, just the recorder?

26

27 COURT REPORTER: That just goes to the recorder.

28

29 MR. KACYON: Anyway, getting on to goal two, this is  
30 the conservation part of the moose thing, and one of the  
31 things, as -- if we're going to treat the population as a whole  
32 entity, rather than just the moose below Mountain Village, we  
33 want to -- we came up with a goal of having 3,000 moose on the  
34 Yukon River between Paimuit and the mouth of the river. Right  
35 now we're almost halfway there, and given the census data, if  
36 we get it done this year, you know, we may be over half way  
37 there, but I don't know. I can only tell you that there's  
38 about 70 moose below Mountain Village, and there's about 1,000  
39 above Pilot. I don't have any -- We're -- we're going to try  
40 and come up with a figure.

41

42 And at the same time, we're going to try and keep the  
43 harvest below 5%, because if you're managing a moose population  
44 for bull-only harvest, you don't want to harvest more than 5%,  
45 because you might cause a decline. There's other factors  
46 involved: winter mortality, poaching, flood mortality, calf  
47 mortality. You know, there's a lot of other factors, so we  
48 want to be fairly conservative and only have a harvest below  
49.

50

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1  
2 MR. PETOLA: Is predation a factor on the upper  
extremities of this?  
4  
5 MR. KACYON: There might be some wolf predation, but  
it's probably mostly black bear predation in the upper end, but  
I don't .....

8  
9 MR. PETOLA: On calves?  
10  
11 MR. KACYON: On calves. Although we haven't seen any  
of that. We've seen really high calf -- cow/calf ratios.  
13  
14 MR. PETOLA: The next question, Randy, is there any  
chance of duplicating this effort on the Lower Kuskokwim?  
16  
17 MR. KACYON: I think there -- I think it's a  
possibility, and I guess what I would like to see done is when  
this is finalized, I would like the Lower Yukon people to come  
down here and help us in that effort. The problem with the  
Lower Kuskokwim, however, my belief, is you're starting with  
much lower moose densities, and so it's going to be a little  
bit more difficult.  
24  
25 MR. PETOLA: But the fact is in the last couple of  
years you've had some influx -- I mean, some migration of moose  
down into the lower extremities. Last winter was the first  
time, to my knowledge that any moose ever survived within five  
miles of Bethel .....

30  
31 MR. KACYON: Right.  
32  
33 MR. PETOLA: ..... in the winter.  
34  
35 MR. KACYON: I think that the difference, the main  
difference with this plan and the Lower Kuskokwim will be that  
a lot of the moose harvest on the Lower Yukon does take place  
immediately around the villages still; however, down here  
people are forced to go up to the Holitna and Aniak, so there's  
40 it's a little different. There's enough moose over there to  
sustain hunting. Down here it's -- it's a judgment call  
whether there is a sustainable population.  
43  
44 We -- getting back to that, Gene, we did complete a  
census in '93 on the Lower Kuskokwim, just the river corridor  
between Kalskag and Kwethluk, and we do have that information.  
47  
48 MR. PETOLA: How many animals?  
49  
50

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1 MR. KACYON: What was it? About approximately 200  
2 animals, plus or minus 20%. So pretty low densities.

3  
4 And goal three of this management plan, one thing that  
5 people on the -- all the villages want is they wanted to have a  
6 fall-only harvest of bulls below Mountain Village. And so  
7 basically downstream of Mountain Village in this -- this area,  
8 the season September 5 through 25 for bull only. Upstream of  
9 Mountain Village it's the way it's always been, September 1  
10 through 30, plus a ten-day winter season.

11  
12 MR. PETOLA: Do you have any idea of how many bulls  
13 were harvest -- harvested this fall?

14  
15 MR. KACYON: I have some indications that there were  
16 somewhere between five and ten bulls taken below Mountain  
17 Village from reports from Kotlik and Emmonak, but I haven't got  
18 I won't get the reports in until February.

19  
20 MR. PETOLA: Yeah. I know three that were taken just a  
21 few people I know.

22  
23 MR. KACYON: Yeah. I know of at least four in Kotlik  
24 that were taken in early September.

25  
26 Anyway, below Mountain Village, the seasons are  
27 different, even though we treat the moose population for the  
28 whole drainage as one, because that's what the local folks  
29 wanted. They felt that having a winter season would be too  
30 liberal and people would abuse -- abuse it.

31  
32 The season will remain unchanged unless an emergency  
33 exists. It could be anything from, you know, a high winter  
34 fall or high harvest, more than we should take. When the Yukon  
35 River moose population is greater than 3,000, then we're going  
36 reevaluate the population, but this is one of our long-term  
37 objectives that is going to happen down the future. But we're  
38 hoping as things continue on that given bull-only harvests and  
39 a short season, that we'll be able to achieve that goal.

40  
41 And at the same time it says that Fish and Game, Fish  
42 and Wildlife, and the users will propose to both the Federal  
43 and State boards regulations that are consistent with the  
44 management plan. They don't want the two boards to have  
45 opposing regulations.

46  
47 And then goal four is to encourage cooperation between  
48 the public and the agencies in carrying out the management  
49 plan. And a lot of that has to do with getting good census and  
50

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Survey data. Some of it has to do with the public getting -- getting us good harvest reporting.

3

4 And E is pretty important. They added this at the last meeting. They want this plan to be used as a guide by both the Federal and State boards when they have -- when they come up with regulatory proposals. For example, if someone comes up with a proposal that follows the plan, then they ask that the boards, you know, treat that accordingly. If it's against the management plan, then the -- the Lower Yukon folks would not like to see that proposal pass. And that's sort of the gist of E.

13

14 I'm just going through these really -- really briefly, because we don't have a lot of time, but I just want to make sure that the Council is aware this is -- after our third meeting this was after our third meeting, this meeting, was put in place.

19

20 And then there's another objective on goal four, F, which says to cooperate and strive for simplified and consistent moose hunting regulations. And this was probably put in by Harry -- Harry and the group, because there was some confusion this year with moose seasons in Unit 18, and they wanted to make sure that we could try to not have that happen at least on the Lower Yukon.

27

28 And then in goal five we have encourage communication between the public and the agencies by exchanging ideas and knowledge about Lower Yukon River moose populations. One of the ways that we do this is by getting harvest reports from the public, including public in our census. You know, we're -- every time we do a moose count down, that we're planning on including at least one or two members of the moose advisory committee, or I don't know what you'd call it, moose working group I guess, but -- so that's one of the ways that we do that. It's -- it's nice having a local person in the plane to at least help us find out when we're flying around. Sometimes we get lost. In the future I guess, you know, we're going to buy and get more experienced people as observers. But this also helps solidify what we're doing so that sometimes people don't understand how we count moose, or how we do things from an aircraft, and getting them in the airplane helps them understand better how we -- how we do things.

45

46 MR. PETOLA: They have ownership in the product then, too.

48

49 MR. KACYON: Right. Are there any questions or

50

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anything about the moose management plan? Greg?

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Not a question so much, but in response  
4 to the agency management (indiscernible) go about trying to get  
5 something together like this. You know, when we first -- a  
6 census being initiated on the Yukon .....

7

8 COURT REPORTER: Please come up to the  
9 microphone?

10

11 MR. ROCZICKA: I'm sorry. You know, essentially the  
12 people over there were ready to go to war with the State,  
13 because they felt like they'd been lied to, with their  
14 understanding of a moratorium being in place for five years and  
15 then automatic sunset clause, and just -- just a general  
16 frustration with the whole regulatory process. Then just since  
17 November of last year it's taken off with a life of its own.  
18 That it has gotten to the level of success that it has is  
19 amazing to a lot of people all the way across the board.

20

21 But anyway, we do -- we do intend -- I am pursuing now  
22 steps to try to put together something for the Kuskokwim. I  
23 believe it certainly is -- it's a whole different set of  
24 circumstances which you're well aware of, but we're going to  
25 try to get something together for that in -- within this next  
26 year, hopefully this winter.

27

28 MR. KACYON: Right.

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy? Randy, there's a question  
31 here.

32

33 MR. KACYON: Uh-huh.

34

35 MR. JOHN: He wants to ask a question. That right now  
36 today that every person who wants to hunt a moose is issued a  
37 permit, and if you limit the harvest to 5%, that those who want  
38 will you issue just 5% of the permits to 5% of the hunters?

39

40 MR. KACYON: No, the reason for the 5% is that we --  
41 we've never achieved the 5% harvest of the moose population.  
42 Reported harvest. Unreported harvest, of course, often --  
43 there's probably pretty serious problem, but up until year, we  
44 hadn't -- hadn't reached 5% of the population that I know of,  
45 my best guess of the population. Last year we came fairly  
46 close to that, and -- but that -- last year was a really good  
47 year for hunting. The high -- we had early high water, and  
48 people could get around a little better. And some indication  
49 might be that we just had better harvest reporting.

50

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1  
 2           There is no limit to the number of people that can get  
 a moose harvest ticket. We don't limit the number of people.  
 However, say if this fall we found out that 200 moose were  
 taken between Pilot and Paimuit Slough, then that would  
 indicate to me that we might have a problem, and we have -- we  
 possibly over-harvest, and therefore we might have an emergency  
 closure of the winter season. But we wouldn't close -- close  
 it in season unless we knew that there was a problem. So we  
 don't limit the number of hunters, but we may limit the hunting  
 in the future if we over-harvest the number of moose. Right  
 now I don't see that as a problem, over-harvesting moose, as  
 long as people only shoot bulls and abide by the regulations.  
 We -- we shouldn't have a problem. But if we do have a  
 problem, we won't limit the number of hunters, we'll just close  
 the season by emergency order.

17

18           MR. JOHN: Mr. Chairman?

19

20           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

21

22           MR. JOHN: He also wants to add, when he was young  
 there were many -- lots of reindeer down to the coast, and at  
 that time there were a lot of reindeer, and people -- it wasn't  
 regulated. And then he started to hear that people did not  
 agree about the reindeer, and then within three years all that  
 reindeer, and they did not go beyond three years, there were no  
 more reindeer. And then we as the Yup'ik people have a  
 teaching since a long time, and it is our law, that this game  
 we should not make noise about. If we make a lot of noise  
 about our game, when we do that and make noise about the game,  
 that game will not be there. So he is thinking that now with  
 the moose, the gussak, you want to work together and cooperate,  
 so, with us as quietly as we can. If we go forward with this,  
 they will not -- the populations will not decrease, but will  
 increase, and to keep in mind the Yup'ik law that if we do not  
 argue and fight about the moose, it will be good.

38

39           MR. KACYON: I agree with Mr. John, Mr. Chairman, is  
 that this allows people to have a sense of ownership of these  
 moose, and if people want to have moose in the Lower Yukon,  
 then they're going to abide by the management plan, and peer  
 pressure will -- will probably keep the management plan  
 working. And I really feel strongly that if people have a  
 sense of ownership in a resource, that they are going to take  
 care of their own resource problems, and I -- and I think this  
 is one way, even though it's just a simple way to start, I  
 think it's a good starting -- a good start on moose management  
 Unit 18, because as you all know, that's why most people

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travel three, 400 miles every year to shoot a moose is because they don't have moose in their backyards, and we want to -- we want to see moose on the Lower Yukon like we have on the Innoko, and I think people on the Lower Yukon do -- do want to see the moose population increase. And that's the ultimate goal of this plan is to get people to work together to have more moose for their children in the future.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?

10

11 MR. PETOLA: I -- I think this Regional Council should adopt a resolution applauding the Federal government, the State government and the native people in those villages over there, supporting what they're doing, and circulate the resolution to all the -- all the villages over there. This -- this is the first time that we've actually worked together in harmony in -- in a project like this, and I think some people should get credit for that. But I think this Council should go on record and draft a resolution that -- supporting what they're doing.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

22

23 MR. PETOLA: Can we have staff or somebody draft a resolution?

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We will. Our coordinator here.

27

28 Any more on the Lower Yukon moose management?

29

30 This is not -- we're going to break for lunch and come back at 1:00 o'clock. Good eating and have a good life and good rest for a while. I had a request from elders we should break a little bit longer for lunch. So we'll come back 1:00 o'clock.

35

36 (Off record) 11:30 A.M.

37

38 (On record) 1:00 P.M.

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Next to do, something next -- next on the agenda, that update on the brown bear?

42

43 MR. KACYON: Yeah, I'd like to .....

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No, we're -- we're waiting for the translator.

47

48 MR. KACYON: Yeah. I'll have to defer that to John Morgart, because I'm not prepared to talk about it. I mean, I

50

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can answer some questions, but I don't have anything.

2

3 (Off record)

4

5 (On record)

6

7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we are ready to come back to  
8 order. We were on old business, down in A, B, update of brown  
9 bear.

10

11 MR. MOGART: Mr. Chairman, I'll -- I'll address that.  
12 John Mogart with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

15

16 MR. MOGART: And with your permission, I'd like to give  
17 perhaps a little bit of a historical brief for the benefit of  
18 the new board member, and possibly to help reacquaint the rest  
19 of the board a little bit with some of the history of how the  
20 brown bear study came about.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You may.

23

24 MR. MOGART: Thank you, sir. In 1991 subsistence users  
25 from this general region requested from the Federal Subsistence  
26 Board what was then a substantial change in the existing bear  
27 regulations for Game Management Unit 18 here. Okay.  
28 Specifically they asked for the elimination of the \$25.00 brown  
29 bear fee for the -- for the tag for the subsistence hunters.  
30 They also requested the elimination of the requirement to seal  
31 the skull and skin of bears. They asked for an increase in the  
32 bag limit of bears from one bear every four years to one bear  
33 every -- every year. Finally, they also asked to eliminate the  
34 split fall/spring season so that there was just one single  
35 September 1 to May 31 season.

36

37 The Federal Subsistence Board, in recognition of the  
38 additional subsistence harvest practices that go on in this  
39 region, granted all aspects of that request, so they  
40 substantially liberalized the subsistence harvest of bears in  
41 this area. In granting this request, however, the Subsistence  
42 Board was very concerned about the virtually complete lack of  
43 baseline population information for bears in this area. Things  
44 such as bear numbers, population distribution and composition,  
45 productivity and mortality. The Federal Subsistence Board just  
46 wasn't comfortable in -- in granting all of those requests  
47 without having a much better understanding of the population  
48 size, status, and the subsistence harvest going on in this  
49 area. So even though they -- even though they granted those

50

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requests, as a result they directed this refuge -- am I speaking too fast for you?

3

4 INTERPRETER EVAN: No, you're fine.

5

6 MR. MOGART: Okay. This refuge, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Biological division of the subsistence office in the Fish and Wildlife Service, to cooperate together and -- and come up with a study to gather baseline population information and subsistence harvest information on brown bears in this area. And they were also concerned, and they wanted to insure that by their action of substantially liberalizing the harvest take by subsistence hunters, that that action did not have any long-term -- or did not jeopardize the long-term health of the bear population. So that was kind of the basis for why this brown bear study, both the biological monitoring, and the subsistence harvest monitoring that's going on, came about.

19

20 Just as a side note, in April of '92, both the Board of Game and the Federal Subsistence Board established the current Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area where these liberalized regulations apply. And both the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game have the same -- same regulations. It's consistent across this area.

26

27 There's basically two efforts going on. There's an effort to collect subsistence harvest information and there's an effort to collect information on the -- on the population.

30

31 The subsistence harvest information is essentially the Fish and Wildlife Service subsistence office contracted with AVCP to gather that information, and to the best of my understanding, that is pretty much done by way of an interview process. And they have been doing this for the last two years. Alaska Department of Fish and Game also independently collects subsistence harvest data information for bears independently, and that's based on a combination of harvest ticket returns that Randy gets and personal interviews. Is that basically correct, Randy?

41

42 MR. KACYON: (Nods affirmative)

43

44 MR. MOGART: Okay. The second part of this effort, the 45 the biological population monitored -- monitoring, the fundamental objective of this bear population study is to obtain a biologically defensible unbiased estimate of bear density in the Kilbuck Mountains. Okay. This information along with information gathered from the subsistence harvest

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Survey, as well as other information on age and sex ratios of the animals that are there, productivity, mortality, other -- other types of bear harvest, that's the basic information that will be used to develop a long-term program to insure -- monitoring program to insure that the bears in the Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area, specifically the Kilbuck area, are not -- are not over-harvested and continue to be a healthy population.

9

10 Okay. That's just kind of a quick and dirty background on what led up to the -- the Service and the Fish and Game to put this project together.

13

14 Mr. Petola, do you have any questions about it? I don't know how familiar you are with any of that, or any .....

16

17 MR. PETOLA: No, I just -- I was wondering if any of the study has progressed to the point that we have some kind of handle on what the population is in the Kilbucks, and the distribution of male/female sex .....

21

22 MR. MOGART: We can talk a little bit about this here, yeah, with what I've got, but basically, no, it's too early -- it's too early in the whole process to have that kind of hard and fast information. To gather that population information, we'd have to do what's called a density estimate, and that's still down the road, that part of it.

28

29 MR. PETOLA: And on the other side, do we know precisely what the subsistence take is combined with the -- the sport hunting take?

32

33 MR. ROCZICKA: We can't say precisely, but a lot closer than what we've ever had in history. We've found in the past couple of years, the harvest area that we've done, that essentially 300 to 500% more has been taken, and we're looking to all indications that we've still got a stable and possibly even growing healthy population.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: And where is -- what is the status of the opposition to the study?

42

43 MR. MOGART: Well, .....

44

45 MR. PETOLA: I understand Murkowski's office is getting involved and in taking -- taking a position on those opposing the continuation of the study. Where are we at on that?

48

49 MR. MOGART: Well, I can't really address that, Gene.

50

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I'm not privy to -- to all of that. I do know that based on discussions prior to the last tagging operation, capture operation, that it was decided at that time that we would work much closer with the involved villages. We've -- the Subsistence office I know has come up with additional money to gather more extensive traditional environmental knowledge from the affected folks that will eventually figure into this whole process. We have plans this fall and winter to have -- well, Dave Sterns and the Fish and Game have more extensive meetings with -- with the individual villages. As far as the politics of -- of .....

12

13 MR. PETOLA: The study is still on-going?

14

15 MR. MOGART: At this time, yes, sir.

16

17 MR. ROCZICKA: And to add to that a little bit, what we're looking at, trying to focus on perhaps other less intrusive, you know, alternative methods of gathering the same information, and, you know, to that effect we're working with (indiscernible, coughing) biologist, the State people, and, you know, the Federal people as well to try to come up with hopefully some kind of alternative that will better serve everybody's concerns.

25

26 MR. PETOLA: Do you still have your Montana biologists that are -- do you still have your Montana biologists under retainer, or .....

29

30 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

31

32 MR. PETOLA: ..... consulting contract?

33

34 MR. ROCZICKA: Uh-huh.

35

36 MR. KACYON: Mr. Chairman, I guess maybe, John, you could explain what happened this spring at our May 12th meeting we -- we had here in Bethel, and how that modified things and the compromise that we came up with?

40

41 MR. MOGART: Okay. Well, basically that -- that's of the line with -- if -- with your indulgence, let me go ahead and just kind of give a quick overview of the study and what's been done and where we're at with that.

45

46 The study -- the study in itself, just so everyone's aware, is -- involves a capture, mark, recapture of part of the population of bears. Basically to capture these animals, we have to use a helicopter to find -- use fixed-wing to find the

50

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bears, use the helicopter to approach the bear, and then a biologist with a tranquilizing -- tranquilizer rifle fires a dart into the hip of the bear, and basically tranquilizes the bear, and then a radio collar is attached. We don't need to do that to every bear in the population. All we need to do -- do to get a statistically defensible measure of the population is about 40 to 50% of the animals.

8

9 It's a very -- it's a very safe procedure for both the biologist and the bears. It's a proven procedure. It's been done in 16 places within this State alone. It's been done in other states. And at this time there -- as Greg Roczicka said, you know, we're -- we're looking at all other possible options, and we have from the beginning. But at this time it's the only method that is biologically defensible, and will give us the kind of information we need to manage these animals. It would 17 it would be nice to say that there's something on the horizon, and there are lots of other techniques out there to look at or that people are thinking might have applicability, but at this time, and certainly for the -- for the near future, none of those have been proven to be a reasonable approach to gathering the kind of information that we need.

23

24 The status of this population is unknown. We don't know if the population is healthy. We don't know if it's declining. We don't know if it's stable. We don't know if it's 27's increasing. That's the bottom line. There's no other -- there's no other information that we have on it. Certainly the bears have been hunted for a long time by both subsistence and sport type hunters. There's some evidence to indicate there are fewer sightings of bears. Whether that's a true indication of what's happening with bears out there or not, we just don't know. And that's what this study is an attempt to try and -- 34y and find out.

35

36 Basically then, once you have a sample of bears marked, you go in there at a later date, usually after three years of marking, with fixed wing aircraft, super cubs, and you fly these areas intensively, and you do a series of counts. And using the ratio of marked bears to unmarked bears, okay, mathematically you can come up with an estimate of what the population is. And -- and that's the way it's done.

43

44 We started this survey, or this study in 1993. Bears were first collared the week of June 1 to 7. We captured 26 bears as I recall, 21 sows and four boars. Okay. The four boars and one sow almost immediately dropped their collars, but the other 21 sows maintained their collars, so we -- we had a sample of 21 sows with collars on from June to this -- to this 50

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last June. This last June the intentions were to -- the objectives the first year was to collar 30 bears. Basically we ended up with 21 bears collared. Okay. The second year the objectives were to collar the -- the nine bears that we didn't collar the first year, recapture eight very young bears that we put collars on, but we knew had grown, and that we had to capture and resize the collar to make sure that they weren't being choked. And then the third part of the objective was to capture 15 new bears. All right. So it would have been 15 bears, plus nine bears, 24, plus recapturing the eight that we had to resize the collars.

12

13 Because of continuing concern by subsistence users in the area, and some of the litigation that you alluded to earlier, and as a result of this meeting we had in May, the compromise was made that instead of going for full force and effect and capturing all of those bears, the 24 new bears and recapturing the eight, that all we would do is capture the same amount -- or capture the number that it would take to bring us up to year one's total number, the 30. Okay. So all we would capture would be nine new bears, and then we would recapture the other eight bears that needed their collars resized. Okay. And that's essentially what happened this year. We captured 24 we captured nine new bears, put collars on them, and we captured the eight and .....

26

27 MR. PETOLA: The nine new ones were all female .....

28

29 MR. MOGART: Yes.

30

31 MR. PETOLA: ..... size?

32

33 MR. MOGART: That's correct. That's correct. Okay.

34

35 Randy, before I go on, was there anything .....

36

37 MR. KACYON: I guess one thing I wanted to interject here quickly, briefly, is that we have -- we wanted to put new collars out on those eight juvenile bears. There's probably an unlikely possibility that they would choke, but the reason -- another reason was that we have break-away collars, and those break-away canvases only last one year, and we didn't want to have to lose the collars, so we had to put on a more permanent collar, because the bear was adult size now, and if we hadn't put on a new collar, those eight collars would have broken off and been lost, and the data would have been lost. So we had to put new collars on those animals. But we couldn't put on permanent collars, because they were -- they were too young that first year, so .....

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1  
2 MR. MOGART: Thanks, Randy.  
3  
4 MR. KACYON: On all the juvenile bears we put break-  
5 way collars, so that the canvas rots away within 12 months and  
6 the collar just falls off the animal.  
7  
8 MR. MOGART: Thanks, Randy, that's correct. That's --  
9 what's a point that I had forgotten to mention.  
10  
11 Let's see. At this time we have a total 29 bears with  
12 radio collars on them, all sows. We monitor -- we try to  
13 monitor these animals. Each animal we try to relocate using  
14 radio telemetry from an airplane twice a month. We've been  
15 pretty effective at that. Of course, weather sometimes doesn't  
16 allow us to do -- to do all the surveys that we want. We're  
17 getting a lot of information at this time on productivity, on  
18 certainly not mortality of adults, but we are gathering and  
19 will continue to be gathering information on mortality of cubs.  
20 We have .....

21  
22 MR. PETOLA: These are satellite telemetry capability?  
23  
24 MR. MOGART: No, no. No, these are not.  
25  
26 MR. PETOLA: They're not? Just radio?  
27  
28 MR. MOGART: Yeah, these are just standard radio  
29 telemetries. Satellite telemetry is very, very expensive, and  
30 and in general these collars will last -- they're -- they're  
31 expected to last three to four years, sometimes they'll last  
32 seven or eight years. Satellite telemetry, the transmitters on  
33 those things typically won't last much more than a year, but  
34 sometimes you get a couple of years out of them. And much --  
35 very expensive.

36  
37 Just as an aside to the work that we did this summer,  
38 this spring, we were interested in trying to get a rough  
39 estimate -- let me back up one little bit here. You know, we  
40 talk about needing to capture 40%, 50% of the bear population,  
41 and somebody says, "Well, how many bears is that?" And as  
42 a biologist with an understanding of bear populations in other  
43 areas, all we can do is kind of guess what that would be.  
44 Obviously, if we knew, there would be no reason to -- or no  
45 need to study the population, so our best estimate and -- and  
46 other bear professional estimates of the number of bears in  
47 this particular area indicated that we need somewhere in the  
48 neighborhood of 50 -- 50, 60 bears collared to get -- to have  
49 40 to 50% of the population actually collared.  
50

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1  
2 We at the end of the collaring project, you know, on  
the 4th of June this year, we wanted to see -- we wanted to try  
and get a rough estimate of what percent of the population we  
may have had collared, and this is a very rough estimate, but  
we went out there and spent most of the 4th of June with three  
or four cubs and surveyed our study area. And in that time  
there were 11 adults spotted, only two of which had radio  
collars on them. Now, I repeat, this is not a statistically  
defensible estimate, and it -- and it certainly not -- it's  
certainly not the final call on that, but that would indicate  
for that area right now we have something less than half of the  
number of bears collared that we actually need to have collared  
in order to get .....

15  
16 MR. PETOLA: Less than 2%.

17  
18 MR. MOGART: Yeah. In order to get the kind of  
biological estimate with the confidence intervals around it  
that we would like.

21  
22 From the -- from the biology standpoint, we continue to  
monitor the bears twice a month, track them from the plane, and  
we'll continue to do that through the winter when they go into  
the dens, and then when they re-emerge in the spring. It  
remains to be seen after further discussion and conversations  
this fall, and meetings with the affected users in the  
villages .....

29  
30 MR. PETOLA: Have any of your collared bears been  
harvested?

32  
33 MR. MOGART: No, with the exception that -- when we go  
out there and collar bears, just for your information. Let's  
say I cap- -- I'm going to -- I'm going to put collars on ten  
bears. Sometimes I have to capture 15 bears to put ten collars  
on. And the reason why is if you catch a female with a pair of  
large young with her, for safety reasons, you have to dart them  
all well.

40  
41 If you -- if you capture a female who's attended by a  
male, you have to -- you have to dart the male as well. And  
the reason for that is two-fold. Safety of the people handling  
the bear, if the male comes back because he's -- he's .....

45  
46 MR. PETOLA: And safety of the females is what .....

47  
48 MR. MOGART: And safety of the female, because if he  
comes back to her and she's laying there passed out and is then  
50

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unresponsive to him, it's been known that these bears will  
 savage or -- or kill the female.

3

4 So whenever we capture a bear, even if we don't put a  
 5 collar on them, we put markings on them. Ear tags and tattoos  
 6 of the lips. So we have a number of male bears out there with  
 7 ear tags on them. One of those male bears that has not been --  
 8 was not collared, has been harvested. No -- no collared animal  
 9 has been harvested by a sport or a subsistence hunter.

10

11 MR. PETOLA: In the darting process, have you had any  
 12 fatalities?

13

14 MR. MOGART: The first year we lost an animal. We --  
 15 we don't consider it a fatality due to the -- due to the -- it  
 16 was brought about because of the darting process, but it wasn't  
 17 a fatality due to the -- due to the actual drugging.

18

19 MR. PETOLA: How .....

20

21 MR. MOGART: The animal -- the animal ran into a stream  
 22 and drowned. Last year we had a -- we -- one of our collared  
 23 animals, that's why we only have 29. One of our collared  
 24 animals died soon after -- soon after being captured. By the  
 25 time we got to her, she was pretty far gone, so there wasn't  
 26 really much we could do from a field necropsy standpoint.  
 27 There's -- we don't know why she died basically. She could  
 28 have been a very poor shape female. She was a younger animal  
 29 I recall, three or four years old. And it's possible that  
 30 the stress of the -- of the operation was too much for her.  
 31 But quite honestly we don't know why she died, Gene.

32

33 MR. PETOLA: In June you don't have an overheating  
 34 problem?

35

36 MR. MOGART: I'm sorry?

37

38 MR. PETOLA: In June you don't have an overheating  
 39 problem when they're down?

40

41 MR. MOGART: Well, we -- you've got to be very  
 42 careful .....

43

44 MR. PETOLA: You dart them in the morning and evening?

45

46 MR. MOGART: That's right. We try and -- we try and  
 47 capture in the cooler hours, okay. If we have a bear that is  
 48 down, we try and monitor them. Their temperatures. If there's  
 49 reason to suspect that the bear is overheating before we leave

50

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the animal, we try and put it in the shade. Excuse me. We try  
2- or we try and move the animal to a snow bank, lay them out  
3o that they're -- they're cooled.

4

5 June is a little later than we would like to do it.  
And two -- for two reasons: In June we're experiencing much  
more leaf out .....

8

9 MR. PETOLA: Especially with the males chasing  
the .....

11

12 MR. MOGART: Well, .....

13

14 MR. PETOLA: ..... females all over the place.

15

16 MR. MOGART: Yeah, there's that. But we're  
experiencing much more leaf out, because -- and the bears are  
harder to see, so it's much more work to find them. And the  
fact that in June it is getting warmer. We do it in June  
though at this time because the subsistence harvest -- or the  
subsistence season goes 'til May 31, and we don't want to  
conflict or overlap with the subsistence season.

23

24 MR. KACYON: We -- one thing, we did have the luxury,  
one, this year of having a lot of snow patches right next to  
our bears. It was -- there's a couple of them went -- they  
went down within ten feet of a snow patch, and we just carried  
them over there and put them on the snow with their sternum  
down, and they -- their body temperatures stayed really cool.  
But they just -- a lot of it depends on how much they're run.  
We record that on all our forms, the disturbance levels, you  
know, in sort of general term, but we rate the amount of  
disturbance to the bear. And usually that corresponds with a  
higher or lower temperature.

35

36 MR. MOGART: Every -- every effort is made and, you  
know, we -- "we" being myself, Gene Miller, Randy Kacyon for  
that matter -- are relatively -- relative novices in bear  
capture work. Our experience dates back a couple of years  
here. The people who are running these -- this operation,  
Sterling Miller specifically, has 20 years experience with the  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and has captured and worked  
with bears under all circumstances for over 1,000 bears I  
believe he told me, so we have top notch people basically, and  
everyone's very concerned about the health of the --of the  
animal.

47

48 MR. PETOLA: Was there any discussions at the planning  
stage of this to look at the possibility of tying in some high

50

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school classes into this program, this project? Some biology classes, you know?

3

4 MR. KACYON: I guess we've discussed that, Gene, if I may interject here, but because of the danger involved, it's not like going out and collaring caribou or moose. I mean, it's just -- just the danger involved with using a helicopter and the bears, and the drugs, and the whole thing. And just the safety factor of the helicopter for fear of someone might walk into the tail rotor. I mean, we always have to remind ourselves to walk to the front of the helicopter I mean. I guess that's the problem, with liability and everything else. I mean, the -- the big thing I guess we've talked about more seriously, not so much high school students, but getting -- getting some local villagers involved so that they can see that we are trying our best to treat the bears with respect in how we handle the bears, but we've -- we've discussed it a little bit, but we really haven't .....

19

20 MR. PETOLA: I think you're .....

21

22 MR. KACYON: ..... there's just to (indiscernible, simultaneous speech) .....

24

25 MR. PETOLA: ..... just missing a great opportunity for a village, say, like Kwethluk, that is -- historically have been dependent upon that resource for subsistence purposes to have a high school biology project to -- built around the program.

30

31 MR. KACYON: Well, I think it's a potential that .....

32

33 MR. PETOLA: You know, and I think logistically you can work around those hazardous situations. You don't have to put them in that situation or scenario.

36

37 MR. KACYON: And we've done that with moose and caribou, and it's worked well, but the -- one thing -- another thing we've talked about as alternative study methods, and one of the reasons we chose this method is because -- not just because it's tried and proven, it's the only -- the only bear census method that's available to us that gives us confidence intervals. There's a lot of bear methods out there, but they're not -- they don't give you confidence intervals. They're not statistically repeatable. You know, don't have good systems like -- like they do some other places. We don't have fenced in areas, and so we -- it's a little more difficult, but I think you're right, and if that -- I mean, if that was a way to include people and solve this problem, this

50

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animosity towards the project, well, maybe that's what we should be doing, but we haven't heard that as an alternative. Particularly for us.

4

5 MR. MOGART: Gene, if I could just add one other thing, too, we at the very onset of this, we -- we did talk about that, and at that time one of the -- one of the proposals to do was in conjunction with some of the conventional type radio collars was to also put satellite collars on a number of these animals so that we could work with the -- any of the schools that might be interested, and provide through down-links this satellite information. One of the reasons why that was -- why that was discarded at the time was the sheer cost of the .....

14

15 MR. PETOLA: A satellite telemetry collar is what, \$6000 bucks?

17

18 MR. MOGART: I haven't bought any in several years, but the last that we bought were several thousand apiece, but that's just a part of the cost. Then we have to pay the French who have the satellite thousands of dollars for every -- every bit of information, and it -- it added another 40 or \$50,000.00 to a project that is a very expensive project as it is. And so that's one of the reasons.

25

26 Certainly any school interested in receiving this information, any -- any school interested in getting involved in whatever fashion we can -- I guess I -- frankly I guess we would welcome. We have not actively pursued that beyond the preliminary planning stage when we decided that satellite collaring wasn't a reasonable way to go.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anything else on bear? Brown bear?

34

35 MR. LARSON: Yeah, I've got a question.

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, go ahead.

38

39 MR. LARSON: Is there a general area where you concentrate on the study? I know this Western Alaska Brown Bear Management Area covers pretty much of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Is there a particular area that you concentrate your study on?

44

45 MR. MOGART: Yes, it's -- it's in the Kilbuck Mountains, the southern end of the Kuskokwim Mountains. It's an area roughly from Gorforth Lakes to the north down to .....

48

49 MR. KACYON: Kagati?

50

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1  
2 MR. MOGART: Kagati Lake on the Togiak Refuge. It --  
3 to the west it goes over to about Greenstone Ridge, and to the  
4 east the .....

5  
6 MR. KACYON: Trail Creek?

7  
8 MR. MOGART: Trail Creek, yeah. It's about, as I  
9 recall, 1500 -- 1500 square miles, in that general area.

10  
11 MR. LARSON: Thanks. I also have I think it's more or  
12 less of a technical question.

13  
14 COURT REPORTER: Could you come over to the table, sir,  
15 I can get you on the tape?

16  
17 MR. LARSON: I know when you're doing your study in  
18 June, what is the condition of the bear, say for example, when  
19 you're putting collars on a bear? The reason I'm asking is  
20 there might be a case when a bear's neck gets real fat and, you  
21 know, the collar starts restricting the neck. And I've heard  
22 of one incident where a caribou was collared and had a hard  
23 time breathing, and .....

24  
25 MR. MOGART: Yeah, I can address that. Actually you've  
26 got two different circumstances with bears and caribou. Of  
27 course, the bull caribou during the rut, like moose and other  
28 other ungulates, their necks swell, and that can cause some  
29 constriction. With the bears, that's not the case. They don't  
30 have the neck swelling based on rut.

31  
32 Sows -- the females have a very defined neck and their  
33 head is generally larger than their neck, and once you have a  
34 bear, a female bear who's achieved most of her growth, the --  
35 the collar is properly fitted, then there's -- there's never  
36 any problem like that.

37  
38 With male bear, particularly the older they get, their  
39 necks -- their necks grow, but their head -- their head and  
40 neck forms more of a cone. And the problem with male bears,  
41 and why we don't have any collars on male bears is you can't  
42 keep one on them, because they shed them. They really -- they  
43 don't have a defined neck, and it just pops off their head and  
44 they lose them. So that is not -- that is not a problem with  
45 bears like it might be with caribou or moose.

46  
47 And as Randy said, we do -- we do collar occasionally  
48 younger bears that have not achieved their full growth, and  
49 when we do that, we put a collar on them, with a break-away  
50

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panel, and the intent is -- is to go back within a year and replace that collar or -- or make that collar bigger, just to make sure there isn't any choking or problems. But even if for some reason that collar were to die, or we weren't able to go back to those bears, that panel is designed to rot away in a year's time and would fall off a young bear. So there -- that's not a concern. And I -- of the eight bears that we recollared this year, I don't think -- of the eight young bears we put -- we expanded their collars, I did not hear any indication that there was any restriction of breathing or choking with that. Is that correct, Randy? Gene?

12

13 MR. KACYON: Yeah. In fact one of the bears that we thought was a juvenile bear ended up being an 11-year old female. She just -- she only weighed 181 pounds. And we just refitted the collar the same, because we didn't want it to fall off. But she never grew an inch. But that's pretty rare, but .....

19

20 One thing we did notice was the canvases were rotting from side to side, and they were just -- they only had about this much left on some of them, so they were just about ready to drop off.

24

25 MR. MOGART: So it was working.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy, you know these persons that come in? Who they are? Will you introduce them?

29

30 MR. KACYON: I don't know who they -- I know who she is.

32

33 MR. ADERMAN: Hi.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Hello.

36

37 MR. ADERMAN: My name is Andy Aderman. I'm with the Togiak National Wildlife Refuge in Dillingham and .....

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

41

42 MR. ADERMAN: And Donna .....

43

44 MS. POWELL: I'm Donna Powell. I'm the assistant refuge manager there in Dillingham. And Jon Dyasak came.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. Glad to have you.

48

49 MR. ADERMAN: Thank you.

50

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1  
2 MR. MOGART: Mr. Chairman, if I could interject one  
more thing .....

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

6  
7 MR. MOGART: ..... on this? The long-term objectives  
of this study, you know, we don't anticipate going out there  
and having to mark bears every year for the next ten, 20, 30  
years. The way the study is designed, and the long-term  
objective, is to do the study within a period of about six  
years. We think that we -- with the information we gather  
during that period, we can come up with a technique that will  
allow us to go out there and get an index to the bear  
population that won't involve additional collaring, marking or  
handling of bears. And that -- like I said, it's a short-term  
it's a short-term kind of effort. We feel like we're into  
bear management for the long run, though, and we need a method  
of going out there and determining how many bears we've got so  
that we can insure that we've got healthy populations, so that  
the subsistence harvest is protected, and the bear population  
remains healthy.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more answers and questions?  
Answer? If there's none, we'll go to the next on our agenda, C  
under old business is charter.

27  
28 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, on the charter, (in Yup'ik).

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

31  
32 INTERPRETER EVAN: The -- I tried to get them to get  
more batteries, because their dying, but nobody has. Does that  
work? He's just explaining the .....

35  
36 MR. ANDREW: "United States Department of the Interior,  
Charter, Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional Advisory  
Council.

39  
40 "The Official Designation: The Council shall be  
designated as the Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta Subsistence Regional  
Advisory Council.

43  
44 "The Objectives and Scope of Activity: The objective  
of the Council is to provide an administrative structure that  
enables rural residents who have personal knowledge of local  
conditions and requirements to have a meaningful role in the  
management of fish and wildlife and of subsistence uses of  
those resources on public lands in the region.

50

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1  
2 "Period of time necessary for the Council's activities  
and termination date: The Council is expected to exist into  
the foreseeable future. Its continuation is, however, subject  
to rechartering every biennial anniversary of the Alaska  
National Interest Lands Conservation Act of December 2, 1980.  
The Council shall take no action unless the requirements of the  
Federal Advisory Committee Act have been complied with.

9  
10 "Official to whom the Council reports: The Council  
reports to the Federal Subsistence Board Chair who is appointed  
by the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the  
Secretary of Agriculture.

14  
15 "Number five, support services: Administrative support  
for the activities of the Council will be provided by the U.S.  
Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

18  
19 "Six, Duties of the Council: The Council possesses the  
authority to perform the following duties:

21  
22 "Number one, initiate, review and evaluate proposals  
for regulations, policies, management plans, and other matters  
relating to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on public  
lands within the region;

26  
27 "Number two, provide a forum for the expression of  
opinions and recommendations by persons interested in any  
matter related to the subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on  
public lands within the region;

31  
32 "Number three, encourage local and regional  
participation in the decisionmaking process affecting the  
making of fish and wildlife on the public lands within the  
region for subsistence uses;

36  
37 "Number four, prepare an annual report to the Secretary  
containing the following:

39  
40 "A. An identification of current and anticipated  
subsistence uses of fish and wildlife populations within the  
region;

43  
44 "B. An evaluation of current and anticipated  
subsistence needs for fish and wildlife populations within the  
region;

47  
48 "C. A recommended strategy for the management of fish  
and wildlife populations within the region to accommodate such

50

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subsistence uses and needs;

2

3 "D. Recommendations concerning policies, standards,  
4 guidelines and regulations to implement the strategy;

5

6 "(5) make recommendations on determinations of  
7 customary and traditional use of subsistence resources;

8

9 "Number six, make recommendations on determinations of  
10 rural status; and

11

12 "(7) provide recommendations on the establishment and  
13 membership of Federal local advisory committees.

14

15 "The Council shall perform its duties in conformity  
16 with the Operating Manual for Federal Subsistence Regional  
17 Advisory Councils.

18

19 "Seven, Estimated Operating Costs: Annual operating  
20 costs of the Council are estimated at \$100,000.00, which  
21 includes one person-year of staff support.

22

23 "Eight, Meetings: The Council shall meet at least  
24 twice each year at the call of the Council, Council Chair,  
25 Federal Subsistence Board Chair, or designated Federal  
26 official, with the advance approval of the Federal Subsistence  
27 Board Chair or the designated Federal officer, who shall also  
28 approve the agenda.

29

30 "Nine, Membership: The Council's membership shall be  
31 as follows: Nine members who shall be knowledgeable and  
32 experienced in matters relating to subsistence uses of fish and  
33 wildlife and are rural residents of the region represented by  
34 the Council.

35

36 "Members shall be appointed by the Secretary of the  
37 Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture,  
38 based upon the recommendations of the Federal Subsistence  
39 Board.

40

41 "Vacancy: Whenever a vacancy occurs among Council  
42 members appointed under paragraph nine, the Secretary shall  
43 appoint an individual in accordance with paragraph nine to fill  
44 that vacancy for the remainder of the applicable term.

45

46 "Terms of office: Except as provided herein, each  
47 member of the Council shall serve a three-year term unless a  
48 member of the Council resigns prior to the expiration of the  
49 three-year term or he/she is removed for cause by the Secretary

50

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Upon recommendation of the Federal Subsistence Board. Of the Council members first appointed under paragraph nine, three shall serve for a term of one year from the date of their appointment, three shall serve for a term of two years from the date of their appointment, and three shall serve for a term of three years from the date of their appointment. Members shall be notified of their appointment in writing. If resigning prior to the expiration of a term, members shall provide a written resignation.

10

11 "Chair: Council members shall meet -- shall elect the Chair for a one-year term; the first elected Chair may serve a term of less than one year.

14

15 "Removal of members: If a Council member appointed under paragraph nine misses two consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the Chair of the Federal Subsistence Board may recommend that the Secretary of the Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture remove that individual."

21

22 MR. ANVIL: I thought it was three. Three consecutive?

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Two.

25

26 MR. ANDREW: It's "Removal of members. If a Council member appointed under paragraph nine misses two consecutive regularly scheduled meetings, the Chair of the Federal -- of the Federal Subsistence Board may recommend that the Secretary of Interior with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture remove that individual."

32

33 MR. PETOLA: The key is the Federal Subsistence Board may, not shall.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ee-ee.

37

38 MR. ANDREW: It still has a question mark on it.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: It's possible, but it's not -- it doesn't mean .....

42

43 MR. ANDREW: Excuse me. Compensation -- you can discuss this when I'm done with it.

45

46 "Compensation: Members of the Council shall receive no compensation as members. Members shall, however, be allowed travel expenses, including per diem, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service are

50

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allowed such expenses under 5 U.S. Code 5703.

2

3 "Number 10, Designated Federal Officer: The designated  
~~F~~ederal officer, pursuant to Section 10(e) of the Federal  
~~A~~dvisory Committee Act, shall be the Federal Regional  
~~C~~oordinator, or his/her designee.

7

8 "Eleven, Authority: The Council is established by  
~~V~~irtue of the authority set out in the Alaska National Interest  
~~L~~ands Conservation Act (16 United States Code 3115 (1988))."

11

12 It is now open for discussion or comment.

13

14 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman?

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

17

18 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman? Who drafted the charter?

19

20 UNIDENTIFIED: The chair.

21

22 MR. PETOLA: The chair? And this is -- this is totally  
~~i~~n compliance with Section 805 of ANILCA and the appropriate  
~~C~~harters?

25

26 MR. ANDREW: Yes, sir.

27

28 MR. PETOLA: And has been reviewed? It's been reviewed  
~~to~~ make sure .....

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Uh-huh.

32

33 MR. PETOLA: ..... it's in compliance?

34

35 MR. ANDREW: You can make any recommendation to change  
~~some~~ of these -- some of these charter items.

37

38 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman? For those of us that are  
~~ap~~pointed onto this Council, and with these meetings, since  
~~this~~ is an important Council, even though we are not  
~~comp~~ensated, but we have to leave our homes to attend these  
~~me~~etings, and in good -- in looking for -- in looking forward  
~~to~~ working with the different agencies, we shouldn't try to  
~~miss~~ any of these meetings, but try to attend all of the  
~~me~~etings. And it also states that whoever is on this Council  
~~for~~ two -- if he does not attend two consecutive regular  
~~sch~~eduled meetings that that person may be removed. That those  
~~of~~ use who are on this Council should represent our people well  
~~by~~ attending the meetings for our children and for our people

50

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Who we are representing, even though we are not compensated for these meetings. But to work together with the agencies.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene, we were -- I was looking at  
5 this, signed by Secretary of Interior, and this date of this  
6 charter was filed on February 9, 1993, and it's signed by  
7 Secretary of Interior on June -- June 1991. I was just looking  
8 at this removal of members, three consecutive regular scheduled  
9 meetings, not two. I don't know which one is true or not.  
10 Which one .....

11

12 MR. ANDREW: The two. Two consecutive meetings. It  
13 was approved last spring. You're looking at an old one.

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman?

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah?

18

19 MR. MATHEWS: It needs to be clear that it's kind of  
20 like unexcused absences.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

23

24 MR. MATHEWS: If people have good reasons, then it's  
25 okay. If you went with three, which was changed to two, that  
26 means you could have a person serving on this Council, and half  
27 of their term they wouldn't be here, so that was the concern  
28 with reducing it to two. And that's what it .....

29

30 MR. PETOLA: If that was a concern, I would say that  
31 the removal of members, the language specifically state two  
32 consecutive unexcused absences then, not two consecutive  
33 regularly scheduled meetings.

34

35 MR. MATHEWS: So you're making a suggestion to have it  
36 unexcused absences?

37

38 MR. PETOLA: That's -- that's my suggestion, if that  
39 was what your intention was, .....

40

41 MR. MATHEWS: Right.

42

43 MR. PETOLA: .....

44 Specifically state that intention. State that.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene, we should do it more like in a  
47 motion way or something. More just as .....

48

49 MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN WILDE: That's what -- I'm waiting for him.  
He's .....

4  
5 MR. ANDREW: Yeah.

6  
7 MR. PETOLA: I'll read it, Mr. Chairman.

8  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

10  
11 MR. PETOLA: "If a Council member appointed under  
paragraph nine misses two consecutive regularly scheduled  
meetings, and is determined to be unexcused, the Chair of the  
Federal Subsistence Board may recommend that the Secretary of  
Interior, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Agriculture,  
remove that individual."

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You move?

19  
20 MR. PETOLA: I move. I so move.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: If there's any second?

23  
24 MR. ANVIL: Second.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Antone.

27  
28 MR. WHITE: Question.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question being called for, all who  
favor say aye.

32  
33 IN UNISON: Aye.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

36  
37 (No opposing responses)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. It's -- that's only  
that item is .....

41  
42 MR. PETOLA: Amended.

43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Amended.

45  
46 MR. ANDREW: The rest looks okay?

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The rest of them -- the rest of it's  
okay? It's okay?

50

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1  
2 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, I move that we -- the  
Council adopt the Charter as presented and amended.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There is a motion on the floor to  
6 accept the Charter with amendments. If there's any second?

7  
8 MR. WHITE: Second.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Jim -- Steven White seconded.  
Discussion?

12  
13 MR. JOHN: Question.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question been called for. All who  
16 favor it, say aye.

17  
18 IN UNISON: Aye.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

21  
22 (No opposing responses)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried. Next on our -- on our  
25 agenda is designated hunters by Antone Anvil.

26  
27 MR. ANVIL: Yeah. This designated hunter, I was  
28 appointed to go to the -- this designated hunter task force  
29 meeting in July -- July 12, and then I was appointed again to  
30 go to another one, and the same -- the same designated hunter  
31 task force meeting on August 25 and 26.

32  
33 The first -- the first meeting, July, was -- it's  
34 mostly like organizational meeting, you know. They --  
35 introducing the objectives and roles and the agenda we had was  
36 identification of objectives and considerations, review of  
37 existing hunter permitting programs, identification of working  
38 group membership, defining the dimensions of designated hunter,  
39 alternative hunting permit issue, brainstorming and making up  
40 working group. And this task -- designated hunter task force  
41 is a new group that are pursuing this subsistence council  
42 thing, and on the update of the designated hunter task force,  
43 in April 1994, the Federal Subsistence Board considered four  
44 proposals from the Southeast and Kodiak/Aleutian Islands  
45 regional advisory councils requesting flexibility in Federal  
46 regulations to allow qualified hunters to harvest on behalf of  
47 others. These originated as requests to adopt the State's  
48 proxy system into the Federal regulations, but were modified to  
49 provide for any qualified hunter to harvest deer and other  
50

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Wildlife on behalf of others. The Board was concerned about the potential impacts on wildlife populations and the lack of a specific administrative system for this wide ranging application of the "designated hunter" approach. The Board asked the Office of Subsistence Management to work with the regional advisory councils, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), and the other Federal agencies to identify and review alternatives that would apply on all Federal public lands in the State.

10

11 "Meetings were held in July and August with regional advisory council chairs or representatives from eight regions, ADF&G, the five Federal agencies and Office of Subsistence Management staff. The first meeting was successful at airing key concerns and identifying four major options for further review. During early August, draft chapters defining the opinion -- options and the conditions under which they would be appropriate were developed. At an August meeting, the draft report was reviewed, and extensive additions and revisions were made.

21

22 "The Report of the Designated Hunter Permit Task Force will be distributed at regional advisory council meetings during the first week of October. The report examines the options of management by local government ordinance, tribal management, community harvest limits, and flexible designated hunter permits. The first two options, it was pointed out, would require significant changes in the authorities of the Board established in current regulations, while the second two options fall within the existing regulatory framework.

31

32 "Although the local management and tribal management options (one and two) go beyond current regulations, the Task Force recognized that these approaches represent important aspirations for many Alaska Natives and other rural residents. In welcoming remarks at the August meeting of the Task Force, Dick Pospahala expressed appreciation for the conviction shown in the discussions. He made a commitment to pursue further clarification of policy from Washington, D.C. regarding the tribal management approach as it was raised in the 1993 annual report of the Seward Peninsula Regional Council. This clarification will be provided at the winter meetings of the Regional Councils.

44

45 "The report is intended to provide guidelines for more detailed consideration of specific proposals by the Regional Councils. The Regional Councils should not vote for a preferred option among the four options presented. Rather, the Regional Councils should use the report as a guideline for

50

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developing proposals that would be appropriate for their regions, keeping in mind that the local management and tribal management options cannot be implemented at this time."

4

5 I had a question about the designated hunter, because I was -- I didn't understand what that -- what designated hunter stands for, and I think that designated hunter -- I asked them, will that designated be appointed by the -- by the community, and would he be the only one that would hunt for the community, you know, but that when I -- I had asked. And then I had a question about that -- what do you call that other way of -- proxy hunting. Proxy hunters. That I had a question about, and I didn't ask what that actually was about, so I think I'll turn it over to Vince Mathews for more explanation.

15

16 MR. MATHEWS: Well, first off I'll answer his two questions, and then we'll reinforce what he said in the summary there, and then see where the Council wants to go.

19

20 Under the designated hunter option, that's just where the hunter designates another hunter to harvest for them.

22

23 MR. ANVIL: Uh-huh.

24

25 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. So it's kind of a one-on-one relationship. The proxy hunt situation, I'd probably have to turn that over to the State, but that's based on physical -- like a physical disability, age that does not allow the person to hunt for themselves. This designated hunter option is for those who do not wish to harvest for themselves or wish assistance with harvesting for subsistence resources. It's not based on a disability or age. And that's .....

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?

35

36 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, I've got a question. Like if -- if three guys go hunting and two are driving, and one guy's a shooter at the point, he could -- a designated hunter could -- a guy on a point could shoot and fill all three tags for them?

40

41 MR. MATHEWS: Under this system, yes, the designated hunter could .....

43

44 MR. PETOLA: Could. Could.

45

46 MR. MATHEWS: Yes. What you would do is you would sign the transfer tags or permits if they're -- if they are -- if they're required.

49

50

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1 MR. PETOLA: It's a formal process?

2

3 MR. MATHEWS: Essentially that -- under the designated  
4 Hunter, if there wasn't tags or permits required, then there  
5 would have to be some kind of letter saying that I designated  
6 you to be my hunter.

7

8 MR. PETOLA: Well, I'm talking about a situation where  
9 you and I and John went hunting, and we all had licenses, we  
10 all had tags. John and I were driving, and we all wanted  
11 those, and three bulls came out and you shot them all, and he  
12 tags one, I tag one and you tag one. Is that legal? Because  
13 it happens all the time. Other people.

14

15 MR. MATHEWS: I don't -- no, it .....

16

17 MR. PETOLA: Does the Federal regulations allow for  
18 proxy hunting like the State regulations?

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, it -- this -- it does not under  
21 proxy, but it does allow for reflection of community harvest.  
22 That's why this was -- and customary harvest practices. And  
23 that's why this task force was charged to look at designated  
24 hunters. It's -- which is a way of making the proxy hunter a  
25 little bit more amenable to customary and traditional ways,  
26 because it's not based on -- this option here is not based on  
27 you filling out a designated hunter form. It's basically the  
28 transfer of permits. And it's not based on injuries or  
29 disability rating.

30

31 MR. COFFING: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, maybe to clear up a  
32 couple things, questions that Gene asked and others. The State  
33 proxy system is a way by which a person has a special license.  
34 He's either blind, physically disabled or over 65, 65 or  
35 older, obtains a special license which then allows him to have  
36 proxy to hunt and harvest for him. Okay. So there's kind of  
37 like three conditions: the physical, blindness -- physical  
38 disability, blindness or age.

39

40 Under the Federal system we currently have, not talking  
41 about designated hunter, but there are some situations where  
42 there are some individuals hunting for other people already.  
43 And that occurs in the case of Lime Village where there's a  
44 community bag limit, not individual bag limit, but a community  
45 bag limit. That's one example. The other example that we have  
46 locally here is Kobuk caribou and the Federal permits. Those  
47 permits can be transferred to other individuals. Okay. So  
48 that's -- that's a second one.

49

50

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1           What we're talking about here is under the designated  
 2 Hunter as I understand it, and I haven't see this until today,  
 3 But as I understand it, a person -- anyone could have someone  
 4- designate someone to hunt for them and harvest for them.  
 5 They wouldn't have to have a physical, blindness or age  
 6 disabilities.

7  
 8           MR. PETOLA: Okay. I've got -- I've got a question,  
 9 Because like you said, the State proxy hunter regulations  
 10 enable an individual to get a license to harvest for somebody  
 11 beyond -- over 65, disabled or blind, but it does not -- it has  
 12 the weakness. It does not address a situation within the  
 13 Yup'ik culture in this region, and that is that if, say, my  
 14 father passed away, in some villages it's a real strict  
 15 religion almost, the culture, that I can't go hunting for a  
 16 year.

17  
 18           MR. COFFING: Uh-huh.

19  
 20           MR. PETOLA: So I think, you know, that should be  
 21 addressed also through the designated hunter permit or whatever  
 22 process there is, because the State regulations don't address  
 23 that need, but it's a fact and it's a cultural heritage that  
 24 people practice, you know, and it's -- it's true. There's some  
 25 some villages that -- I mean, you just -- if your father  
 26 passes away, you will -- don't go hunting for one year from the  
 27 date of -- the date of his death. And I think in the Federal  
 28 subsistence regs, if we're looking at revisiting those regs, or  
 29 drafting a reg that we're -- like similar to the State, that it  
 30 should address this cultural need.

31  
 32           MR. COFFING: Uh-huh. I appreciate your comments  
 33 here, and I -- like I say, I haven't looked at this designated  
 34 hunter information thoroughly, but I think it -- if it doesn't  
 35 include a provision for allowing that type of harvest and  
 36 providing for families in need that can't hunt because of  
 37 cultural or religious reasons that that's a comment that this  
 38 Council ought to -- ought to make and insure that that's in  
 39 here, if you want it in there.

40  
 41           MR. ANVIL: And they mentioned one time that this  
 42 designated hunter can be used for the widows in the community  
 43 that don't have no hunters.

44  
 45           MR. MATHEWS: Correct. That .....

46  
 47           MR. PETOLA: Actually this will be better than a proxy.

48  
 49           MR. MATHEWS: Yes. This is -- this was to reflect, if  
 50

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1 might, Mr. Chairman -- if I may?

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

4

5 MR. MATHEWS: This was to reflect the current practice  
6 that's presently going on out there, so there is not a  
7 requirement that you be disabled, blind, or et cetera. So in  
8 your case there, it was -- it would automatically be there.  
9 But it is still a requirement if there's tags or permits, that  
10 be signed over, et cetera.

11

12 There is the other option here -- that's in here.  
13 There's four options: local management, tribal, community  
14 harvest limit and designated hunter. As Antone mentioned, the  
15 tribal and local management options are not available presently  
16 at this time due to jurisdiction and capacity of the tribes.  
17 So let's look at the other two. I don't know how we want to do  
18 this. This is -- this document was put together for two  
19 reasons. One was to get comments from the Council. Looking at  
20 this, does this look all right? Is there something else that  
21 needs to be changed or added to it? The other thing was .....

22

23 MR. PETOLA: Do we -- do we have that document?

24

25 MR. MATHEWS: Yes, I gave them out this morning. It's  
26 a large document. There's some back here that looks like so.  
27 It doesn't have holes in it. I know I gave everyone this  
28 morning, but anyway, he'll get some other ones.

29

30 While he's bringing other copies over, I am kind of  
31 breaking the chain of thought, but I'm real concerned about two  
32 other issues before I march into the report. Does everybody  
33 have one? The Council members? And I can give up my copy if  
34 we need to after I go through this presentation.

35

36 But before we get into that, I don't want the Council  
37 or others that are in the room to forget to look at these maps,  
38 and the large one up there. If there's something right or  
39 wrong -- well, actually if there's something wrong with it,  
40 please mark it. If there's something that needs to be  
41 additional, mark it on these size maps, and then I'll carry  
42 them back to the map person. This is important, because this  
43 is your regional map. This is what a lot of decisions will be  
44 based on, so please look at that map.

45

46 And then because I have to carry it back, but because  
47 it's important to know who's here, the sign-up sheet's here.  
48 If you haven't signed in, please sign in.

49

50

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1           Okay. Now we're back to the designated hunter report,  
2 and I need direction on how you want me to present that?

3

4           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

5

6           MR. JOHN: He wants to ask about color. He sees the  
7 Federal lands is -- has this color, but the State lands as he  
8 understands it along with the corporate lands has this color.  
9 Why are the corporation lands listed under State lands?

10

11          MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, so everyone understands,  
12 the question is -- is why is corporation land the same color as  
13 State land. Under the present system of management, native  
14 corporation land is looked at as private land, which falls  
15 under State jurisdiction. So this is why corporation lands,  
16 the white on this map are listed the same as State lands.

17

18          CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene?

19

20          MR. PETOLA: ANILCA specifically grants the State fish  
21 and game management authority on corporation, ANCSA lands -- or  
22 not ANILCA, it's ANCSA? It's ANILCA?

23

24          MR. MATHEWS: Yes. As a fee title.

25

26          MR. PETOLA: The State has jurisdiction.

27

28          CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

29

30          MR. MATHEWS: I'm not sure if Paul was also mentioning  
31 if had some concern other than colors. Was there anything  
32 else? Because once we get this map produced, it's hard to  
33 change things later on, so are there any other concerns that  
34 John would have?

35

36          CHAIRMAN WILDE: Gene, go ahead?

37

38          MR. PETOLA: I have some concerns. All of the villages  
39 aren't on the map, and I think for people to get a better  
40 understanding of precisely where Federal lands are, all the  
41 known villages should be on the map. You don't have  
42 Unalutuk, Mothluk. Nyac's not up here, and that's right at  
43 the boundary of Federal and State property, and it would give  
44 you a better idea of where Federal property is. I didn't look  
45 at the Yukon, but .....

46

47          MR. MATHEWS: Again I would encourage his request that  
48 other villages that are present or not on the map, if you could  
49 mark those, and then I will carry the maps back.

50

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1  
2 MR. ANDREW: Gee, and I had to mark on another map. I  
3 just -- just sent it in recently, the nearby -- the nearby  
4 villages, the missing one.  
5  
6 MR. PETOLA: Put Nyac on it, too, because it's right on  
7 the .....

8  
9 MR. ANDREW: Uh-huh.  
10  
11 MR. PETOLA: ..... border of Federal and State  
12 property. You know, it's real close to it. We got to band  
13 (ph) the Federal .....

14  
15 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, you were talking about  
16 designated hunting -- going back to the designated hunter  
17 issue, he likes what he said, that the Federal -- under the  
18 Federal -- with the Federal regulations, it's -- he likes the  
19 how it is written now, but the issue that Gene brought up,  
20 that it is the Yup'ik way that a hunter does not hunt for a  
21 year when there's a death in the family. He likes that, and  
22 that that should be included. That if that family and their  
23 hunter cannot hunt for that year, they should have someone else  
24 hunt for them.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Maybe you should make a motion to that  
27 effect.  
28  
29 MR. WHITE: Steven White moves that the one-year --  
30 since it is our -- it is our law that a person -- because that  
31 is our way, and there's another law, that if he -- if that  
32 person goes along when he's not supposed to, his fellow hunters  
33 will not catch anything also. So he also is in support  
34 of .....

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)  
37  
38 MR. WHITE: Yeah.  
39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Who second it?  
41  
42 MR. PETOLA: I'll second it.  
43  
44 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Seconded by Gene. Discussion?  
45  
46 MR. JOHN: Question.  
47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's been called for. All  
49 who favor it say aye?  
50

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1  
2 IN UNISON: Aye.  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed say no?  
5  
6 (No opposing responses)  
7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Motion carried.  
9  
10 MR. ANDREW: She's going to have the language.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. The language. You understand  
13 about the language they're talking about?  
14  
15 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I understand it. Correct  
16 me if I'm wrong, that in regulation you wanted something to the  
17 effect of a one-year restriction after father's death be  
18 included in the regulation. Is this the motion? Or is it just  
19 the intent .....  
20  
21 MR. ANDREW: In the -- in our native society, it's the  
22 customary practice for the male members of the household to  
23 refrain from hunting any land mammals for a period of one year.  
24 They want to have an allowance in there to have a designated  
25 hunter for that household.  
26  
27 MR. PETOLA: That customary and traditional practice  
28 would fall into the criteria of a designated hunter.  
29  
30 MR. MATHEWS: Right. That's what I'm .....  
31  
32 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.  
33  
34 MR. MATHEWS: It already falls within there, so .....  
35  
36 MR. PETOLA: We just want to go on record stating that.  
37  
38 MR. MATHEWS: Correct. So then .....  
39  
40 MR. ANDREW: You and I and Mike can get  
41  
42 MR. MATHEWS: We need to draft something .....  
43  
44 MR. ANDREW: ..... together and work -- work on the  
45 language.  
46  
47 MR. MATHEWS: ..... that goes to the Board on that.  
48  
49 MR. COFFING: Yeah, I guess I would suggest maybe we  
50

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could draft up some language, .....

2

3 MR. MATHEWS: And bring it back.

4

5 MR. COFFING: ..... (indiscernible, simultaneous  
6 speech) what the intent is, and bring it back for your review.  
7 We'll do it that way, okay?

8

9 MR. MATHEWS: Thank you.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anything else on designated hunters?  
12 ahead.

13

14 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, I don't want us to -- I  
15 would encourage the Council not to walk away from this yet,  
16 because you've just discussed one option .....

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

19

20 MR. MATHEWS: ..... of the designated hunter package  
21 here, and I would think that you would be interested in looking  
22 at the community harvest aspect. The designated hunter one is  
23 just an option. As Anton said in the beginning, these are  
24 guidelines to help you if you're drafting proposals to reflect  
25 more the way traditional subsistence goes on, but it also are  
26 guidelines when proposals are brought up before you to evaluate  
27 and make recommendations on. So would you like a discussion on  
28 the community harvest option?

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There isn't, that I didn't want to  
31 take too much time on this, because we're going to present it  
32 to the public tomorrow during public meeting, and you guys are  
33 going to talk about it again, and I think if the public  
34 .....

35

36 MR. MATHEWS: True.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... included in the decisionmaking  
39 whatever, it would be better. Yeah?

40

41 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, if I could ask a question?  
42 You know, I've heard of this thing before. I certainly didn't  
43 know what it was going to contain, or that it would come out to  
44 be such as it is. But anyway, I guess what I'm wondering is  
45 where does it go from here? Does it go back to the Board? Go  
46 back to the Subsistence Board? Is the Subsistence Board going  
47 -- at their November meeting, or perhaps their April meeting  
48 whatever, possibly adopt it as a policy? You know, you  
49 mentioned using it as a guideline for creating proposals, and

50

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that the Board may be using it to judge proposals and so forth.  
 2Where -- what's its track from here on out?

3

4 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, the question is, is where  
 does this proposal go from -- I mean, where does this report go  
 6from here? My understanding is, is that the task force will  
 not be called back into session. I don't believe they will be.  
 8And I think .....

9

10 MR. ANVIL: Well, why -- yeah. Okay.

11

12 MR. MATHEWS: I think the task force is done. The  
 question that's really at hand, is this going to be adopted as  
 14policy and et cetera. It's not clear to me what will be done  
 15with this, but considering the fact that the charge -- the  
 charge from the Board was for the State Department of Fish and  
 Game, Fish and Wildlife Service, and representatives of the --  
 each of the ten councils meet to come up with this, would  
 18indicate to me that they're going to use this as guidelines.

20

21 So if, for instance, we look at -- the reason I keep  
 bringing up the community harvest one, I helped write it, but  
 23it's helpful for me to focus on that. They may look at it --  
 24a proposal comes in for a community of -- that does not  
 exist, it exists in my mind, of 1,000 residents, the Board  
 might say the designated hunter task force felt that a  
 27community with 1,000 residents, and that community that I'm  
 making up, is made up of all different cultures, it is not all  
 29one group, then it's possible that proposal would not fly in  
 that area. So they would use this as a guideline to evaluate  
 proposals. It's not clear exactly if that's what the Board's  
 going to do.

33

34 The Board, which Antone mentioned earlier, received I  
 think it was three proposals from Southeast and one proposal  
 36from Kodiak/Aleutian Islands asking for a proxy/designated  
 Hunter option. The Board didn't want to act on those until it  
 had a chance to look at the issue statewide. This is a  
 39statewide look at it.

40

41 I would think if the Council, which it already did  
 reflect in the designated hunter, feels that these options, or  
 43individual options in this report are worthwhile, that needs to  
 be conveyed to the Board. This is -- this is groundbreaking  
 45material here, so .....

46

47 I think I've said enough on it, so I'm not giving you a  
 straight answer on it, because it's not clear if the Board's  
 going to take this up and vote it up and down, but .....

50

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1  
2 MR. PETOLA: When is the Board meeting next?  
3  
4 MR. MATHEWS: The Board is meeting at their November  
meeting, which is to come up to deal with special actions  
and .....

7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: November 15th.  
9  
10 MR. MATHEWS: Is it the 15th?  
11  
12 MR. ROCZICKA: November 15th.  
13  
14 MR. MATHEWS: November 15th.  
15  
16 MR. PETOLA: And will they -- is this on their agenda?  
17  
18 UNIDENTIFIED: No.  
19  
20 MR. MATHEWS: To my knowledge this is not on their  
agenda, but maybe someone else can update. I have not seen the  
agenda for that meeting. It's .....

23  
24 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, before I could voice an  
opinion on some of the -- like the community option, I'd want  
to get -- read it and think about it and give it some  
consideration, maybe discuss it with some people, you know, and  
do it thoroughly.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, Gene. Tomorrow the public  
meeting that I suppose we take over it again and discuss it,  
but before we make a decision on this one as a Council, our  
boards have to .....

34  
35 MR. PETOLA: Get input.  
36  
37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.  
38  
39 MR. JOHN: Mr. Chairman?  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah?  
42  
43 MR. JOHN: This report that we are talking about now,  
since it's not -- because you do not fully understand how  
important subsistence is to us, he remembers that -- that  
person from Juneau very tearfully said that when he sets his  
net out from his -- and was put in jail for fishing in Juneau,  
and he was very sad about being put in jail for -- just for  
trying to live. It is -- to him it seems over and over that  
50

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people do not fully understand the importance of subsistence to us.

3

4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions and answers?

5

6 MR. ANVIL: Mr. Chairman?

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

9

10 MR. ANVIL: I think I forgot to mention that at the designated hunters task force meeting in August I think it was, that they had mentioned about the feast, community feast, that if anyone -- if any elder or anybody who's well known die in the community, and then the moose season is closed, that they'll be allowed to go and catch that moose for that feast, burial feast for .....

17

18 MR. PETOLA: Potlatch.

19

20 MR. ANVIL: ..... potlatch, for the people that don't have any fish material. So they -- I think they mentioned that they'll have that mentioned to whoever's making decisions about, you know, that they will allow them to go catch -- even the moose is closed, they will allow them to go out and catch that moose for that potlatch, fish, you know for -- burial fish.

27

28 MR. PETOLA: Well, there's actually a Federal court decision on that in this State. The Minto case.

30

31 MR. ANVIL: Uh-huh.

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more question and answers? If it's not, before we get into the next on agenda, I would like to ask people just arrive from Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, that -- are you guys in an a hurry to leave? If it's not, I hate to break the agenda that we approve. If it's okay, that we'll put you -- put you down for people to be heard?

39

40 MS. POWELL: Whatever fits better with the agenda .....

41

42 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

43

44 MS. POWELL: ..... is fine with us.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Right there, I think it will be.

Okay.

48

49 Next on our business, on our agenda, the reason that I

50

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but that one there is remainder of Unit 18, is to modify what  
 is really -- what this really mean is modifies -- modification  
 to Federal subsistence moose hunting season in Unit 18. I  
 would like to -- I would like to hear the Federal staff and  
 maybe, Michael Coffing, if you could just for the benefit of  
 our new members and members discuss this, why the reason that  
 this Unit 18 was modified?

8

9 MR. COFFING: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Mike Coffing. Yeah,  
 10 11 .....

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Here's the map. I'll pass it around.

13

14 MR. COFFING: Okay. Maybe I'll wait until I get a copy  
 of the map here just to see what we're looking at here. I  
 would add that Dave Fisher can help out, too. I know,  
 Mr. Chairman, you're very well aware of what has happened and  
 were involved in the -- as Mr. Luke was in the Lower Yukon  
 meeting there.

20

21 I'm going to summarize briefly how -- what the  
 regulations were and -- and what they are now. Essentially the  
 23 and I am going to keep it brief -- the -- as of July 1st the  
 regulations in Unit 18 allowed for a season for all of Unit 18  
 that would provide for an August 25 to September 25 season.  
 That was a regulation adopted by the Federal Subsistence Board.  
 That came about as -- from a request actually from Kwethluk  
 that asked for there to be a season earlier in August. They  
 wanted a season beginning in August, continuing through the end  
 of September. The Federal Subsistence Board acted on that  
 proposal, amended it, and actually passed a regulation that  
 opened the season August 25th, and closed it September 25th.

33

34 There was some feelings on the -- on the Lower Yukon  
 that -- and as part of this cooperative moose management  
 planning that had been going on down there, that folks along  
 the Yukon River wanted to maintain their September 1 to  
 September 30 season down there. They did not want a change in  
 their season dates. I believe we had a teleconference on the  
 40th of August to discuss the season date changes, and the  
 concerns from the Lower Yukon residents, and also we heard  
 testimony from Council members and residents of the Kuskokwim  
 about why they wanted the season opened in August.

44

45 We discussed this again at a meeting that we had in  
 Mountain Village, and I believe that was late August, early  
 September. We talked about the management plan. And at that  
 meeting again people confirmed that they wanted to maintain  
 their September 1 to September 30 season for moose along the

50

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Lower Yukon upriver of Mountain Village along the Yukon River there.

3

4 As a result of that, of their concerns, and the Federal Subsistence Board's consideration of that, the regulations were changed again, and the regulations along the Lower Yukon were essentially put back to mirror what the State regulations were originally along there, and that is September 1 to September 30 opening along the Lower Yukon River, upriver from Mountain Village.

11

12 One of the things that we discussed at the Mountain Village meeting that we to talk about the management plan was, you know, how to get the word out to folks, and I haven't seen this before. This is my first look at this, but this evidently was something -- Dave, was this done in the office in Anchorage? The subsistence management office there? Do you know?

19

20 MR. FISHER: Yeah, I believe it was.

21

22 MR. COFFING: Was it?

23

24 MR. FISHER: Yeah. The .....

25

26 MR. COFFING: Okay.

27

28 MR. FISHER: Yeah, it was.

29

30 MR. COFFING: Well, it looks like this was a map that was put together, posted in the villages to alert moose hunters of what the dates were, season dates were in Unit 18, in various portions of Unit 18 along the Yukon and -- along the Yukon and along the Kuskokwim River.

35

36 The current Federal regulations allow for a September 1 to 30 season along the -- along the Lower Yukon, upriver from Mountain Village, a September -- what is it, September 5 to 25 for moose downriver from Mountain Village, is that right? And a winter season to be announced upriver of Mountain Village. The -- that regulation is going to stay in place unless someone proposes that it be changed. So essentially what the Lower Yukon constituency wanted for season dates, they have that now, and there are no plans to change that. It's going to stay in place unless someone proposes that it be changed again.

46

47 As we get further down the agenda, one of the things we will talk about is the subpart D regulatory -- regulatory proposal process, and I think you have some of that

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information in your packets from the Federal Register, but essentially plans are to maintain the current season that you have now, not to change them, unless this Council or the public were -- feel they need to be changed.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The reason I put that down is in the teleconference emergency meeting that we told the public that we're going to present it, represent that if anyone wanted to make a -- make a proposal, they could do it. So tomorrow we're going to present it to the public, keep it the way it is or change it or whatever, because it -- in that teleconference we announced that. Also we told -- we told Federal Subsistence Board that we're going to take it again and present it to the public. Gene?

15

16 MR. PETOLA: What was the rationale behind Kwethluk's request to open it up on the 25th? Because I've heard a lot of complaints from hunters around here that that -- the tail end of the short -- season was shortened five days and you had actually had an emergency closure, didn't you?

21

22 MR. COFFING: Uh-huh.

23

24 MR. PETOLA: And they -- and I was asked who in the hell did that, you know, I -- and I said I don't know, and they said, "Well, don't you know we get more moose at the end of the season than we -- than we do at the first part of the season," and they felt they got denied hunting time.

29

30 MR. COFFING: Sure. I understand that. I think .....

31

32 MR. PETOLA: And then they said the weather's warm and the flies are bad the first part of the season, and it's good and -- and that makes sense.

35

36 MR. COFFING: In response, I think in terms of specifics as to why Kwethluk wanted it, I can -- if Oscar would like to respond here, he's certainly welcome to. I -- you know, there are several villages in the area that do begin hunting before the September season opens up. They always have, they traditionally have. And as I understand, Kwethluk's interest was not in having an earlier season throughout all of Unit 18, but primarily in the area that they use. Unfortunately, the way the proposal was written up, it did apply to all of Unit 18, including the Yukon. I think that certainly added to the confusion, but some -- some residents do hunt early, and some people have for years, and, you know, the information that our division's gathered and other documented, that people do hunt in August, even though the season's closed.

50

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1  
2 MR. PETOLA: But the way it was implemented was  
3 detrimental to other people's customary and traditional hunting  
4 times.

5  
6 MR. COFFING: I guess I would say that people hunt  
7 traditionally in this area from -- you know, from mid August up  
8 through September into early October, and the season dates that  
9 we have don't accommodate that full breadth of hunting time  
10 that people use out here. And -- but Oscar might have some  
11 other suggestions or ideas that I didn't think of as to why  
12 Kwethluk wanted the earlier season, if he wants to respond?

13  
14 MR. LARSON: Okay. The reason that proposal was made  
15 regarding the season be from -- it was originally intended to  
16 be from August 25 to September 30, and the Board used a 30-day  
17 criteria, and reduced it down to five more days. That was  
18 their decision. It wasn't the intent of the Kwethluk Joint  
19 Group to make any alterations. They just wanted to add five  
20 more days in August, because it was our custom and tradition  
21 that during that time when they go squirrel hunting, they would  
22 see some moose, caribous, and there isn't anything they can do  
23 to harvest those through that time when they need it. And so  
24 they made a proposal to add another five days to the September  
25 through September 30 season, so they can utilize those moose  
26 and caribou through the time they go squirrel hunting, and  
27 ultimately the Federal Subsistence Board ruined the whole ball  
28 game by using a 30-day limitation, and it would -- affecting  
29 the whole meaning.

30  
31 MR. PETOLA: I have a question, Oscar. Is it -- would  
32 Kwethluk prefer an August 25th to September 25th, or September  
33 to September 30th?

34  
35 MR. LARSON: Well, that's what -- that was the original  
36 intention.

37  
38 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, but the hunting season .....

39  
40 MR. LARSON: They didn't (indiscernible, simultaneous  
41 speech)

42  
43 MR. PETOLA: ..... the way it was, .....

44  
45 MR. LARSON: Yeah.

46  
47 MR. PETOLA: ..... and the hunting -- the hunting  
48 season the way it is this year, which do they elect? August  
49 through September 25th? Or .....

50

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1  
2 MR. LARSON: Just the one they wanted.  
3  
4 MR. PETOLA: ..... September 1 .....  
5  
6 MR. LARSON: Just the one they wanted, that original  
7 proposal they made.  
8  
9 MR. PETOLA: They want until September 30th?  
10  
11 MR. LARSON: Yeah, they wanted 25 to -- August 25 to  
12 September 30. And that's the traditional -- customary and  
13 traditional hunting season.  
14  
15 MR. KACYON: I think we need to back up a little bit,  
16 Chairman. The Federal Board received a modified proposal  
17 from this Regional Council. I was at the meeting at KVNA when  
18 Frank Nicorai proposed this. And at that meeting you guys made  
19 a motion to modify the proposal from August 25th to September  
20 25th. You -- the original proposal was August 25 through  
21 September 30, but I was at the meeting. I have notes, and it  
22 says Frank Nicorai made a motion to reduce the season to  
23 September 25. And that was the -- that was the proposal that  
24 you guys sent to the Federal Board meeting. The Federal Board  
25 didn't cut the five days off. It was done at this Regional  
26 Council meeting last year.  
27  
28 MR. LARSON: Well, I wasn't -- I didn't attend that  
29 meeting. I wasn't -- I didn't attend that meeting personally,  
30 but I was going through the transcript. It was otherwise. The  
31 Chair of that Board asked the -- asked Frank during that  
32 meeting if it's okay, if he agreed that it be from August 25 to  
33 September 25. I guess it was a lack of misunderstanding, or  
34 miscommunication, but the intention of the proposal was to add  
35 five more days. I guess the board misunderstood our customary  
36 and traditional method -- season of harvest.  
37  
38 MR. FISHER: Well, I think one thing the Board  
39 considered was the fact that there would have been an  
40 additional five more days, that it would have been August 25th  
41 through September 30th. Based on what the population of the  
42 Moose is there in .....  
43  
44 MR. LARSON: Uh-huh.  
45  
46 MR. FISHER: ..... 18, five more days, they didn't feel  
47 that though they could justify adding five more days. That was  
48 that should be taken -- or was taken into consideration,  
49 too.  
50

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1  
2 MR. ANDREW: My understanding -- Mr. Chairman?  
3  
4 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
5  
6 MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik) Kwethluk's original proposal  
was like what Oscar said, from August 25 through end of  
September, but at -- during that meeting, our board -- our  
Board said, "We cannot give you no more than 30 days," and they  
asked him to modify to August 25 through September 25. They  
were forced to change it. And Frank -- Frank as I recall had  
to make a change -- to make a change, a new change, shorten  
that, because there's no way they can give no more than 30 day  
hunting period. The original proposal was for starting from  
August to end of September. They didn't want to shorten it.  
But when the Board -- our Board acted on it to make it from the  
current season the way it is from -- in this area, then the  
State was forced to cut out five days at the end, too. Because  
what .....

20  
21 MR. PETOLA: One .....

22  
23 MR. ANDREW: ..... what could have happened is that if  
it was the way it is, the way it is, Frank, now, could force  
river hunters to come down in the depleted area and hunt on  
our side, putting more pressure on our -- on whatever stock  
we've got out there.

28  
29 MR. PETOLA: Do the regulations allow, like if this is  
Kwethluk's choice, their customary and traditional 30 days of  
hunting is, if they want, August 25th to September 25th, let  
them do that, and let the rest of the region hunt their  
traditional September 1/September 30th?

34  
35 MR. STROM: I don't think the provisions are that .....

36  
37 MR. MORGART: I think that's -- if they have customary  
and traditional use in that area, then .....

39  
40 MR. STROM: Yeah, they .....

41  
42 MR. MORGART: ..... other -- they can come down and  
hunt .....

44  
45 MR. STROM: If they had a village quota or something?

46  
47 MR. MORGART: No, what they're asking .....

48  
49 MR. PETOLA: You see, what -- basically to accommodate  
50

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Kwethluk, you threw the whole balance of the region off -- out of whack, including the Yukon.

3

4 MR. KACYON: Mr. Chairman, one thing I'd just like to add quickly is the State also wrote a letter of reconsideration for that proposal. I don't -- I'm not sure even if it was read or considered, but I had a lot of complaints about the August 25th opening come to my office, not just from Bethel, but from all the villages. And the other reason we wrote the letter of reconsideration is because it went against the moose management plan on the Lower Yukon, because part of the management plan says we will not change the fall season until we reach our goal of 3,000 moose, and also Pias Akaran from Kotlik, the chairman of the moose management planning committee wrote a letter of reconsideration to the Federal Board stating that they wanted to retain the September 1 through 30 season. So there were letters of reconsideration sent into the Federal Board.

18

19 MR. PETOLA: They didn't reconsider?

20

21 MR. FISHER: Well, now, wait a minute now. There were letters and a staff analysis and everything I think pointed towards the September 1 through September 30 season. However, the Regional Council, the fellows that are here today opted for the Kwethluk, but some of the people in the Kwethluk wanted the earlier August 25th season, and that's eventually what the -- when it got up to the staff committee, that's what the staff committee went along, based on what the Council recommended, and then the Subsistence Board bought off on the staff committee recommendation and the Regional Council recommendation.

32

33 MR. PETOLA: Because I'm in a situation like Randy. I've had a lot of people, not only Bethel residents, say why did we open five days earlier and take the five good days away from us, because .....

37

38 MR. FISHER: Well, .....

39

40 MR. PETOLA: ..... because September 25th through the 30th is real productive hunting days.

42

43 MR. FISHER: If you go back and look at the Staff Analysis, you'll -- you'd find that that was incorporated in there.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We do have a proposal right now from Kigpagmiut, Incorporated, Yukon River, Lower Yukon River.

49

50

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1 MR. FISHER: A new proposal?  
2  
3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: New proposal.  
4  
5 MR. FISHER: What does it say?  
6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Stated that in the Yukon River it  
8 should be the same as .....

9  
10 MR. PETOLA: Before.  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... this fall. Yeah.  
13  
14 MR. PETOLA: September 1/September 30?  
15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Right here.  
17  
18 MR. LUKE: Mr. Chairman?  
19  
20 MR. FISHER: Yukon or Kusk- -- is that the Kuskokwim  
21 drainage or the Yukon drainage?  
22  
23 UNIDENTIFIED: Yukon.  
24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, yeah.  
26  
27 MR. LUKE: Mr. Chairman, I introduced myself earlier.  
28 This draft proposal is from Kuigpagmiut on the Yukon, and the  
29 proposal is for 95/96 Federal Subsistence Board hunting season,  
30 and the existing -- current existing regulation on page 98 says  
31 that Unit 18, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, existing regulation just  
32 say that remainder of Unit 18, one antlered moose. A ten-day  
33 hunt, one bull, evidenced by sex required, will be opened by  
34 announcement sometime between 1 and February 28. Open season  
35 August 25 through September 25, winter season to be announced.  
36  
37 And here's the change we would like to see: Remainder  
38 of Unit 18, North of Kuskokwim River on the Yukon River,  
39 including all the tributaries that drain into Yukon River, one  
40 antlered moose. A ten-day hunt, one bull, evidenced by sex  
41 required, will be opened by announcement sometime between  
42 December 1 and February 28. Open season September 1 to  
43 September 30, winter season to be announced.  
44  
45 If you don't have a copy, I do have copies of the  
46 proposed -- proposal, if you'd pass those around.  
47  
48 MR. PETOLA: I still have a question, Mr. Chairman, to  
49 Oscar, because I know that there it was the intentions of the  
50

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Native Village of Kwethluk to have -- to request a season from August 25th to September 30th. That was their intentions. And that was amended to August 25th to September 25th. Is it Kwethluk's choice to have an August 25th to September 25th, or September 1 to September 30?

6

7 MR. LARSON: Their .....

8

9 MR. PETOLA: If -- given those two choices?

10

11 MR. LARSON: Given those two choices, it would have been the original proposal from August 25 to September 30.

12

13  
14 MR. PETOLA: No, that's not an option. That was -- that was voted out apparently by this Council last year, and -- of last -- whenever they met. If you -- of the two options, September 1/September 30th, and that's option number one. Option number two is August 25 to September 25, which one would you guys pick?

15

16  
17 MR. LARSON: Option one.

18

19 MR. PETOLA: Option one? That's the one I want, too.

20

21 MR. FISHER: And that was?

22

23 MR. PETOLA: Option one, September 1/September 30th.

24

25 MR. FISHER: Okay.

26

27 MR. PETOLA: Okay.

28

29 UNIDENTIFIED: It's settled then, isn't it?

30

31 MR. FISHER: See how easy it is?

32

33 MR. LARSON: Excuse me, I thought you said option one, you said September 1 to September 30?

34

35 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

36

37 MR. LARSON: It was my misunderstanding. I think there should be another option, .....

38

39 MR. PETOLA: Well, they .....

40

41 MR. LARSON: ..... a third option from August 25 to September 30.

42

43 MR. PETOLA: Well, I would prefer that, too, but it

44

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Doesn't look like an option -- it's an option any more. I would prefer that, too. But of the two options, August 25 to September 25, or September 1 to September 30th, the only -- 30 days either way, where would you want your 30 days?

5

6 MR. LARSON: Well, if it's 30 days, I don't -- I don't think it's for me to decide, because I'm not a member of the Kwethluk Joint Group members, but I would have to go with them, with what they decide which option to choose, which is August 25 to September 25, given a 30-day limitation.

11

12 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, I could talk a little bit about that if I might? Gene, everybody who testified at that teleconference from the Kuskokwim area, including several of the tundra villages, Akiak, Akuchuk -- I think Akuchuk, was in there, too, I'm not real certain on that, but every one of the Kuskokwim villages when it was laid out in that either/or question stated specifically that they preferred to go with the proposal of the -- or the September -- August 25/September 25. The Yukon villages that requested -- put in the request for reconsideration back in June after they found out that they were going to get five days cut off their season said they preferred to hunt the September 1 to 30th. The question was laid out exactly that way, and that's what -- I mean, there was additional comments, besides the warm weather and so forth at the end of August. Robert Nick from out there, has been out there, he mentioned that the past couple of years of early freeze ups, guys going up and getting their boats stuck. That was another consideration that was -- that was laid out. Some of the Yukon people said, "Hey, we often times will be commercial fishing still come the end of August, so again there's another reason why we prefer to have the September 1 to 30." But it was essentially laid out just the way you asked it. And that was the consensus.

35

36 MR. PETOLA: Maybe the people that talked to me if they got a moose, they wouldn't have come talk to me.

38

39 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, to clarify that.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Randy?

42

43 MR. KACYON: Harry, just a quick comment. When we -- when we discussed this on the Lower Yukon, now, one of our goals with having this management plan on the Lower Yukon was to try to simplify the regulations so people could understand them, and I guess, you know, that's another reason why we're going to have to do something down here in the future, but I think the ultimate goal here with this Kuigpagmuit,

50

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Incorporated proposal is to -- is to eliminate a lot of these different regulations so that if you live in Unit 18, you know that the season is September 1 through 30, or it's August 25 to 25. It's not different every place you go. The only reason it's different below Mountain Village is because people felt that they didn't want to have a long season down there, because they want to have more moose.

8

9 The problem we have not is we've got four different regulations on Federal law under Unit 18.

11

12 MR. FISHER: Where you end up with your unit split up into different subunits, and you've got different seasons for different subunits and it's confusing to not only you people, but anybody -- anybody else.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Let's have a five minutes break, and come back.

19

20 (Off record)

21

22 (On record)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're going to come back to order. We're still working on Unit 18. I think if you could give me opportunity, that I could say something, I would appreciate it, the Board -- I mean, Council.

28

29 When we're talking about Yukon and Kuskokwim moose hunting season, most of -- most of the Kuskokwim people, they will testify before the public meeting and they say they would like to have a meat that is taste like meat. September 1st or in the later September, it does taste -- taste different. But whatever you call that.

35

36 So I think that that was a reason that the Board had to work with the State and Federal staff concerning trying to understand what kind of problem we have in Kuskokwim and Yukon area. Middle part. There was -- there was some problems concerning moose. The moose are getting less and less and less in that area. Not upper end. Upper end of -- not upper end of Unit 18. Because of that, I think that ANILCA -- on ANILCA it's written and it says that native people or non-native people will have opportunity to go out and subsist, or hunt what they need. But the only thing I think this Board, this Council have to be aware of it, you know, ANILCA also -- it says that we have to watch what we hunt or what we gather, it should be enough, not getting less.

49

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1           Also that there's some also alternatives that we could  
 2 go by. Right now that -- talking of those things that this  
 3 Council here that, thinking about something that it will be  
 4 confuse more to our user groups, if we put up more boundaries.  
 5 Yukon River, Kuskokwim/ Yukon River, or Yukon people, because  
 6 they didn't have no traditional customary early moose hunting  
 7 - moose hunting, they want to keep it the way it is. The way  
 8 to modify was month of August second. That's the reason right  
 9 now that this Board here, I would like to hear from this Board  
 10 what kind of move they're going to have like the way this  
 11 modified goes, or change it or what, because we have to present  
 12 it to a public meeting also tomorrow.

13

14           Gene?

15

16           MR. PETOLA: I've got a question for Randy. Randy, why  
 17 did the State cut their season back five days?

18

19           MR. KACYON: One of the reasons is because we didn't  
 20 want to have a longer season. The season was already 32 days,  
 21 and it would have been 37 days, not 30 days like originally  
 22 proposed by the Federal Board. And after looking at last  
 23 year's reported harvest, we harvested -- we exceeded probably  
 24 nine or 10% of the moose population the Kuskokwim, so we  
 25 probably over-harvested moose last year on the -- on the  
 26 Kuskokwim between Kalskag and the mouth of the river, and so I  
 27 was concerned about potential over-harvest this year if we  
 28 added, because .....

29

30           Another reason was I got a lot of interest on the  
 31 August 25th opening. I had -- on one Thursday, I think it was  
 32 well, I don't have a calendar, but the Thursday before the  
 33 season opened, I had over 27 calls in my office of people that  
 34 said they were interested in hunting on August 25th, and so I  
 35 felt that there was a lot of interest. And since people were  
 36 already hunting a week early, I felt that harvest was going to  
 37 increase, because of this thing was brought out in the open.

38

39           MR. PETOLA: But do they realize that basically the  
 40 entire Kuskokwim River system is not federal property? They  
 41 shouldn't hunt there?

42

43           MR. KACYON: I told them that, but the option I took,  
 44 Gene, was I told the protection officers, because there was  
 45 such a high interest, and that people were confused by the  
 46 regulations that they -- we shouldn't go out there and arrest  
 47 people for hunting in August, if they wanted to hunt in August,  
 48 but on the -- what I would do to solve the situation is have an  
 49 emergency closure on the other end, so that the closing dates

50

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Would be .....

2

3 MR. PETOLA: What's going to happen next year? If the  
Federal subsistence season remains August 25th to September  
25th?

6

7 MR. KACYON: I guess I'll base that on what I -- what  
the harvest is this year. If the harvest is really low this  
year, maybe I'll be less inclined to do that, and just keep the  
season open until the 30th of September.

11

12 MR. PETOLA: Because, you know, the people that want it  
open on the -- to the 30th are people that hunt the Kuskokwim  
River drainage -- or the Kuskokwim River, and there's no  
Federal property there. Take a look at it, you know. Look at  
the map. And Kwethluk's request was basically for an early  
five-day -- five-day earlier opening to accommodate their needs  
when they go squirrel hunting, and that's up on Federal  
property, and, you know, you're two different -- and if you had  
20 .....

21

22 MR. KACYON: I guess another option would be I could,  
you know, after talking to my regional staff at the end of  
November, and before the deadline for proposals, we could  
suggest, if the Federal Regional Council and the Federal Board  
wants to retain the August 25th to September 25th season on the  
Kuskokwim, then I guess we would probably submit a proposal to  
change our regulation to mimic -- to mimic that and reduce the  
potential of over-harvest. If that's what .....

30

31 MR. PETOLA: Well, you'll get a lot of local opposition  
to that, too.

33

34 MR. KACYON: I agree, but, you know, we've got to think  
about the resource, too.

36

37 MR. PETOLA: But if people -- but if people hunted on  
Federal property during that five-day early season, you know,  
and -- and followed the regs, .....

40

41 MR. KACYON: But they're not. They're -- most people  
that are hunting in the fall are hunting the river  
corridor, .....

44

45 MR. PETOLA: And they realize that's closed.

46

47 MR. KACYON: .....

allow to get up far enough, you know, at least -- some years  
the rivers are high enough, but some years they're not.

50

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1  
2 I would just as soon see the regulations be the same,  
3 But that's not how they are right now, and it's -- I don't have  
4 a choice.

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anyone else?  
7

8 MR. STROM: Yeah, my thoughts on this, or our thoughts  
9 from our standpoint, from the present Federal government is we  
10 have to first have a resource to be able to allocate out. And  
11 Randy has mentioned on the Kuskokwim the population of moose  
12 that -- on the Kuskokwim, approximately 400 the last -- or 200  
13 the last time we did a count from Kalskag down. We have a very  
14 low population of moose on the Kuskokwim. We have a very high  
15 need from people standpoint to use that resource. We're going  
16 to be faced with a -- with I think a real dilemma here in the  
17 in a year or so when we get into a planning effort similar  
18 to what we did up on the Yukon. There's some -- there's some  
19 needs up on the Yukon with the -- with the moose management  
20 plan. We will be going into that type of activity here on the  
21 Kuskokwim. I guess we're going to have to make some real --  
22 real choices there on do we want moose on the Kuskokwim or  
23 don't we want moose on the Kuskokwim. We can't -- we can't be  
24 sitting there in a situation where we keep extending moose  
25 seasons and still want the moose. It isn't going to happen,  
26 because you've got so many people trying to take -- dealing on  
27 that same resource. That's going to be -- that will -- that  
28 will be a real -- that will be a real dilemma, if you -- the  
29 dilemma from this would be a dilemma for people working on it  
30 increase that population of moose.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, Gene.  
33

34 MR. PETOLA: The 200 animals, that's based on a survey  
35 from Kalskag down on the Kuskokwim. Based on previous data, is  
36 that a diminishing population, a stable population or an  
37 escalating population?  
38

39 MR. KACYON: We don't know, because that's the first  
40 time a census has been done. That's just the river corridor.  
41

42 MR. PETOLA: I thought you did that a couple years ago,  
43 did a November 6th fly out in 89 or 88?  
44

45 MR. KACYON: No. All we did in November of '89 was we  
46 flew the drainages that go into the Kuskokwim, like Nyac,  
47 Uluksak, .....

48  
49 MR. PETOLA: Fog?  
50

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1  
2 MR. KACYON: . . . . Fog River and Kisaralik. We did do  
a portion of the Kuskokwim. We didn't do a statistically valid  
census. Even this census was . . . .

5  
6 MR. PETOLA: And that was 396 moose or something like  
that?

8  
9 MR. KACYON: It was a little over 300 moose. Most of  
those moose, however, 90% of those moose were on the Bear Creek  
drainage, inaccessible to most hunters. So that's basically  
our bread and butter.

13  
14 MR. PETOLA: There were 72 bulls in there, weren't  
there? Somewhere in there?

16  
17 MR. KACYON: Right. There's a -- there's a lot of  
moose in the Nyac area. It's very good habitat, but it's  
totally inaccessible to hunting, and recently Calista closed  
their lands to hunting, so that's even less accessible. But  
most people don't hunt Nyac. They hunt the main river  
corridor, and so that's the area we decided to do. Eventually  
we'd like to do a census on the Kisaralik and the Kwethluk, and  
the Tuluksak, so, you know, but it -- all that takes time. I  
know there's more than 200 moose, Gene, . . . .

26  
27 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

28  
29 MR. KACYON: . . . . on the Kuskokwim drainage, but just  
on the river corridor that we surveyed, that's all we found.

31  
32 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead, John.

33  
34 MR. JOHN: Yeah. He -- As he mentioned earlier that we  
shouldn't make noise about these moose. He's very leery about  
since you started talking about the 40 horse limit, and all  
this commotion and talking about the moose populations since it  
such a commotion along with the outboard limit. If he's not  
mistaken, they are -- the populations will not increase if we  
continue and to make noise, but if we try to cooperate and be  
work quietly, he feels the population will increase.

42  
43 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman?

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Go ahead.

46  
47 MR. WHITE: He's going to speak in Yup'ik. Even though  
he doesn't -- to mention to Oscar, the Kwethluk people when  
they made this proposal, he added that they had wanted the

50

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August 25 to the September 30th opening, and that at that meeting they were told that they didn't want to go beyond 30 days, and their representative, Frank Nicorai, told them that if it's going to be such a big problem, that they should take out the September 30 to align to the 25th. That when their people go, they go -- the people who respect our ways, the people who respect our ways do not want -- mind. The Federal Board accepted this saying that this is what we wanted, from -- the season opener from August 25. We know that the bull moose meat becomes rank and less desirable to eat, and they are saying that the August 25, since the Federal Board accepted our proposal, and that was it from the people who wanted it.

13

14 And the people from the Yukon did not quite agree with this, the people from Mountain Village on up. And they were -- tried to fix that via teleconference. And he was -- he called the people he represented, Eek, Quinhagak, Goodnews and Pstatinum, when they -- when he asked those villages about what they wanted, that when they are still fat and the meat is better, they do not -- every hunter does not go out and catch a moose every time. And at that conference he did not add that he went by what the villages he represented wanted, the -- with the August 25 opener on over.

24

25 The Lower Yukon accepted, it came out through the people of Kwethluk, and it is not only what Kwethluk wanted, but also what his area wants also. And before it gets into too much more commotion, that he would -- he's for -- for the Kuskokwim, that the opener be from August 25 to September 25, and on the Yukon September 1 to 30.

31

32 MR. PETOLA: Okay. This is what I don't -- I wasn't here. In the teleconference, the villages on the Kuskokwim wanted August 25th to September 25th, and the Yukon wanted September 1 to September 30th?

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

38

39 MR. PETOLA: That's the Kuskokwim villages wanted that?

40

41 MR. ANDREW: They share -- they had two separate seasons.

43

44 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, I .....

45

46 MR. ANDREW: The Yukon had one .....

47

48 MR. PETOLA: But the teleconference like Akiachuk, Akiak, .....

50

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1  
2 MR. ANDREW: ..... place to (indiscernible,  
3 simultaneous speech) .....  
4  
5 MR. PETOLA: ..... and other villages .....  
6  
7 MR. ANDREW: ..... 30.  
8  
9 MR. PETOLA: ..... voiced their opinion? They wanted  
10 the early season?  
11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: A couple affected villages was  
13 included in the teleconference.  
14  
15 MR. PETOLA: And they wanted the early season .....  
16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.  
18  
19 MR. PETOLA: ..... on the Kuskokwim? Okay. That's  
20 good enough for me then.  
21  
22 MR. ANDREW: Steven just made a motion that they want  
23 to keep it the way it is right now, because it be -- there are  
24 more likely to be conflicts between this area and the Yukon  
25 side if they go by one proposal.  
26  
27 MR. PETOLA: The way it is now is what?  
28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The way it is now is just .....  
30  
31 MR. ANDREW: The way it is now is .....  
32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Like this one here.  
34  
35 MR. ANDREW: ..... Kuskokwim side can hunt from  
36 September -- August 25 through September 25. Just -- just for  
37 Unit 18. We're not addressing other units.  
38  
39 MR. PETOLA: What about the Yukon side?  
40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The Yukon is .....  
42  
43 MR. ANDREW: The Yukon from Mountain Village, Russian  
44 Mission area is September 1 through September 30.  
45  
46 MR. PETOLA: I'll second his motion.  
47  
48 MR. ANDREW: One bull.  
49  
50

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1 MR. PETOLA: I'll second the motion.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the floor. Unit  
48, moose hunting season in Unit 18, it should be as like  
modification in federal subsistence moose hunting season in  
Unit 18. You're looking at this. That's the way the motion is  
right now. And the motion has been seconded. Is there any  
discussion?

9

10 MR. COFFING: Mr. Chairman, I might clarify that the  
proposed rule and what the Federal Subsistence Board is  
proposing the regulations be in the future is exactly what you  
have here, is a continuation of that. So they're not --  
they're not suggesting changing it back to the old way, but  
keeping it the way it is now, September 1 to 30, August 25 to  
September 25.

17

18 MR. FISHER: Unless there's another proposal come in  
it .....

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

22

23 MR. COFFING: Yeah, the proposed rule, and the letter  
from Chairman Hensley was that they were going to maintain that  
modification. He said that in writing. And it sounds to me  
like what this Council is wanting to do is support and maintain  
those modifications in place as they are.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Right now my understanding that  
they're supporting a modification right now.

31

32 MR. COFFING: Yeah.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: However, that when -- when we're  
teleconference August 2nd, we tell public that we're going to  
represent it again, so right now that we're going to represent  
it, approval from the Council, that we're -- this modification.

38

39 Any more discussion?

40

41 MR. AFCAN: Mr. Chairman, koyana. This -- he does not  
approve this, because the people on the coast, the Kuskokwim,  
since he knows they -- this dark park, if you extend the  
boundaries to the top would be better. And to like Hooper,  
Scammon, to include Hooper to like Scammon, onto the Yukon  
border since they are -- they also travel upriver to hunt  
those. That you should not forget those coastal villages. The  
villages from Kwig-Kon (ph), they can go up the Kuskokwim, and  
he's asking that the boundaries -- you extend your boundaries

50

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to include those villages.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Federal staff, I think there is --  
 4 there is a concern of our people, you know, but as myself, I'm  
 5 not looking at it that way. I think people down in the mouth  
 6 of the Kuskokwim, or down on the coast, they have the right and  
 7 opportunity to go any area they want to go, like Kuskokwim  
 8 area, they could go in there and hunt, but that different  
 9 season date. Dates. Like Kipnuk, they could go in the  
 10 remainder of Unit 18 including the Yukon area, or they could go  
 11 into Kuskokwim. I think that that's no locking, whatever they  
 12 want to, but the different -- but the season.

13

14 MR. PETOLA: There's no residency requirements.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

17

18 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

19

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: No residency require.

21

22 MR. PETOLA: This doesn't hinder the ability of any  
 23 coastal village member to hunt. They can -- if they're in  
 24 Kipnuk, they can come up the Kuskokwim like they do, but they  
 25 hunt during the August 25th to September 25th. If they're in  
 26 Sammon Bay and want to go up the Upper Yukon, they would hunt  
 27 from September 1 to September 30th. It's their choice.  
 28 There's residency requirements. So what you're saying really  
 29 is irrelevant.

30

31 I call for the question on the motion.

32

33 MR. LARSON: Yeah, I think this motion is made, could  
 34 be changed drastically through public meeting. You've made a  
 35 motion to accept -- accept as it is written on that yellow  
 36 sheet of paper you're looking at right now. So even though you  
 37 made a motion, I don't think .....

38

39 MR. PETOLA: Why, Oscar?

40

41 MR. LARSON: Why?

42

43 MR. PETOLA: Uh-huh.

44

45 MR. LARSON: Why? Because I think anybody could make a  
 46 proposal if they want to, they can make that might go back to  
 47 wherever they started.

48

49 MR. PETOLA: But don't those proposals come to this

50

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board if they're Federal proposals?

2

3 MR. LARSON: Right. Right.

4

5 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

6

7 MR. LARSON: Yeah. That's what I'm trying to get at.

8

9 MR. PETOLA: And this -- this board will -- is  
 responsible for reviewing and recommend- -- making  
 recommendations on those proposals. But I think the motion  
 that Steven made accommodates the needs and the wishes of the  
 Yukon, and it accommodates the needs and the wishes of the  
 Kuskokwim, and if that's what was -- came out of the  
 teleconference, I think we should obligate it -- we should  
 respond -- I mean, address their community concerns.

17

18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think we -- this Council could  
 recommend this one. Recommend and let the public know that  
 this Council approved and recommend and put it on as a  
 proposal. Your -- you staff understand what I'm saying?

22

23 MR. FISHER: Well, you don't need to make another  
 proposal.

25

26 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman?

27

28 MR. FISHER: The season will stay .....

29

30 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

31

32 MR. FISHER: ..... stay like it is unless there's .....

33

34 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

37

38 MR. FISHER: ..... a proposal submitted to change it.

39

40 MR. PETOLA: We just endorse that. We're supporting

41.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

44

45 MR. PETOLA: But that a key to it is to stay  
 46 (Indiscernible, simultaneous speech).

47

48 MR. ANDREW: (In Yup'ik)

49

50

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE: (In Yup'ik)

2

3 MR. ANDREW: Yeah. Good.

4

5 MR. KACYON: Mr. Chairman, I guess I would encourage  
~~6~~our constituents at least on the Kuskokwim to, you know, at  
~~7~~least talk to me or send proposals to me that I can take to my  
~~8~~staff meeting in Nome in November so that we have proposals  
~~9~~that want to make the State season in line with the Federal  
~~10~~season, because right now the State season is different on the  
~~11~~Kuskokwim.

12

13 And also another thing I want to make sure you -- the  
~~14~~Council understands is we -- whenever we want to make changes  
~~15~~to the moose regulations on the Yukon, we need to look closely  
~~16~~and deal closely with the villages on the Lower Yukon, because  
~~17~~we have a management planning thing in process. And also with  
~~18~~caribou regulations south of the Kuskokwim, we have a Kilbuck  
~~19~~management plan that you're probably aware of, that we need to  
~~20~~abide by. So whenever we get proposals to change moose seasons  
~~21~~on the Yukon or caribou seasons on the Kuskokwim, south of the  
~~22~~Kuskokwim, we need to make sure that those people are  
~~23~~participants.

24

25 MR. PETOLA: Yeah, and their culture would match.

26

27 MR. KACYON: Right.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any more on the modification  
~~30~~of Federal subsistence moose hunting season?

31

32 MR. PETOLA: I call for question on the motion.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The motion as it now stands, Council  
~~35~~we recommend to use this for this coming regulatory time, and  
~~36~~make regulations, and there was a motion and a second, and now  
~~37~~the question been called for. All who favor it, say aye?

38

39 IN UNISON: Aye.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

42

43 (No opposing responses)

44

45 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Aye have it. So I want you to  
~~46~~understand this. They're not proposing it, but they're  
~~47~~enforcing this .....

48

49 MR. PETOLA: Endorsing.

50

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1  
2 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, endorsing. They endorse it, the  
way it is.

4  
5 We are still continue -- I thought this was going to be  
6 a short meeting, but it looks like it's getting longer and  
longer.

8  
9 Next on our agenda is caribou north of Yukon River.  
10 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Staff, this is your --? Uh-huh. Okay.

11  
12 MR. STROM: Yeah. At our meeting we had in  
August .....

14  
15 COURT REPORTER: Excuse me, sir, come .....

16  
17 MR. MOGART: And state your name.

18  
19 MR. STROM: Yeah. My name's Denny Strom from the  
Refuge.

21  
22 At our meeting we had in August up in Mountain Village,  
the question came up with was why do we have the regulation we  
have for caribou up there. Several things have happened, or a  
significant thing has happened the last few years, is that the  
Western Arctic herd has made a winter range extension down onto  
the -- onto the Kuskokwim. Unit 22 comes down just west of --  
west of Kotlik there a ways.

29  
30 MR. PETOLA: on the Yukon, not Kuskokwim.

31  
32 MR. STROM: Yeah, Kusk- -- on the -- on the Yukon I  
mean. And we had Western Arctic caribou come down as far as  
the lake just north of Mountain Village that we call caribou --  
Kurlew (ph) Lake up there. Between 10 and 15,000 caribou  
came down into that area last year, and Kotlik hunters up --  
yeah, actually for the last two years they've come down that  
far. Hunters out of Kotlik last year harvested quite a bunch  
of them up in -- up in Unit 22.

40  
41 Our concern in the past has been we thought we had a  
small herd of caribou up in the -- up in the Andreafsky Hills  
up there, and some of the surveys we did a couple of years ago,  
we were not able to locate those. That was what we were  
managing, for a small remaining here which apparently isn't  
remaining any more.

47  
48 At that time, we -- when we talked at the -- at the  
those management meeting up at -- up in Mountain Village, we  
50

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talked about a proposal to be more in line with Western Arctic  
herd management, and we talked to Randy a little bit, Randy  
would be interested in coming up with a -- with a proposal to  
allow for the legal harvest of the -- of the Western -- of the  
Western Arctic herd when they come onto the -- onto the refuge  
6- or Federal lands up on the -- up in the Andreafsky Hills.

7

8 And I see we have a proposal to do it. Have you seen a  
copy of these before, Randy? Okay.

10

11 It's kind of what we -- I can't really talk for the  
State on it, but it's the type of thing that we were talking  
about is to allow for harvest of those -- of those animals when  
they make the range extension into -- into Unit 18.

15

16 MR. PETOLA: Commensurate with the Western Arctic regs?

17

18 MR. STROM: This is a little bit different than the  
Western Arctic regs, because the Western Arctic regs I think  
20's -- well, it is five. They did put down five per day. I  
think it's beneficial for the folks up there, the -- the users,  
and there's lots of caribou in that Western Arctic herd. I'd  
like to see them come down further into the unit, so more  
people can utilize them, but I think we -- there should be a  
proposal put into the Federal Board, and apparently there will  
be one here.

27

28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I think -- I think if they approve it,  
29 would be an alternative more like with moose in the  
wintertime, maybe to .....

31

32 MR. STROM: Absolutely.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... less moose and -- yeah.

35

36 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, I move that the caribou  
proposal as submitted by .....

38

39 MR. ANDREW: Kuigpagmuit.

40

41 MR. PETOLA: ..... the Mountain -- yeah, be endorsed.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Endorsed.

44

45 UNIDENTIFIED: Supported.

46

47 MR. JOHN: Second.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: There's a motion on the floor to

50

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endorse .....

2

3 UNIDENTIFIED: Support.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... Kuigpagmuit proposal, the mouth  
6 of Yukon River, and was second by who?

7

8 MR. PETOLA: Paul John.

9

10 MR. JOHN: Uh-huh.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Second by Paul John. Discussion?

13

14 MR. ANVIL: Question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: The question's been called for. All  
17 who favor say aye?

18

19 IN UNISON: Aye.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Opposed, same sign?

22

23 (No opposing responses)

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Ayes have it. Motion carried.

26

27 Okay. Next on agenda is Subpart D process. Dave  
28 Fisher?

29

30 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we've  
31 probably already may have beat this to death a little bit, but  
32 I'll try to keep my talk real short.

33

34 The Subpart D process is the means by which we  
35 change .....

36

37 MR. ANDREW: Do you want some .....

38

39 MR. FISHER: ..... the regulations. No, I think --  
40 Well, you can pass them out if you want. And it has to do with  
41 the hunting seasons, harvest limits, methods and means for  
42 taking wildlife. Any time we want to submit a proposal, we  
43 have a form that needs to be filled out. And there's also a  
44 set of instructions for completing the form, and just briefly  
45 looking over the two proposals that were submitted here in the  
46 last ten minutes, they look pretty good. It looks like those  
47 people have done their -- done their homework as far as  
48 completing the forms. What I'd like to do now is just maybe  
49 briefly tell you what happens when a -- when a proposal goes  
50

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through when one is submitted.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: May I hold you for a while, and I  
think it would be more profitable .....

5

6 MR. FISHER: Tomorrow?

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: ..... if you do it tomorrow.

9

10 MR. FISHER: Okay.

11

12 CHAIRMAN WILDE: With the .....

13

14 MR. PETOLA: The public.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Mostly -- mostly in front of the  
public, because mostly those are people that don't understand.

18

19 MR. FISHER: Okay.

20

21 CHAIRMAN WILDE: It would -- it would be a benefit for  
them.

23

24 MR. FISHER: That would be fine.

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

27

28 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman? I need to update you on  
some other information, but I need a clarification on your last  
action. You adopted this, this is a special action. Is that  
your intent, that you want this just to be one .....

32

33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We just .....

34

35 MR. MATHEWS: ..... regulatory year?

36

37 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We just endorsed that.

38

39 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Does the -- is this intended to be  
a special action is my real question on that, because .....

41

42 MR. COFFING: Why don't you -- why don't you explain  
the difference between a special action and a proposal? That  
might .....

45

46 MR. MATHEWS: A special action as it says here is a  
request to take action now within the cycle of developing  
regulations, so it only affects during that one cycle. One  
year. It is not one that goes beyond one year. And underneath

50

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that you have emergency closures, you have temporary closures, and you have temporary openings. I don't even know what the issue is on this. I'm -- I haven't had a chance to brief it. Or you have an opening or closure. In conversation, you were saying "proposal," so I just want to make it clear, is this a proposal or a special action? Is there some kind of emergency out there that needs the Board's attention now? I'm getting heads saying yes, but I need to know .....

9

10 MR. PETOLA: It should be a special action, and then if they continue to come down, you just convert that special action into a permanent proposal. Yeah?

13

14 MR. COFFING: Well, Mr. Chairman, Vince, maybe you can help me. Maybe the thing to do is put it in a proposal form, and a special action form, so .....

17

18 MR. MATHEWS: That's what I .....

19

20 MR. COFFING: ..... it can be addressed this next spring if the caribou come down, but it will be a permanent regulation as of July 1st.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah, that could be done.

25

26 MR. MATHEWS: Is that the intent of .....

27

28 MR. PETOLA: That was the intent.

29

30 MR. MATHEWS: ..... the Council?

31

32 MR. PETOLA: Yeah.

33

34 MR. MATHEWS: Okay.

35

36 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

37

38 MR. MATHEWS: Sorry. The other update that I had was there was a question earlier about what is going to happen to the designated hunter task force report. Essentially the Board will take that report under advisement and possibly use it as a guideline within their standards.

43

44 The second half of that question was when would they take this up. Most likely they will get an update in November. They'll get the report as you have it in front of you, but they probably won't take up the comments, suggestions, additions, whatever, until April. So I wanted to get back to you on that. And I will inform the public tomorrow at the

50

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meeting, but .....

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

4

5 MR. MATHEWS: ..... you need to know that also in case  
6 you're questioned. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7

8 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more on Subpart process? If  
9 there's -- if there's not, we'll go to the next on our agenda,  
10 customary, traditional scoping process.

11

12 MR. COFFING: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I will address that  
13 one. There are some handouts on the table there, if you  
14 haven't got them, that address this topic on your agenda.

15

16 And essentially what I wanted to inform the Council of  
17 how is that over the next couple of years for Unit 18 the  
18 Federal Subsistence Management Office will be looking at the  
19 customary and traditional use eligibility determinations for  
20 the area.

21

22 When the Federal Subsistence Board took over management  
23 of Federal public lands in 1990, they adopted many of the  
24 existing State C and T, customary and traditional use  
25 determinations at that time. A few of them have been modified,  
26 but for the most part they were exactly the same ones that the  
27 State had in 1989/90. So what we want to do now is get on with  
28 the business of examining those customary and traditional use  
29 determinations, and we need some input from the Council, from  
30 the communities, from the Refuge, from the people who live in  
31 the area, land owners, and certainly the State as well, as to  
32 what if any problems they feel there are with the current  
33 determinations, and what changes they would like to see in  
34 them.

35

36 There are a lot of resources that people use for  
37 subsistence, and in order to move forward with this process,  
38 what we've decided to do is first deal with big games species,  
39 moose, caribou, brown bear, black bear, musk ox, for the time  
40 being, and deal with those. And -- So that's what we're going  
41 to move ahead with here over the next couple of years.

42

43 What I would like, I guess from the Council regarding  
44 this is I would like any input that the Council might have  
45 about which communities they feel that I should contact and  
46 make aware that we're going to be doing this. Which  
47 communities do they think I should be talking to and getting  
48 information. So that's the process of scoping, is basically  
49 letting the Council, letting the public know that we're

50

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beginning -- that we're beginning the process, to pull them  
 into the process, so that I can then contact them and get more  
 information so that we can do a proper job of describing  
 customary and traditional uses, so that when the Federal Board  
 does make a determination a couple years from now, they make a  
 determination that's good for the region.

7

8 So that in summary is what this is about, and it may be  
 what you want me to do this again tomorrow. I think I'll leave  
 10 at that, and let you look through the material that I've  
 handed out here in the packet of five pages. The first -- the  
 first three pages are basically what I would like for you to  
 look at. The last two pages are additional information you  
 might find useful as you work through this. So I'm not  
 particularly looking for any motions, or any resolutions or  
 anything on it. I just wanted to inform you of it, and my plan  
 from here forward is to get some letters out to all the Council  
 members, to refuge managers, to advisory committee members, to  
 19 additional councils, city council governments, land owners and  
 20 forth to start pulling them into the process.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yes, Greg?

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: I would like .....

25

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Go ahead.

27

28 MR. ROCZICKA: You know, you mentioned which  
 communities to get ahold of. I just want to make sure in the  
 final analysis or the final product that you come out with that  
 you are going to be C and T determinations for all the villages  
 within the region, not just those that you're contacting, or  
 how is .....

34

35 MR. COFFING: No, no. What we'll be doing, Greg, is  
 basically contacting communities, all of them in the region,  
 and certainly any that anyone else feels that we should  
 contact, including any of those outside the region, to let them  
 know that we are beginning the process of reviewing the  
 customary and traditional use determinations for large mammals  
 in Unit 18.

42

43 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes.

44

45 MR. COFFING: So that's essentially what we're doing.

46

47 MR. ROCZICKA: That's what I wanted to clarify.

48

49 MR. COFFING: So we're not -- we're not going to be

50

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making a determination right away about who is in and who is out. Just basically we're trying to just get the message out to as many communities as I and you that are sitting here feel should know that we're -- that we're, you know, beginning this process in Unit 18. And that will primarily be those communities that -- that hunt within Unit 18, who use resources within Unit 18.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE: You're going to present that tomorrow to the public?

11

12 MR. COFFING: I think what I can do tomorrow for the benefit of the public is just essentially reiterate what I've just gone through .....

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Yeah.

17

18 MR. COFFING: ..... with you here.

19

20 UNIDENTIFIED: Could I have some more of these?

21

22 MR. COFFING: Sure.

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Anything else towards scoping process? If it's not, we give people that when (ph) they are arrived from Togiak National Wildlife Refuge opportunity to say something at this time on people to be heard.

28

29 MS. POWELL: Again let me introduce myself. My name is Donna Powell. I'm the assistant manager at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. And we have Andy Aderman here, the biologist, and Jon Dyasuk, the refuge interpreter.

33

34 And the main purpose of wanting to present this to the Council, and I appreciate you putting us on the agenda on short notice, but we just wanted to update the Council on what we're doing with the Goodnews Management Plan. And let me point out real quick the area that we're dealing with. Here's Goodnews Bay, and this lower section of Goodnews is corporation and private allotments. The Togiak Refuge does start here and what we're mainly concerned with is the, you know, management of the upper river.

43

44 And just to give a little background, we started in 19-  
45 in 1991 our Togiak Public Use Management Plan was written. And at that time the Goodnews Unit, Management Unit, we didn't feel like there was enough information to actually allocate what future management would be. And so what we ended up doing was delaying that decision and what we're in the process now is

50

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1- is coming through and trying to present potential alternatives of future management, and just to give the Council an opportunity to make any comments.

4

5 We mailed out about 2,000 of these Goodnews Management Updates, and it went -- it went to the Togiak mailing list out of the regional office. And I have some extra here, and if anybody's interested. I know the Council got -- let's see, the Council got several copies, and several copies went to Anchorage.

11

12 But the main purpose of this update here is to, you know, give another brief background on what our planning management process was, and that, you know, we're looking at permitting the guided sport fishermen there on the Upper Goodnews River. And we went to Goodnews in, let's see, February. And at that meeting, there was -- one of -- one of the proposals for alternatives were developed. And that -- it adds up to be alternative E there in this update. And this update was sent out so -- in May of '94, and we received about 87 comments, most of which came from outside of Alaska.

22

23 There -- there wasn't a clear -- I guess a clear comment toward any one alternative. The alternatives ranged from actually having a no action alternative to, you know, maximizing the public use out there for sport fishermen, and, you know, minimizing use. There was alternatives basically addressing just a float only river, and then some were having motorboat base camps in the upper river, some were not having motorboat base camps in the upper river. And we basically -- we -- the Togiak Refuge does not have a preferred alternative at this point. We're open for comments and suggestions, and we're in the process of conducting an environmental assessment. And in the environmental assessment, we will identify preferred alternative.

36

37 I know this is -- it's sort of a brief -- brief overview of it all, but I guess I'd just like to provide the Council, you know, an opportunity to have any comment that they have in the area. And we've had two meetings now in Goodnews regarding this future management.

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE: I don't know -- yeah, I think in order -- for us to comment on this, we have to look at the whole thing first.

46

47 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We have to -- I don't think we'd be

50

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able to give you any comment right now, you know.

2

3 MS. POWELL: Well, I was looking on our mailing list  
4 with the -- with the sheet that was handed out here. We had  
5 three names on our mailing list, you know, plus John as the  
6 regional coordinator, but I didn't have all nine -- nine names.  
7 And what I would like to do is, you know, on future mailings,  
8 I'd like to, you know put everybody on the Council on the  
9 mailing list.

10

11 MR. ANDREW: John's comment is that Jon Dyasuk should  
12 present what did they say.

13

14 MR. DYASUK: He said that I brief them in Yup'ik.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

17

18 MS. POWELL: Okay.

19

20 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

21

22 INTERPRETER EVAN: He's basically just saying what she  
23 said.

24

25 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik) That we're going to have  
26 another meeting, that it's approved now, that .....

27

28 MS. POWELL: No, we're in the process of writing the  
29 environmental assessment that would identify a preferred  
30 alternative.

31

32 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

33

34 MS. POWELL: And I know on this update, you know it  
35 identifies I believe a June 30th deadline. We allowed for a  
36 45-day comment period, you know, public comment period, but,  
37 you know, I'd like to get the Council's input, and, you know,  
38 I'd be -- I'm happy to receive the input at any time, and put  
39 it into the environmental assessment.

40

41 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

42

43 INTERPRETER EVAN: He is saying that their office in  
44 Dallingham is working in the spirit of cooperation with the  
45 local villages.

46

47 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

48

49 MS. POWELL: Are there any specific comments? I know

50

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1 you haven't had a chance to read that, but questions before?  
2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Is there any deadline to make a  
4 comment then?  
5

6 MS. POWELL: Well, I am as I said currently working on  
7 the environmental assessment, and for a deadline, you know,  
8 maybe as soon as possible, within a month or so, if that would  
9 give enough time. I mean, you can either, you know, a written  
10 comment or verbal comment. And as I said, the schedule --  
11 we're already sort of behind schedule already, so it's -- here  
12 again in the update, I think it identifies that the -- the  
13 assessment would go to our regional office in September, which  
14 as I said we're behind schedule, so as I said I would like to  
15 delay it further in order to receive comments from the Council.  
16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Greg?  
18

19 MR. ROCZICKA: Donna, you mentioned that you're pulling  
20 together kind of the final EA that's going to have the  
21 preferred alternative and so on, .....

22  
23 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.  
24

25 MR. ROCZICKA: Once that's identified and you get that  
26 document out, will there be another opportunity for public  
27 comment before it goes to authority for signature?  
28

29 MS. POWELL: Right. What we'll do is go ahead and send  
30 out the -- the EA and it will be, you know, not as long a time  
31 with the EA as it was initially, but there will be another --  
32 another period for public comment. And what -- what we're  
33 going to do as opposed to sending out, you know, 2,000  
34 assessments on this update, they're more less identified. You  
35 know, if you're wanting further information, you know, just  
36 send the sheet back to us, so we can put your name and address  
37 on, more or less like the Goodnews mailing list.  
38

39 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, I imagine those that did make  
40 comments, I mean AVCP, of course, made their comments,  
41 but .....

42  
43 MS. POWELL: Yeah, some of the ones .....

44  
45 MR. ROCZICKA: ..... (indiscernible, simultaneous  
46 speech) will automatically .....

47  
48 MS. POWELL: ..... are standard, yeah.  
49  
50

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1 MR. ROCZICKA: ..... get a copy of that?  
2  
3 MS. POWELL: Right.  
4  
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Do you have any idea of when? When it  
6 will be?  
7  
8 MS. POWELL: Well, the .....  
9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: Next spring or something like that?  
11  
12 MS. POWELL: Well, technically, you know, the .....  
13  
14 MR. ROCZICKA: January?  
15  
16 MS. POWELL: ..... management would be implemented. A  
17 prospectus would go out for sport fish guide proposals to  
18 operate starting in 1996. And ideally we would issue the  
19 prospectus this winter and receive proposals. They would be  
20 evaluated, and then the first year of the five-year permit  
21 would start in 1996.  
22  
23 MR. ROCZICKA: Well, the EA will be out then sometime  
24 this winter?  
25  
26 MS. POWELL: Yes. Yes. Okay.  
27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more questions or answers? Yeah?  
29  
30 MR. WHITE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. Clarification on the  
31 three rivers, their names in Yup'ik, and maybe their  
32 tributaries.  
33  
34 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik) He's asking a question  
35 regarding (indiscernible).  
36  
37 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.  
38  
39 MR. WHITE: (In Yup'ik)  
40  
41 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik) I'm just briefing them as to  
42 possible action and that Goodnews Village preferred to have the  
43 proposal, and we didn't have .....  
44  
45 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.  
46  
47 DYASUK: ..... (indiscernible) managed that way, that  
48 we have a limited number of -- number of guides guiding them.  
49 There's only one guide doing that now.  
50

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1  
2 MS. POWELL: Yeah. And to present sort of a heads up  
3 for the future, what we've noticed on both the Konektok  
4 drainage and the Goodnews drainage is a big increase in  
5 non-guided sport fishermen, and currently we do not permit  
6 non-guided individuals at all. The past -- well, we more or  
7 less were really starting to document starting in 1991, and  
8 this 1994 season as I said there has been a dramatic increase  
9 in non-guided fishermen. And what we will probably look at in  
10 the -- in the near future is possibly permitting non-guided  
11 individuals also to minimize the use going down the rivers.  
12  
13 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)  
14  
15 MR. PETOLA: Non-guided individuals would include  
16 rafters?  
17  
18 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh. Uh-huh.  
19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Randy?  
21  
22 MR. KACYON: Yeah, I had a question. Did you say that  
23 non-guided sport fishermen aren't allowed on the Goodnews?  
24  
25 MS. POWELL: Yeah, they're not permitted or restricted  
26 numbers at all at this point.  
27  
28 MR. KACYON: Oh, I thought you said they weren't  
29 allowed at all, just guided ones.  
30  
31 MS. POWELL: No, we're only permitting guided .....  
32  
33 MR. KACYON: Okay.  
34  
35 MS. POWELL: ..... guided operators.  
36  
37 MR. KACYON: So you're -- you may have like -- what  
38 would they be, like camping permits?  
39  
40 MS. POWELL: Well, since we haven't -- you're talking  
41 about for the guided or non?  
42  
43 MR. KACYON: No, unguided. Like some -- say, for  
44 example, I go down the Kanektok .....  
45  
46 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.  
47  
48 MR. KACYON: ..... with my boat periodically to Bethel,  
49 because it's a lot closer .....  
50

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1  
2 MS. POWELL: Uh-huh.  
3  
4 MR. KACYON: ..... to go Kanektok River than it is to  
5 the (indiscernible, coughing), believe it or not.  
6  
7 MS. POWELL: Yeah.  
8  
9 MR. KACYON: We're not restricted right now to do that?  
10  
11 MS. POWELL: What -- the only restriction now for, you  
12 know, more or less drainage wide is a three-day camping limit.  
13 DNR also adopted the same regs when our PUMP was established.  
14 So the only restrictions for sport fishermen is a three-day  
15 camping limit, but you're not -- you know, you're not needing a  
16 permit or anything at all at this point.  
17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Before we go continue on Togiak  
19 National Wildlife Refuge, I want to recognize the President of  
20 AVCP, Myron Naneng.  
21  
22 MR. NANENG: Thanks.  
23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We thank you that you were with us,  
25 and also we would like to invite you for tomorrow at our public  
26 meeting at the KVNA. The reason that we want to invite you  
27 here, is we have in the Yukon and Kuskokwim we have a serious  
28 problems with our young people in moose hunting season time.  
29 Just to let you know, I'll hold you for a while, and -- because  
30 you're going. There was some people that burning up their  
31 camps and take away their gas and all that in both in the Yukon  
32 and Kuskokwim. Because of that, we would like to have AVCP  
33 involved, try to help the people, some kind of resolution  
34 should be printed out. You can .....  
35  
36 MR. NANENG: Yeah. For your information, next week on  
37 October 12th, I'm going to be meeting with the Kuskokwim  
38 Corporation to talk about just this situation that they're  
39 having problems between downriver and upriver hunters, because  
40 I told them that we don't need Hatfields and McCoys out here in  
41 our region, meaning that old adage about people fighting  
42 against each other over a race horse. They've invited me to  
43 their board meeting to be held on October 12th at 10:30, and I  
44 know Paul is going to be there, Paul John is going to be there,  
45 and if you happen to be there, I'd like to invite you to  
46 participate with me with that meeting with the Kuskokwim  
47 Corporation, because there's got to be a -- this has to be  
48 resolved.  
49  
50

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1           And one of the things that I would hope that the  
 2 Federal Subsistence would also consider is the -- the  
 3 restriction that the State has in terms of the 40 horse power  
 4 thing that they have for some of the State lands. I think that  
 5 we need we need to resolve that, not necessarily through the  
 6 regulatory system, but by involving the people that are  
 7 utilizing the resource, and also using the -- those areas, to  
 8 be able to gather food for the winter, because not everyone  
 9 within the downriver or even upriver for that matter, people  
 10 within their own lands, are not able to utilized 40 horse to  
 11 harvest some of the resource that they start harvesting during  
 12 the fall time.

13

14           I'll be there, but I'm planning on making a trip to  
 15 Tuntutuliak at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

16

17           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. Koyana.

18

19           MR. NANENG: I'll be there during the morning.

20

21           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

22

23           MR. NANENG: Okay. Thanks.

24

25           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Okay. We will continue. Any more  
 26 questions on Togiak National Wildlife Refuge?

27

28           MR. WHITE: I've got one more.

29

30           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

31

32           MR. WHITE: Last one, a comment, (In Yup'ik).

33

34           CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

35

36           MR. WHITE: My -- for these rivers, such as the  
 37 Goodnews, Quinhagak, Eek, all the way up there, all the sport  
 38 fishing, subsistence hunters or both. He's heard before that  
 39 the jet powered outboards that the sport -- That's his only  
 40 comment, that they are -- he has heard that jet powered motors  
 41 will not only fish, but the other ones.

42

43           MS. POWELL: The University of Alaska has conducted a  
 44 fairly intensive study on the effects of the jet powered motor,  
 45 and, you know, what we're going to be probably doing is looking  
 46 at that, you know, the results of that study, and try and  
 47 determine, you know, if there is a negative impact. And just  
 48 preliminary results as I understand, they're looking at like  
 49 six inches or less, there may be some, whatever impact that,

50

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you know, deeper water than that they don't -- they don't perceive, you know, that much of a detrimental impact to -- on the jet motors.

4

5 If I could, too, you know, briefly, I'd like to address how the refuge is working with the native villages and also how we're trying to minimize conflict between the user groups. With the identification of the public use management plan, there is a program implemented called the River Ranger Program, and it started in 1991, and we have two staff members on the Kanektok River, on the Goodnews River, and the Togiak River throughout the summer, and their main purpose is to contact the user groups and to document the use, to, you know, -- they meet every person on the river basically, you know, the non-guided fishermen, the guided fishermen, the subsistence users. And with the non-guided fishermen, one of the main purposes they're trying to address, you know, where the private lands are, where the corporation lands are, to avoid any -- any trespass issues. They're trying to instill good camping techniques, you know, low-impact camping. They're picking up trash and litter.

21

22 This past year we cited with a notice of violation five  
23 five people for littering, we cited four for wanton waste of  
24 fish. They -- it was basically a group from Australia had 15  
25 fish fillets they ended up just burying for whatever reason.  
26 But due to having the river rangers on there, you know, they  
27 had all this documented on tape and -- and, you know, made  
28 their contacts, and so through their efforts we were able to  
29 cite the individuals.

30

31 We also had two citations for illegal guiding on the  
32 on the rivers, and we also through a Fish and Game officer  
33 out of Bethel came down Kanektok and cited two parties for  
34 overharvest.

35

36 And so we're trying to get a little bit more in the  
37 enforcement aspect, and having the river rangers out there,  
38 they're not -- they don't have enforcement authority, but  
39 through them, you know, they're -- they witness a lot of this  
40 stuff and then contact the office, or, you know, the Bethel  
41 office, and we try to cite some of these folks that aren't --  
42 aren't practicing good -- good techniques out there.

43

44 But I think the River Ranger Program has helped the  
45 communication in the villages. We have end of season meetings  
46 each village, and at this, you know, time and -- well, any  
47 time we're -- we're open to listening to them, but they address  
48 some of their concerns. Catch and release has been a concern  
49 probably identified in each -- each village, and, you know, as  
50

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long as it's a legal means of fishing, we're not going to, you know, prohibit it, but what we are going to try to do, we meet the parties in Dillingham at the airport before they go out onto the river. We try to instill, you know, the proper catch and release practices and then here again on the river when the rangers contact the fishing parties, they, you know, instill -- try the same -- same thing and try to prevent any catch and release mortalities.

9

10 But I think this program has really been -- been very valuable to us and to the villages and to the sport fishermen, and I think the litter I know has decreased on the rivers, and I think the conflicts have decreased some also. And we hope -- we hope to continue the program.

15

16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Any more on Togiak?

17

18 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

19

20 INTERPRETER EVAN: He's translating again.

21

22 MR. DYASUK: (In Yup'ik)

23

24 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. Okay. Thank you. Any more? If it's not, tomorrow 9:00 o'clock, Regional Advisory Council, public is already notified that we're going to have a public meeting tomorrow. Start 9:00 o'clock. And also that Regional Council during this meeting, they're going to assist the public in making proposal changes for subsistence regulations. Federal subsistence regulations. Not only that, staff of -- staff of Federal will help the public making regulations.

32

33 So if there's any more -- we don't have any more on agenda. Until tomorrow we're going to have a recess until -- go ahead.

36

37 MR. PETOLA: Mr. Chairman, as I said -- stated this morning, I won't be in attendance tomorrow, .....

39

40 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

41

42 MR. PETOLA: ..... and I request to be an absence -- an excused absence, because I had a meeting set up in Kotlik for Bill Most Hamilton (ph) in Kotlik tomorrow and I couldn't change it.

46

47 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We'll excuse you. Any more? Go ahead.

49

50

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1 MR. MATHEWS: Mr. Chairman, if you won't have a quorum  
2 tomorrow, then .....

3  
4 MR. PETOLA: Roberts Rules of order is that .....

5  
6 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah.

7  
8 MR. PETOLA: ..... if you establish a quorum the  
9 meeting can go on. Once the quorum is established.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE: We're not adjourned. We just recess  
12 for tomorrow.

13  
14 MR. PETOLA: If you adjourn, then you .....

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh.

17  
18 MR. PETOLA: ..... have to re-establish a quorum.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Yeah. We're going to recess because  
21 we do not -- weren't going to quorum.

22  
23 MR. MATHEWS: Okay. Because I was on the phone trying  
24 to find out if you could continue to have actions on that, and  
25 have a different interpretation, so whatever.

26  
27 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, there's a possibility we'll have one  
28 more guy by tonight. And if not, we'll just probably have  
29 a discussion of .....

30  
31 MR. PETOLA: It's a work session.

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE: Uh-huh. That's the reason that I  
34 didn't want to adjourn tonight. I asked for recess. 9:00  
35 o'clock in the morning. KVNA.

36  
37 MR. ANDREW: Tomorrow morning, KVNA 9:00 o'clock.

38  
39 (Off record)

40  
41 (Meeting recessed)

42  
43  
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1 to the best of my knowledge and ability;

2

3 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party  
4 interested in any way in this action.

5

6 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 12th day of October,  
7 1994.

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Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 7/3/98

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