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1 YUKON/KUSKOKWIM DELTA REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING  
2 USFWS Conference Room  
3 Bethel, Alaska  
4 February 5, 1997 - 8:00 a.m.  
5 VOLUME I  
6 Council Members Present:  
7 Harry O. Wilde, Sr.  
8 David O. David  
9 Paul Manumik, Sr.  
10 Ilarion J. Nicolai  
11 Fritz L. George  
12 Steven White  
13 Zechariah C. Chaliak, Sr.  
14 Antone K. Anvil  
15 Paul John  
16 Lester Wilde  
17 John Andrew, Coordinator  
18 Translators:  
19 Charles Hunt  
20 Leo Moses  
21 Trim Nick

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English translated) Good morning to you all. (Yupik spoken and English translated) At this time, Mr. Secretary, I'd like you to call the roll. (Yupik spoken)

MR. GEORGE: Harry Wilde.

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah.

MR. GEORGE: David O. David.

MR. DAVID: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Paul Manumik.

MR. MANUMIK: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Ilarion Nicolai.

MR. NICOLAI: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Fritz George.

(Indiscernible - simultaneous voices) .....here.

MR. GEORGE: Steven White.

MR. WHITE: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Gene Peltola. Chuck Chaliak.

MR. CHALIAK: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Antone Anvil.

MR. ANVIL: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Paul John.

MR. JOHN: Here.

MR. GEORGE: Lester Wilde.

MR. WILDE: Here.

MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken)

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, guyana. (Yupik spoken and

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1 English translated) This morning the meeting's -- schedule of  
2 the meeting for this morning and tomorrow will be -- the  
3 invocation will be presented by John -- Paul John.

4  
5 MR. JOHN: (Invocation in Yupik)

6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
8 translated) This morning we will review our agenda. I would  
9 like to see an introduction to the board of directors, your  
10 availability to be here, and I would like for everyone to --  
11 starting from the board, to introduce themselves, starting from  
12 Paul John.

13  
14 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English transcribed) I'm  
15 Paul John, from Toksook Bay. (Yupik spoken)

16  
17 MR. MOSES: His Eskimo village is Nunacowleeak (ph).

18  
19 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Yupik spoken)

20  
21 MR. NICOLAI: (Yupik spoken)

22  
23 MR. MOSES: He said, "that's my name right here." He's  
24 from Kwethluk.

25  
26 MR. NICOLAI: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
27 Larry Nicolai, from Kwethluk.

28  
29 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George from Akiachak.

30  
31 MR. MANUMIK: I'm Paul Manumik, from Sheldon Point.

32  
33 MR. ANVIL: Antone Anvil, from Nunapitchuk, but now I  
34 live in Bethel.

35  
36 MR. WILDE: Lester Wilde, originally from Hooper Bay.

37  
38 MR. CHALIAK: Chuck Chaliak, from Nunapitchuk.

39  
40 MR. ANDREW: John Andrew, Regional Council Coordinator.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Harry Wilde, Mountain Village.

43  
44 REPORTER: My name is Laurel Evenson, I'm from  
45 Anchorage. I'm your court reporter.

46  
47 MS. McCLENAHAN: I'm Pat McClenahan, from Anchorage.  
48 I'm your staff (indiscernible - away from microphone).

49

MS. DETWILER: I'm Sue Detwiler. I work with Pat in

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1 Anchorage, with Fish & Wildlife Service.

2

3 MR. FISHER: Fish & Wildlife Service, Anchorage.

4

5 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Indiscernible - away from  
6 microphone)

7

8 MR. COFFING: Mike Coffing, Fish & Game, Bethel.

9

10 MR. KOVAC: Steve Kovac, I'm the new big game biologist  
11 here at the refuge.

12

13 MR. HUNT: Chuck Hunt, (indiscernible) Bethel,  
14 originally from Kotlik (ph).

15

16 MR. MOSES: Leo Moses, from Chevak Refuge, information  
17 technician.

18

19 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Indiscernible - away from  
20 microphone) from Kwethluk.

21

22 MR. GUY: Philip Guy, Kwethluk.

23

24 MR. WARNER: I'm Ted Warner, from the Tundra Drums.

25

26 MR. REARDEN: Mike Rearden, Fish & Wildlife Refuge.

27

28 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Indiscernible - away from  
29 microphone)

30

31 MR. ANTHONY: Charles Anthony, Naknek.

32

33 MR. GEORGE: Tom George, Nightmuit.

34

35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Good morning. (Yupik spoken and  
36 English translated) I'm going to present this one in English.  
37 Looking at the agenda, I'm going to follow it as it is in  
38 English.

39

40 Review and adoption of the minutes of October 2 and 3,  
41 1996. Review and adoption of agenda. Open floor to public  
42 comments on the Federal Subsistence Management Program. This  
43 opportunity continues throughout the meeting. Please fill out  
44 a testifier form. If you wish to speak regarding that  
45 particular proposal, please so indicate on a form.

46

47 The next is Proposal to Change Subpart C, Customary and  
48 Traditional Use Determinations. And Subpart D, Seasons,  
49 Harvest Limits, Methods, and Means, Federal Subsistence

50 Management Regulations.

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1 For each proposal the procedures will be:  
2 Biological/Socio-cultural Analysis, Dave Fisher and Pat --  
3 McClenahan? McClenahan. B., Summary and written public  
4 comments, John W. Andrew. C., Open floor to public comments on  
5 the proposal, Chairman, me. D., Agencies comments, federal and  
6 state. E., Regional council deliberation and recommendation,  
7 motion to amend, if desired, motion to adopt proposals or amend  
8 proposals and justification.

9  
10 Old Business. Update on implementation of federal  
11 Subsistence fisheries, Tom Boyd. B., Regular (sic) council  
12 charter inclusion of -- how do you call that?

13  
14 MR. ANDREW: Sue Detwiler, Fisheries (Yupik spoken)

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah. B. Regional council  
17 charter inclusion.

18  
19 MR. ANDREW: Inclusion of rural and alternates update.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Inclusions of rural and  
22 alternates update, John Andrew. Annual report, 1996, further  
23 issues to be added, approval, John Andrew.

24  
25 Talking points: 1., white fish; 2., king salmon, 3.,  
26 Kuskokwim moose. And D., C & T council concerns, subsistence  
27 use. That will be me.

28  
29 F., reports: Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge,  
30 Refuge manager, Mike Rearden; a., Refuge trapping issues; b.,  
31 steel shot update; c., emperor geese status. 2., Togiak  
32 National Wildlife Refuge, Andy Alter- .....

33  
34 MR. ANDREW: Aderman.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Aderman; 3., Bureau of Land  
37 Management, Jeff Denton; 4., Association of Village Council  
38 Presidents, Greg Roczicka; 5., Department of Fish & Game; 6.,  
39 Others.

40  
41 New Business, IX -- IX. New Business. A., Update on  
42 nomination procedures, regional coordinator Andrew; B.,  
43 Secretary Fritz George's report: 1., Joint boards and a chair  
44 meeting; 2., Bristol Bay RAC. C., Staff concerns; D., Any  
45 other new business.

46  
47 X., Time and place of next meeting. XI., Benediction.  
48 XII., Adjourn.

49

If there are any important items that we missed that

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1 should be on the agenda?

2

3 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, on item number F., Reports,  
4 Number 1., b., I will make that report.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. Chuck Hunt, it's.....

7

8 MR. HUNT: Steel shot update.

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: .....steel shot update, okay.

11

12 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
13 translation) the subsistence update that we're going to have at  
14 the cultural center.

15

16 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, (indiscernible) related to the  
17 state or to fisheries management, the board wanted us to update  
18 the council on a proposal for the state to develop a Memorandum  
19 of Agreement for state and federal boards.

20

21 MR. ANDREW: Oh, (Yupik spoken) Thank you. (Yupik  
22 spoken)

23

24 MS. DETWILER: It might be most appropriate to put it  
25 under VIII. F. 6., and.....

26

27 MR. ANDREW: F.6.?

28

29 MS. DETWILER: Yeah, others -- other reports.

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Yeah, under others. (Yupik spoken)

32

33 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, if there are no more addition  
34 or deletions or amendments, I move that we adopt the agenda as  
35 written.

36

37 MR. DAVID: Second.

38

39 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Before we do accept the agenda,  
40 I've got a couple of resolutions here from Kwethluk  
41 Incorporated.

42

43 Phil, are you going to be here tomorrow?

44

45 MR. GUY: (Yupik spoken and English translated) Yeah,  
46 Mr. Chairman, the resolutions will be presented tomorrow at the  
47 Cultural Center.

48

49 MR. MOSES: Since he was a little late he had to

50 handcarry the resolutions over.

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Chuck.

2

3 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
4 translated) I just want to make sure that everybody  
5 understands, before we have even reviewed the agenda, John  
6 Andrew states that there have been some changes which include  
7 item number VII., Proposal to change Subpart C, all the way  
8 down to item number VIII., Old Business, item number A. Those  
9 will be taken care of at the Cultural Center meeting tomorrow.

10

11 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. Quyana. (Yupik spoken and  
12 English translation) Before we get to the proposals tomorrow,  
13 I will give you time to -- for you to do your presentations and  
14 accommodations under proposals. Any more? (Yupik spoken and  
15 English translation) So the agenda is before you. Are there  
16 any more additions or deletions?

17

18 MR. WILDE: The second was dead.

19

20 MR. DAVID: I did second it.

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: There's a motion on the floor by  
23 Lester Wilde and seconded by David O. David to approve the  
24 agenda with the corrections and additions. Is there any  
25 discussion?

26

27 MR. DAVID: Question.

28

29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. All  
30 in favor say aye?

31

32 IN UNISON: Aye.

33

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Opposed, same sign? Motion  
35 carried.

36

37 (Yupik spoken and English translated) To review and  
38 adopt the minutes of October 2, 1996.

39

40 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
41 translation) my name is Fritz George. I'll just point out the  
42 highlights of the minutes. We had a meeting in Akiachak. They  
43 were.....

44

45 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, would you give us a number,  
46 it's A. or B. or C. in our packet?

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: D.

49

MR. WILDE: D, huh?

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: After C and D.

2

3 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
4 There were 50 to 55 people in attendance. (Yupik spoken) Do  
5 you also write in Yupik?

6

7 COURT REPORTER: No, sir, I do not, and I don't even  
8 have your name. Where is your name tag?

9

10 MR. GEORGE: My name is Fritz George and I am the  
11 secretary for the council here.

12

13 (Yupik spoken and English translated) Eight regional  
14 council members were present and about 50 to 55 other people,  
15 including agency representatives. The newly elected officers  
16 are Harry Wilde was put in again as chairman; vice chairman is  
17 Steven White; Secretary is Fritz George; sergeant-at-arms,  
18 Chuck Chaliak.

19

20 (Yupik spoken and English translated) And the  
21 following reports from various federal and state entities and  
22 other organizations, the regional council passed a number of  
23 motions.

24

25 (Yupik spoken and English translated) Rural residency  
26 issue, recommended that rural residency should be a requirement  
27 for regional council membership.

28

29 (Yupik spoken and English translated) Deferred  
30 proposals 45 and 46, recommended that these two proposals be  
31 withdrawn from further consideration to allow the two regions  
32 and users to begin to work together to solve user conflicts as  
33 discussed in a joint Y/K Delta - Western Interior meeting.

34

35 (Yupik spoken and English translated) There was a  
36 deferred proposal 41, moved to take no action to allow the two  
37 regions and users to begin to work together to solve the users  
38 conflicts as discussed in the joint Y/K Delta - Western  
39 Interior meeting.

40

41 (Yupik spoken and English translated) Kwethluk  
42 presented a proposal to increase the season length for the  
43 Kilbuck caribou herd. The regional council supported  
44 Kwethluk's efforts and noted that the Cooperative Management  
45 Plan calls for consensus from all participants for proposals  
46 regarding the herd.

47

48 (Yupik spoken and English translated) And caribou  
49 customary and traditional recommendation. The regional council

50 recommended a proposal to include the villages of Hooper Bay,

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1 Scammon Bay, and Chevak in the customary and traditional use  
2 determination for caribou in Unit 22(A).

3  
4 (Yupik spoken and English translation) During the  
5 discussion on fisheries the following comments were made:  
6 Local advisory committees should provide advice to the regional  
7 council on fisheries issues. The Yukon Drainage Fishermen's  
8 Association might be a group to use as an advisory body  
9 regarding the Yukon River. Local people don't sell their  
10 subsistence catch. This should not be a big issue.

11  
12 MR. MOSES: Who wrote this stuff? Who wrote this?

13  
14 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
15 That the local folks may buy four or five white fish or just a  
16 few salmon if they haven't had a chance to go out, and  
17 subsistence should not be commercialized. There should be no  
18 subsistence fishing regulations. A better question would be  
19 what would you change the commercial fishing regulations.

20  
21 MR. MOSES: I'm a bit ahead of the speaker.

22  
23 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated) The  
24 winter meeting will be in Bethel, the date to be determined.  
25 Additional material may be available after transcription of the  
26 Yupik dialogue that took place during the meeting.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
29 translated) That's the context of the minutes of the October 2  
30 and 3 meeting. It's now open for a motion to adopt the  
31 minutes.

32  
33 MR. WHITE: Are you willing to accept these notes as  
34 the original minutes -- recorded minutes? There should be  
35 recorded minutes of all the meetings that we take. These are  
36 not official, just notes. It might have been seven pages of  
37 notes that he took when they had a meeting in Akiachak when he  
38 made a copy and decided the copies would be available here by  
39 the time he gets it. And perhaps when he recorded the minutes  
40 when he sent them to the Anchorage office he might have sent  
41 all the copies to the members here.

42  
43 (Yupik spoken and English translated) The reason for -  
44 - John Andrew attended the meeting. At that meeting there was  
45 an indication that there was no notes taken at that time.  
46 Since you haven't got -- the translators are translating and  
47 the people who are recording the meeting will be able to  
48 transcribe into -- off the paper from the recorded version of  
49 the session. This is a short -- there was another proceedings

50 made.

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: These are not minutes. We must  
2 have some kind of better minutes than we have here. Last  
3 meeting -- there must be some reason.

4  
5 MR. ANDREW: (Yupik spoken) Fritz sent the minutes as  
6 a -- and it was sent to Anchorage. The disc that he was  
7 provided he could not use that, the wording. It's sent roughly  
8 10 days after the October meeting. But they never sent those  
9 because they were so thick number of pages.

10  
11 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I think they should make it a  
12 requirement that at every meeting that minutes are taken that  
13 the secretary be provided with a copy of the recorded minutes.

14  
15 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: We do have we had a recording  
16 secretary. Even when we had the meeting up there we had a  
17 recording secretary. I don't know what happened to those  
18 minutes. I think at this time to make things go a little bit  
19 faster we could leave these minutes, October 2 and 3 Minutes,  
20 continuation to the next meeting. Maybe we could approach it  
21 that way since they are not available.

22  
23 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken) Mr. Chairman, we'll do the  
24 review of the October minutes at the next meeting at Hooper Bay  
25 when the minutes are available, at which time they will be  
26 acted on.

27  
28 MR. MOSES: And David O. David is stating that the  
29 minutes of the meeting he has never seen the recorded meetings  
30 or the ones written, they're hard to get. So give us the  
31 liberty of the hassle with it, so how the minutes are recorded  
32 he doesn't know. He says whenever you read the minutes and  
33 when you hear them and all there is is a note to where the  
34 motion was to be made and the secretary -- the board secretary  
35 should be able to record the activities rather than sitting  
36 down and (indiscernible). He should be able to record onto the  
37 paper what is going on. That's not the first time that the  
38 secretary, there's probably two of 'em that could take the  
39 minutes.

40  
41 So he's making a motion that he would like to see the  
42 minutes on black and white and those minutes would be made  
43 available to the board members as well as anybody who is  
44 interested.

45  
46 MR. WILDE: That's your motion?

47  
48 MR. DAVID: That's my motion.

49



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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Seconded by Lester. Discussion?

2  
3 MR. DAVID: Question.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. All  
6 in favor, say aye?

7  
8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9  
10 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Opposed, same sign? Motion  
11 carried. The motion is at the next meeting we're going to go  
12 over the minutes of October 2 and 3, and beforehand -- before  
13 the time of the meeting comes, send them out to the board  
14 members to look at them before the next meeting at Hooper Bay.

15  
16 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, that includes this meeting.

17  
18 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Including these meeting minutes.  
19 Okay. (Yupik spoken)

20  
21 MR. ANDREW: (Yupik spoken)

22  
23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah. (Yupik spoken and English  
24 translated) The recorder is requesting that we have a short  
25 break so we can make some adjustments on the recording system.  
26 Five minutes worth. Coffee is readily available out there,  
27 some doughnuts.

28  
29 (Off record)

30  
31 (On record)

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: For better record, (Yupik spoken  
34 and English translated) for better record. (Yupik spoken)  
35 Anyone that's about to speak, they should give his name, his  
36 residency, and if you're going to speak be sure and have the  
37 mike in front of you and also the translators will have to  
38 utilize their mike so the official recorders can pick up the  
39 information that's needed.

40  
41 REPORTER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

42  
43 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
44 translated) So the consensus were that the minutes of the  
45 October 2 and 3 meeting, including this meeting right now, will  
46 be reviewed next meeting.

47  
48 Open floor to public comment on Federal Subsistence  
49 Management program right now. At this opportunity will be

50 continued throughout all the meeting. You have to fill out the

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1 testifier form, if you wish to speak to a particular proposal.  
2 Please indicate on your form. (Yupik spoken)

3

4 MR. MOSES: He's translating the English version that  
5 he gave out earlier regarding the people who want to make a  
6 comment or presentation of some sort, should be written down  
7 regarding the proposals.

8

9 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
10 translation) At this time the proposals are -- these are  
11 little -- regarding the proposals he's a little vague in  
12 knowing what's in the proposals. So people, if they fill these  
13 papers out, whoever is going to be making a comment, perhaps  
14 fill those little papers out. And the proposals, when they're  
15 presented, the proposals should have copies for everyone to  
16 have. So for those board members that are not very up to date  
17 on the issues, we'll go along with the meeting and whenever  
18 they're handed proposals.

19

20 MR. ANDREW Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and English  
21 translated) There are three proposals extending the season and  
22 bag limit by increasing the -- increasing the take in Unit 18  
23 in 54. Hooper Bay, Chevak and Scammon Bay to be included  
24 towards the caribou in 22(A) in the area of the already  
25 (indiscernible) into the section. Quyana.

26

27 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
28 translation) So the proposals are there and these requests  
29 there are these caribou, the need for caribou harvest opening,  
30 when the opening will be and how many they can take. And in  
31 Unit 18 regarding the moose because it is traditional use from  
32 time immemorial in the Unit 18, and this proposal, upper  
33 northern area of the Yukon regarding the caribou, when they  
34 drafted they excluded Hooper Bay, Chevak and Scammon Bay, but  
35 this particular proposal is to -- tomorrow these will be  
36 presented -- and these proposals will be addressed tomorrow.  
37 They're showing a map around regarding the region, I guess.

38

39 MR. MOSES: And he's going to do this in English again.

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: These proposals, items VII (sic),  
42 we're going to delay this till tomorrow. So tomorrow item VII  
43 (sic), and also item A., Old Business, we will delay this for  
44 tomorrow. A., the implementation of federal subsistence  
45 fisheries, we're going to delay these items for tomorrow.

46

47 Right now we're working on VIII., Old Business, B.,  
48 Regional Council Charter: Inclusion of Rural and alternates  
49 Update. John Andrew? Yeah, go ahead.



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1 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken  
2 and English translated) Last year when they had the -- these  
3 villages for the council to recognize, if the council used to  
4 be a member, it needs to be from a village. So all the way  
5 from Region 1 to Southeast, all the way up to the Southeast,  
6 North Slope when they had meetings, 1996 in September and  
7 October, they were all asked, and the response was, in the  
8 Region 1, Section F in your books, and Southeast responded they  
9 didn't want to talk or respond because the message was not  
10 carrying, but that would be reviewed in 1998. And the reason  
11 Southcentral and the Anchorage area where a requirement was  
12 also put on table to be recognized, Kodiak/Aleutians -- Kodiak  
13 and Aleutians also spoke on. Region 4., Bristol Bay, arranged  
14 to where the requirement in the charter. Region 5, Yukon-  
15 Kuskokwim, re-instate rural requirement in Charter as well.  
16 And Western Interior, the Region 6 Western Interior not an  
17 issue, no concerns. Region 7, Seward Peninsula, reinstated  
18 rural requirement. Region 8, Northwest Arctic to reinstate  
19 rural requirement in charter. And also Region 9, Eastern  
20 Interior, no problem in area, not contesting board's decision.  
21 And North Slope, Region 10, to reinstate rural requirement in  
22 charter as well. So the greater majority of those people have  
23 wanted it to be included by seven. And one, southeast, didn't  
24 make any comment, and that two were in opposition. So rural  
25 issue at this time.....

26  
27 And on the back of this it was addressed to the  
28 chairman -- there was a letter written to the chairman, and in  
29 this letter there's a lot of information in this in the laws on  
30 rural -- regarding rural issues. The rural is not recognized,  
31 but if he is named as being from that area or a resident, just  
32 a resident of that area, then he will be recognized. So far so  
33 good on this issue.

34  
35 And right behind this one here, alternates for the  
36 council they were also last summer, just like that other one  
37 that we just talked about, June of 1996 the Federal Subsistence  
38 Board finished the Eastern Interior Regional Council to have  
39 alternates until all councils have had the opportunity to  
40 comment. The board stated that it is preferable to adopt a  
41 change which includes recommendations from all regions. The  
42 board then requested the rural residency requirement was also  
43 in -- all the way from Southeast to -- all the way up to the  
44 North Slope was being talked on.

45  
46 So it was in Southeast, Region 1, alternates, they  
47 didn't want to have any alternates needed. Their meetings --  
48 and Southcentral was the same way, alternates not needed.  
49 Kodiak/Aleutians recommended two alternates; one for Kodiak and

50 one for Aleutian Pribilof Islands. And Bristol Bay, Region 4,

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1 alternates not needed. RAC member attendance is good. And  
2 Region 5, Yukon-Kuskokwim recommends alternates for every RAC  
3 member or two alternates at-large. Western Interior request  
4 recommended two alternates; one for northern area and one for  
5 southern area. Northern area is represented by the Kuskokwim  
6 area and southern area. And the Seward Peninsula recommended  
7 two alternates; one for Unit 22(A) and 22(B), and the other one  
8 for Unit 22(D) and 22(E). Northwest Arctic, Region 8,  
9 alternates not needed. RAC member attendance is good. And  
10 Regio 9, all the way from Interior to Eastern Interior,  
11 recommended alternates for every RAC member. They have nine  
12 members there. And North Slope, Region 10, discussion with no  
13 action taken.

14

15 That is the extent of this report.

16

17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Qu yana. (Yupik spoken and  
18 English translation. That Region 5, Yukon-Kuskokwim 5,  
19 recommendation alternates for every RAC member or two  
20 alternates at large. Which of those should you recommend for  
21 the -- or have an alternate recommendation for this region?  
22 Paul John.

23

24 MR. JOHN: Paul John, from Toksook Bay. Those people  
25 that don't need -- that don't want to have alternates, they  
26 don't know -- they don't know the exact meaning of subsistence.  
27 Those people that don't recommend to have an alternate, those  
28 are the people that don't particularly rely on the western food  
29 and society, but these who have a desire to have an alternate  
30 are the people that understand the value of subsisting from the  
31 land. And so those that don't want to have alternates in his  
32 feeling or understanding, when it's time for them to eat, they  
33 go over to the store and pick out their own selections from the  
34 shelves. Those are the people that don't want alternates. So  
35 he recommends we have alternates for the representatives.  
36 Thank you.

37

38 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Antone.

39

40 MR. ANVIL: Antone Anvil, from Bethel. (Yupik spoken  
41 and English translation) The recommendation from Paul John,  
42 I'm in support of Paul John. It is very true that the need for  
43 an alternate for a representative when he's not there is  
44 important. So if a member is not -- they're not going to be  
45 present it's important that the alternate is selected. So  
46 since he didn't have any alternate to be -- he would have been  
47 in Anchorage right now if he had a selected alternate for this  
48 meeting. He would have been with his brother in Anchorage. So  
49 since he didn't have anyone selected for his alternate, he had

50 to make an effort to be back here.

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1 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Fritz.

2

3 MR. GEORGE: Fritz George, from Akiachak. (Yupik  
4 spoken and English translation) I'm sorry, Paul John, but I  
5 would like to admit something here. These people that don't  
6 need -- that stated that they didn't need any alternates, they  
7 believe that their people are subsisting from the land. They  
8 don't want to be absent. They don't want to be absent. They  
9 believe that their people subsist from the land as well.

10

11 MR. MOSES: His understanding is that because the  
12 statement, the attendance is good, their attendance to the  
13 meeting is good and the alternate is just a mere fixture in  
14 there, so -- so Paul John stated again that he understands the  
15 value of an alternate for a representative on the regional  
16 advisory council, so thereby he is called as such, sitting down  
17 on a -- if in the event that his family member is in an  
18 emergency situation, he could not be there. So the value of  
19 having a representative in these sessions is important, in his  
20 feeling.

21

22 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translation) If  
23 he has no alternates to represent the area in which he  
24 represents would he be named as absent or excused? So thereby  
25 he would like to have a strong.....

26

27 MR. MOSES: He has a strong feeling for having an  
28 alternate on a session of this nature.

29

30 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
31 Attendance is good, it states that. I look at it as Paul John  
32 does, they are working. Do they just pull themselves out of  
33 their job and go to the meeting? But for these people around  
34 here it's different. The Natives around here work for the  
35 stomach from the land. At which time he wasn't -- in one of  
36 the meetings he wasn't available to be here because he had to  
37 go out and hunt for himself and his family, so it's just like  
38 in those instances that people of this area when he missed that  
39 meeting he didn't have a representative. So the value of  
40 having an alternate seems to be valued in the rural villages of  
41 this area. There will be a time, even if you're willing --  
42 even if the body is willing that you can't be there. There's  
43 always a problem of some kind from above, a problem. So with  
44 that in mind, the value of having an alternate is valuable.  
45 Although even if he stated attendance is good, so people down  
46 there don't have too much feeling for subsistence, but they  
47 always attend meetings. So not being available is always a  
48 problem. There will be a time for someone who cannot be there,  
49 but thereby you've got to have someone selected to fill the

50 vacancy so the struggle for the Native regional people will be

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1 at ease. We can't all be here. So we -- both a representative  
2 and an alternative at the time will not be hurt, so when a  
3 representative is not available the alternate can be here. He  
4 can't absolutely bring alternate and representative both  
5 because they're stingy with money, along that line.

6  
7 MR. MOSES: So he feels having an alternate is a  
8 valuable thing.

9 White (sic) from Nunapitchuk. Last fall I had a  
10 feeling, along with -- for every regional council meeting that  
11 the alternate be available and recognized. So I'm used to not  
12 being available because I belong to all kinds of organizations,  
13 there's been times that I couldn't be there. So with that  
14 thought in mind, I have the same feeling as Michael and David  
15 O. David -- I mean Paul John and David O. David. So, an  
16 alternate is important, especially for those of us who come  
17 from a small village in the region. When they were on the  
18 advisory board, the alternate -- having an alternate was  
19 understood and accepted and was included into the program and  
20 we I'd like to see that for this body to do the same thing.

21  
22 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
23 translation) This meeting will go a lot faster or sooner, go  
24 along better if we go ahead and act on this. We will be.....

25  
26 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman.

27  
28 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David.

29  
30 MR. DAVID: David O. David. (Yupik spoken and English  
31 translation) I'd like to ask, perhaps I'll get an answer now.  
32 Are we from units -- can the alternate be selected from the  
33 outside of the uni- -- from the other village because we're in  
34 the units. Can an alternate be selected from another village  
35 rather than from the representative's village? Because we're  
36 divided into units.

37  
38 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: The floor recognizes Paul  
39 Manumik.

40  
41 MR. MANUMIK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, quyana. You see,  
42 David, where an alternate can be selected, I'm in favor of  
43 having an alternate. In response to David's question about  
44 having an alternate, any person can be selected as an alternate  
45 from within the unit, not necessarily from where the  
46 representative is living. So the first recommendation, all of  
47 these members can have an alternate to -- so 1998 to have it  
48 reviewed when they have a meeting in 1998, who this person was  
49 to have a motion, it would be inserted into the regional

50 charter as a recommendation.

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1 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
2 David O. David. I move therefore in respect to having an  
3 alternate from another village from within the unit, so I make  
4 a motion to recommend alternates for every RAC members.

5  
6 MR. ANVIL: Second.

7  
8 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Question.  
9 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been.....

10  
11 MR. WILDE: Mr. Chairman, I have one question. If the  
12 board approves the motion would that mean the alternates would  
13 also attend the meetings at the time you attend the meeting or  
14 only when the representative cannot attend? Would that mean  
15 that alternates cannot attend meetings at the time you are  
16 attending meetings or do they attend meetings only when the  
17 representative cannot attend? It might be a good idea to  
18 reduce the number of alternates down to two in the region.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Paul Manumik, you may respond to  
21 that.

22  
23 MR. MANUMIK: I'm Paul Manumik, Sr. The alternates, as  
24 I understand it, don't come unless they're requested to come.  
25 That's the way I understand the alternates would work.

26  
27 MR. GEORGE: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
28 translated) David O. David's motion alludes to if a  
29 representative definitely cannot make it to the meeting, then  
30 the alternate therefore by is called upon.

31  
32 MR. MOSES: He has stated he has taken -- there was not  
33 a quorum. He's saying that if a representative is not going to  
34 be present, how that's going to be stated, absent or excused,  
35 so if the representative feels that his seat is important on  
36 this board, then he should make every effort to make it so that  
37 he can be excused but his alternate be selected and notified on  
38 time.

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any more discussion? Question's  
41 been called for. All in favor say aye.

42  
43 IN UNISON: Aye.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Opposed, say no?

46  
47 MR. WILDE: No. Got to be different.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Motion carries. So council

50 recommends alternates for every representative of the council.

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1 That's the motion, to let you guys know that the original  
2 charter will be renewed and this recommendation will be  
3 presented to the board at that time.

4

5 We're down to Talking Points, C., Annual Report, 1996,  
6 further issues to be Added, approval. John Andrew.

7

8 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken  
9 and English translation) This annual report needs to be  
10 discussed and presented to you regarding the king salmon and  
11 the moose -- Kuskokwim moose. These should be compiled into  
12 the annual report in the region, and then it will be given to  
13 the chair, and from there it will go to you for discussion.  
14 Then you can act on Section G, draft form, it is not completely  
15 drafted into the formal one. The first one was brought for  
16 white fish. Two years ago this issue came up for discussion,  
17 but the decision has never been made regarding this particular  
18 species, and no action has ever been taken. So although it can  
19 be put on discussion, whenever the subsistence or the board or  
20 council is not given September '97, perhaps the subsistence  
21 fisheries, at which time, perhaps, it can be given for the  
22 review as well. And for those of us, when we go to the  
23 meeting, we could put that into the next meeting or give it to  
24 the attention of the AVCP and then ask them for their support.  
25 That is the way it is roughly documented. So this particular  
26 white fish seems to be declining, to some degree. At the time  
27 when they had a meeting in 1995 at Bethel, that's the first  
28 time it was brought up for discussion regarding the Nunamuit  
29 (ph) in the area in which there are a lot of white fish, but  
30 for some reason those particular species are declining to some  
31 degree. So as I observed, the white fish -- as they observe  
32 it, are declining to some degree every year. In another area  
33 where the fish -- so that's another place that over -- since  
34 somewhat over-harvested, the white fish, and all other  
35 tributaries are touched as well. There are a few things that I  
36 managed to bypass, upper part of where white fish is also  
37 included, and all the lakes and ponds where the white fish  
38 usually are plentiful are declining. In the Ilak (ph) area all  
39 of the locations and areas that I named are known to have  
40 declining broad head white fish in those areas. So another  
41 reason why these people are declining to some degree, it's  
42 believed to be that some people block the tributary completely  
43 across with a net and thereby causing the white fish to stay  
44 out rather than going upstream to spawn. So that could be one  
45 reason why the decline is, and/or why some Native are catching  
46 a lot more than they need, particularly to give to the stores  
47 to sell to the public.

48

49 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)



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1 MR. HUNT: He was turning over the -- over to the  
2 chairman, but the chairman wants him to go ahead and talk about  
3 the rest of the issues by himself.

4  
5 Now he's going to talk about the king salmon.

6  
7 MR. ANDREW: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
8 They can take a look at some of these issues in another  
9 meeting. The second one is the king salmon. This was brought  
10 up by the Natural Resources Department of AVCP. They're saying  
11 that more and more king salmon are being flown out of Y-K Delta  
12 and other parts of Alaska and even into the international  
13 scheme. These subsistence caught salmon are flown out of  
14 Bethel, the transportation hub, as fresh iced fish, flat  
15 frozen, smoked, dried, canned or prepared in other ways. And  
16 some of these are being taken out of the area, sport caught  
17 fish or subsistence caught fish taken to other relatives and  
18 friends. Some are being sold under the table to the black  
19 market. As more people will be moving into the Bethel area, we  
20 have more users of this resources. The intention of the  
21 traditional sharing practices are not bad, but the over-use of  
22 the resources is potentially harmful to the biological health  
23 of the king salmon population. Something needs to be done in  
24 this area.

25  
26 The third is the moose populations in the Kuskokwim  
27 area. This is one of the major issues that has been around for  
28 some years. Nobody really wants to bring it up because it's  
29 really a hot and sensitive issue. Conservative estimate  
30 populations come from the previous years was roughly 1200 moose  
31 both on the Yukon and Kuskokwim River. Our area has a  
32 potential of maintaining roughly 1500 moose in the  
33 Yukon-Kuskokwim drainage in Unit 18. The out of season hunting  
34 and illegal poaching are the two main reasons for keeping the  
35 moose population in this area at a minimum. The other reasons  
36 are predation by wolves, calf predation by bears and poaching  
37 of cows. There are possibly two solutions. Number one is have  
38 a moratorium, and, two, enforce bulls only season. We also  
39 know with the influx of the Mulchatna caribou herd that have  
40 been migrating through the Kuskokwim area, there is no shortage  
41 of red meat. This would provide our area with an opportunity  
42 to increase the health of our moose population. Now is the  
43 time to do something positive for the health of our moose  
44 population. If we give the moose in Unit 18 a chance to  
45 multiply to a healthy level it will benefit the whole area,  
46 Mr. Chairman.

47  
48 That's all, Mr. Chairman.

49



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1 translation) These are the only points that we want to talk  
2 about, that's discussion points.

3  
4 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translation) Paul  
5 John, from Toksook Bay. I want to talk about the broad white  
6 fish. These -- since the populations of beaver have increased,  
7 including -- it has affected these white fish, including other  
8 furbearing animals such as muskrats and mink, I'm thinking  
9 about the beavers as a possible cause of the decline in broad  
10 white fish. And in 1964 we moved to Toksook Bay and we have a  
11 small stream that goes through there, and after all of these  
12 years they started -- the beaver started to build dams up river  
13 from the small slough. In about two years any type of fish  
14 don't go up that river or the slough any more, and there is no  
15 more fish in that little slough.

16  
17 And these areas where the moose occur, and they used to  
18 use these moose very carefully and that's why their population  
19 has slowly increased, but then again at the present time they  
20 have -- they have not increased in their population. And  
21 sometimes these trophy hunters have gone out there just for the  
22 sake of the antlers, and in Anchorage they had discussed that  
23 and they said that when they were talking about trophy hunters  
24 that -- and those people that were hunting for antlers already,  
25 could do whatever they wanted with the meat because they said  
26 that they had already bought the meat when they were trophy  
27 hunting for antlers.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David. O. David.

30  
31 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken)

32  
33 MR. McCANN: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
34 Billy McCann, from Bethel, originally from Napakiak. I think  
35 you can hear me.

36  
37 COURT REPORTER: Please speak into the mike.

38  
39 MR. McCANN: You want me there? Yeah, my name is Billy  
40 McCann. (Yupik spoken and English translation) This problem  
41 with the population of broad white fish, most of these people  
42 have told me, because the population has been declining because  
43 of the beaver establishing dams along the sloughs where the  
44 white fish goes up rivers to spawn. I think that maybe  
45 somebody should do something about the population of beavers.  
46 And most of these people haven't done anything to them. They  
47 haven't hunted them or trapped them, and he believes that the  
48 populations of beaver will not decline.

49

And toward the issue of moose, what I will do, go moose

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1 hunting up -- just below McGrath where the banks were pretty  
2 high. I went out hunting for a bull for one week. Most of the  
3 time nothing but cows would come out, sometimes one, two,  
4 sometimes three, but we never see any bulls. And I was  
5 thinking that these bulls, if we deplete the population of  
6 bulls then they're not -- the cows are not going to reproduce.  
7 And I believe that if we can open the cow season once in a  
8 while with great numbers of cows around that very -- and when I  
9 was watching when I went out hunting for a whole week, nothing  
10 but cows came out, and later on the bulls started showing up  
11 again. I think we need to let the people that manage these  
12 large animals and let them know about these things. And  
13 they're very knowledgeable of those things, and some of the  
14 elders around here know about these things, too. We need to  
15 consult with them.

16  
17 MR. McCANN: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
18 Issues concerning beaver populations and regulations in Unit 18  
19 and the trapping regulations says that there is no limit on  
20 beaver in Unit 18. So I'm going to -- well, I can't do it --  
21 all those beavers all by myself -- can't catch them all by  
22 myself.

23  
24 MR. WHITE: Mr. Chairman, my name is Steven White, from  
25 Eek. (Yupik spoken and English translation) This is towards  
26 the white fish on the Kuskokwim drainage area and all over in  
27 the Yukon. And there's also regulations or the laws that the  
28 Yupik people use for many, many years ago. Any kind of animal  
29 population could increase. Even though they have increased  
30 their populations can also decline. Wolves could go out there  
31 and prey on animals, that they would deplete the animal  
32 populations, and sometimes when people argue about these things  
33 their populations will decline. Also if people are very  
34 careful in what they take and how many they take, it will be  
35 okay. If a hunter, when after an animal is killed, you take  
36 care of it, clean it and bring it home, and his wife will then  
37 take care of it properly without wasting any parts of the  
38 animal. They've always said that if we take care of them this  
39 way, properly, that their populations will not decrease. And  
40 if we are say -- we are saying that other of these things are  
41 the cause of the declines in populations, those are not the  
42 reasons as to the populations but people, and hunters are the  
43 ones that cause the depletion of populations of species of  
44 animals, birds or fish. But back in our home there was once  
45 somebody that wasted animals.

46  
47 When Paul John was talking about trophy hunters and the  
48 person went for the antlers but left the animals to rot, and  
49 that is not taking care of the animal meat, it all went back to

50 the ground, but not use the resource for food. If this type of

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1 waste by humans, populations will decline.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David, I recognize you.

4

5 MR. DAVID: My name is David O. David, from  
6 Kwigillingok. (Yupik spoken and English translated)

7

8 MR. HUNT: He wants to make sure the interpreters get  
9 everything that each one of these people said is translated.

10

11 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated) Back  
12 in my home there is no broad white fish in Kwigillingok. We  
13 used to be able to eat them, but we don't see them in our area  
14 any more. I think that there needs to be something done about  
15 those populations, and where people that use them for  
16 subsistence purposes, I think they should do something about  
17 it. Maybe the Fish & Game management people should do  
18 something about it to protect them somehow.

19

20 And talking about moose, I have never taken a moose  
21 before in my life, and I have gone moose hunting with them, but  
22 I haven't taken any. They've given me some meat. But I  
23 haven't eaten anything that the wolves have killed. But we  
24 need to go do something about the populations of wolves because  
25 they're the ones that are doing it -- that are causing some of  
26 the depletion in populations of moose. I want to make sure  
27 that you people here make the decisions to let managers know  
28 that those things need to be taken care of. And we have, at  
29 this time, become like people that don't use our brains. We're  
30 just like little people or young people that not matter what we  
31 tell them, they don't even listen to what we say. And a lot of  
32 times even when we hear that there are people that do waste  
33 animals and other resources, nobody seems to be doing anything  
34 about it. And a lot of times when -- if they go along with  
35 some of the things that we suggest as to how to preserve the  
36 resources, I think this will be good if it could be  
37 incorporated into the rules. And if there's too many cows, I  
38 don't exactly know how many calves they give, and they should  
39 open -- have a cow season once in a while, and this might also  
40 be helpful. And it would also be helpful for the Yupik people  
41 in the Yukon Kuskokwim Delta. It would be like -- we should do  
42 something like our ancestors did, and whenever we come to  
43 meeting like this, we always come to find out that they already  
44 completed something.

45

46 MR. AFCAN: Mr. Chairman.

47

48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Pat Afcan.

49

MR. HUNT: He'll be able to translate himself. He's my

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1 assistant.

2

3 MR. AFCAN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. My name is Pat  
4 Afcan. (Yupik spoken and English translation) I like the  
5 recommendation that David O. David has made and I disagreed  
6 with what he said. And the recommendation was for the managers  
7 to go out there and kill all of the predators. But my elders  
8 have told me to make sure whenever any game presents itself to  
9 us, take it and take care of it in a proper way. When they go  
10 out to take animals they don't take as much as they can, but  
11 just enough to keep them from going hungry. And we have been  
12 told by our elders that whenever there's an abundance of  
13 resources, even when they are abundant, it doesn't mean to go  
14 out there and slaughter them but to take what we need. And  
15 when I see these resources, it doesn't matter whether people  
16 use 'em or not. In my experience at looking at resources,  
17 their populations have declined whether they are being used or  
18 not. And a lot of times there are many different reasons as  
19 to why animals decline. There are different things that affect  
20 the animals, not only by hunters or by human beings. And I  
21 understand that some of the fish are not migrating like they  
22 used to because of beaver dams, and we are -- you know, we can  
23 use these beaver and help decline their populations.

24

25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Chaliak.

26

27 MR. CHALIAK: My name is Chuck Chaliak, from  
28 Nunapitchuk, (Yupik spoken and English translation) and I want  
29 to talk to the issue of the broad head white fish. In our home  
30 area of Nunapitchuk when I became -- when I was young and  
31 because aware of things that were going on and we used to put a  
32 dam across the river only in the summertime. Sometime in  
33 August we used to put this dam across the river before they  
34 start -- before the white fish start going out of the river.  
35 And we did that so that we would be able to harvest them in the  
36 fall time, and then in the fall time we would be able to dip  
37 for them. And each year was different. In some years there  
38 was a lot and others years there was few. And sometimes it has  
39 to do with the weather conditions and the tides. Sometimes  
40 when the winds are blowing pretty heavy from the south, we'd  
41 have a lot of fish because the water is high. And after all of  
42 this, I'm beginning to presently realize that their populations  
43 of white fish in the Nunapitchuk area are declining. And  
44 people that used to go to Bristol Bay for cannery were starting  
45 to bring back nylon nets and used them to setnet for white fish  
46 in the lakes near where we did our dipnetting for salmon.  
47 After that it appeared that the populations of white fish were  
48 declining. And we have our own laws from our elders, and make  
49 sure that our hunting and fishing areas and our fish trapping

50 areas to make sure that we take care of and handle them very

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1 carefully and not to over-hunt or over-fish those areas. But  
2 in my awareness of what happened, I feel that these are things  
3 that happened or the decline of white fish are the cause of  
4 what happened to their declines. But I feel their populations  
5 are slowing increasing at the present time.

6  
7 And we had a meeting in our village, talking about the  
8 problems with the white fish, and we were trying to take care  
9 of this problem, and people from Atmautluak were at that  
10 meeting. And also I don't know anything about other areas, but  
11 I only know what's happening. There wasn't any beaver in our  
12 area for a long time, but I used to have some beaver meat  
13 before they start arriving in our area. And we used to go  
14 trapping for beaver with dogs. And right now in our area there  
15 is a lot of beavers all over the place, and people have been  
16 trapping them and hunting them. There doesn't seem to be any  
17 problems with their populations, there are still a lot of  
18 beaver in our area. And our ancestors used to say that when  
19 beavers are going to decline or disappear, their populations  
20 would really increase. I'm just saying these things from my  
21 own experience and what our elders have told me.

22  
23 And here in the Kuskokwim, all the other salmon, the  
24 ones that we were only taking animals -- were only take what we  
25 need, and most of the time those things were told to us by our  
26 elders and ancestors. Those were laws to take what is needed  
27 and leave the rest. And non-Native people have been doing some  
28 really heavy fishing, and we used to see -- we used to see them  
29 fishing with nets, and we used to go to see what they were  
30 doing.

31  
32 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, could he (Yupik spoken and  
33 English translation) turn his microphone up? I can't hear him.  
34 Quyana.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, thank you.

37  
38 MR. CHALIAK: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
39 And towards the moose in the Kuskokwim, we had also talked  
40 about that when we were having our meeting, and they're saying  
41 that their populations are increasing, and the populations of  
42 wolves are also increasing and also we have found carcasses of  
43 moose and caribou that have been killed by wolves. And that  
44 they had talked about that in the upper Kuskokwim area, to do  
45 something about the wolf populations and present these problems  
46 over to resource managers and see how they might be able to  
47 take care of their increasing populations or how to take the  
48 wolves so that we can -- and we've been supporting about how  
49 they might be able to decrease their populations. But I don't

50 know, and we might discuss this, and find out how we might be

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1 able to work on them.

2

3 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. John.

4

5 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translation) My  
6 name is Paul John, and our elders used to see and said that  
7 these animals, birds and fish have their own awareness, and if  
8 we take these animals and waste them, we will be punished by  
9 the being of the Universe. It is very important how we take  
10 care of the animals that we use for food.

11

12 We haven't talked about any of the animals that we take  
13 for resources from the sea. And this is what they used to say.  
14 The sea animals -- and a young man went out and lived with the  
15 sea mammals all winter long, and they used to say -- the spirit  
16 of the animals said that when an animal was taken care of well  
17 and with respect, the spirit of the animal go back to the same  
18 hunter, over and over again. And because that animal was  
19 created with respect, the animal would go back to the same  
20 hunter again and again. And someone would say, I want to go  
21 out hunting, and the spirit of the animal would say that the  
22 woman -- the husband of the hunter did not take care of me  
23 really well when the sea was preparing me, did not take care of  
24 me really good, so I'm not going to go back to that hunter  
25 again. And many years ago there were shaman that used to give  
26 guidance to the living, and one of the shaman had gone under  
27 water and approaching toward Kipnuk, and he could hear what  
28 they were saying. And went back and he heard the people as he  
29 was under water. And the voice said, let us watch the person  
30 that came by this way. And the person that has taken us as  
31 food has stepped on us, and when he comes back this way, we  
32 will also step on them. And these sayings refer to how we take  
33 care of the resources that we use for food.

34

35 And these things that cause the populations to the  
36 decline or bring back luck to the hunter, these things are the  
37 same things that Steven White was talking about. And we have  
38 to take care of how we kill these animals and make sure that  
39 they are killed properly and quickly. And a lot of times they  
40 say that the spirit of the animal goes into the bladder, and  
41 this is one of the reasons why the Eskimos along the coast used  
42 to have a bladder festival, to give the spirits back -- spirits  
43 of the sea mammals back to the sea. And the ancestors and  
44 elders used to say that we have to be careful on how we take  
45 the animals and take care of them because they have spirits.  
46 And a lot of times if they are not treated with respect and  
47 taken care of properly, they wouldn't be able to come back to  
48 the people.

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Before we have five minutes

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1 break, I'd like to introduce one of my teachers, being on the  
2 fishery and wildlife, Ida Alexie. Good to have you, Ida.

3

4 MS. ALEXIE: Thanks.

5

6 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: I worked with Ida for a long time  
7 in a state department site. Right now we're going to have a  
8 five minutes break.

9

10 (Off record)

11

12 (On record)

13

14 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: D., C & T Council Concerns,  
15 Subsistence Uses. Looks like me.

16

17 MR. WILDE: Before we -- Mr. Chairman, Lester Wilde,  
18 from Hooper Bay. Before you go on past that Talking Points,  
19 I'd like to say just a couple of things. There are areas  
20 where.....

21

22 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay. Mr. Wilde, from Hooper  
23 Bay.

24

25 MR. WILDE: (Yupik spoken - Yupik translation) used by  
26 any beavers. (Yupik spoken - Yupik translation) and they could  
27 be destroyed or (Yupik translation over English spoken, unable  
28 to transcribe). According to the Fish & Game there's  
29 (indiscernible) from touching the houses or (Yupik translation  
30 over English, unable to transcribe) in the area where that  
31 happens we would like to take those (Yupik over English) leak  
32 in there so we could get white fish (Yupik over English) I  
33 noticed this one thing, (Yupik over English) moratorium when we  
34 started in the neighborhood of (Yupik over English) that will  
35 be in (Yupik over English). Everybody on the lower Yukon  
36 decided that they were going to hunt there (Yupik over English)  
37 it's been (Yupik over English). (Yupik over English) in some  
38 areas as far as the moose controls, the population does work.  
39 (Yupik over English)

40

41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

42

43 MR. CHALIAK: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
44 Before you go any further, don't come to any conclusion yet.

45

46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Manumik.

47

48 MR. MANUMIK: Qu yana. Mr. Chairman, yeah, my name is  
49 Paul Manumik, and (Yupik spoken and English translated) towards

50 the moose and caribou, regarding that, I would like to make a

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1 comment about anything that has antlers on it. There are an  
2 influx of people that come to the state of Alaska to harvest  
3 these species, even from faraway countries and down below. I'd  
4 like to have some of these animals transplanted, just like they  
5 transplanted the muskoxen down in Nunivak Island. Perhaps if  
6 he transplanted some of these animals in their countries it  
7 would be somewhat a gain for everyone concerned. (Yupik  
8 spoken) So there is moratorium number one. (Yupik spoken)  
9 season. Number three is transplanting into different -- to  
10 their own countries. And moratorium (Yupik spoken)  
11 transplanted to (English translation) And as they transplant  
12 them perhaps they can leave them alone for 30 years or so and  
13 then perhaps after 30 years they might be able to harvest some  
14 of those and then establish a limit and grow.

15  
16 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Quyana. (Yupik spoken and  
17 English translated) We're going to come back to these  
18 discussions that we -- that we're going through, but they're  
19 going to have to take them back and act on them next --  
20 sometime in the future in the meeting.

21  
22 We'd prefer to have this come from an elder, as this  
23 was told to me and our counterparts, that subsistence is our  
24 highest priority. Although it is not now the highest priority,  
25 I am going to try and present this as I see it myself. From  
26 the time I was growing up there was no food for them, but I  
27 know that the people -- as I see each issue it was like a  
28 garden or plant, like we are pulling the roots out of each  
29 specie, the roots are being destroyed, the plants don't have a  
30 way to be grown. Although that issue is a priority, its roots  
31 are being pulled out. There was no foods then, but there was  
32 really a need. But as I see the subsistence issue, it is like  
33 a garden or a plant. The roots of these issues, just like we  
34 are pulling the roots out of these species, as I see it,  
35 whenever the roots are being destroyed the plants don't have a  
36 success in growing. Although our subsistence issue is a  
37 priority, if its roots are being pulled out, they don't grow  
38 effectively. So in doing this (translator now speaking Yupik  
39 for Chairman Wilde).....

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: .....under subsistence management  
42 regulations. Number 2, no determinations mean that subsistence  
43 hunting (translator speaking in Yupik over English). Number 3,  
44 subsistence means that the Subsistence Board (Yupik over  
45 English) there is no federal subsistence season. Number 4,  
46 Yukon-Kuskokwim's original advisory council assured (Yupik over  
47 English) that the people of this regional advisory council in  
48 the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta represented approximately 18,000  
49 residents (Yupik over English) this two year's average went

50 from 5000 to \$4000 (Yupik over English), this is the lowest

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1 income in the state of Alaska.

2

3           Sometime ago there was a study in Yukon and Kuskokwim  
4 Delta, getting information in these communities of customary  
5 and traditional use of particular resources in the area in  
6 order to be able to hunt under federal subsistence regulations.  
7 A community must demand eligible -- the studies starts federal  
8 customary and traditional subsistence use determinations for  
9 large mammals in Unit 18. These species are black bear, brown  
10 bear, caribou, moose and the muskox. For other species will be  
11 developed and revised or developed after these large mammals  
12 are complete.

13

14           I'm thinking -- today I think these large mammals is  
15 just about complete. There is other species. This regional  
16 advisory council is concerned about number 1, fish, largest  
17 king salmon in the Yukon and Kuskokwim River and also out in  
18 the sea, down to smallest fish, needle fish. These are  
19 traditional fish that we have been using from our ancestors.  
20 These fish, from king salmon all the way down to needle fish,  
21 it should be recognized to our people -- it should be  
22 recognized this is our customary and traditional use from our  
23 ancestors. These fish in the rivers are also used by coastal  
24 communities and also the communities along the rivers in our  
25 area also sell fish. In fresh water and in salt water those  
26 are also our traditional and customary uses.

27

28           Also the small games and the furbearers. These small  
29 game provides us clothing and the furs also providing us small  
30 cash income to make handicrafts. These have been used from our  
31 ancestor down until today.

32

33           Marine mammals. Harvest and use of residents in  
34 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region, marine mammals is very important  
35 to our communities, mostly to coastal communities for food and  
36 for other use. Year round sea mammals have been used in our  
37 region. Seal oil is for everything. Even use it them for  
38 medicine since the time of our ancestors. Seal skin boots and  
39 a parky and are made for the winter use to gather subsistence  
40 foods. And also ivory, walrus ivory brings cash -- few cash by  
41 handicraft. These things are very important to our people, but  
42 they are hardly recognized.

43

44           Waterfowl. Waterfowl is the only season available to  
45 subsistence hunting in our region. It provides food, clothing  
46 and a parky, still today from our ancestors. In my time when I  
47 was a child I used to wear a parky, a bird parky, and sometimes  
48 when it was really cold, like the -- I used to turn them over  
49 and wear them. These things still exist today, but we don't

50 recognize them as a number one priority to us. But we're

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1 Native people, we recognize and we know that, and now our  
2 elders know about it.

3  
4 And also berries, plants, leaves and roots, those are  
5 very important things too which has been passed down from our  
6 generations down till today that they've been using. Berries,  
7 we pick berries from the ground/land, and the plants, sometimes  
8 the plants they've been using leaving for medicine and all  
9 that, and the roots, all those roots, even muskrat root, all  
10 those are still using today. Those are best medicines there  
11 is, besides better than aspirin. Harvesting these foods  
12 seasonally and all that, it should be recognized all through  
13 one of the priorities of these roots and the leaves and the  
14 berries we should recognize them that they are very important  
15 to our people.

16  
17 Woods are very important also. It's used for heating  
18 homes, making homes, used for smoking fish, smoking meat and  
19 using for bath houses. These are customary and traditional use  
20 eligibility determinations for the resident and the communities  
21 in Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta where subsistence regional advisory  
22 council represents.

23  
24 Thank you. (Yupik spoken and translation) So much for  
25 that. I think that's our elders and our council here, their  
26 concerns. Those things have to be put down in writing what  
27 we've been doing, like with moose and caribou and all that.  
28 Those things we got to bring it up where our people and our  
29 children could look at, because it has been priority all the  
30 way from centuries and centuries and handed down even today  
31 that we're using. Right now in our homes we don't have very  
32 much food from the store, mostly that we're living on the land  
33 and then from the water. Today I would like to see these --  
34 what has been used written down as a priority and put among the  
35 determinations and approved and sent to -- presented to the  
36 Board of Subsistence -- Subsistence Board. I think some of you  
37 guys would agree with me what I'm saying. It's very important.

38  
39 Qu yana. Chuck.

40  
41 MR. CHALIAK: Yeah, qu yana. My name is Chuck Chaliak  
42 from Nunapitchuk. There was a message in what you said in that  
43 a long time ago one fish was worth at least a quarter and this  
44 here, that would be a dollar, so that's how this barter started  
45 in those days and our counterparts, the white people, started  
46 coming around to get what we have for some sugar, flour, tea,  
47 where it was a necessity in those days. So the foods sources  
48 that they have gotten from the land have been used to trade for  
49 these special needs for the families. So this practice has

50 been handed down from way back in the time when they steamers

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1 started arriving in the area or when the dollar sign was  
2 introduced to the needy people in the region. That's -- so  
3 much for that.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, Billy.

6  
7 MR. McCANN: Yeah. You know me now, my name is Billy  
8 McCann. (Yupik spoken and English translated) Starting from  
9 July, I think the effort to subsist from the land is going to  
10 be a stronger struggle in the Natives' lives because the food  
11 stem (ph) is going to be somewhat eliminated from some of the  
12 families and when they can't get the food all from the stores,  
13 there are a lot of people that get food stamps -- like when  
14 this food stamp stuff is gone, the Native people are going to  
15 relent to the subsistence way of life, and there will be a  
16 great deal more need for subsistence harvest. So there will be  
17 a time when the Natives and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
18 and Fish & Game are going to have clash a little on what they  
19 try to preserve.

20  
21 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Paul.

22 MR. JOHN: Yeah. I'm Paul John, from Toksook Bay.  
23 (Yupik spoken and English translation) It was less than a year  
24 ago that I and my friend went to Washington, D.C. It was a  
25 long journey. As I looked out of the window of the airplane I  
26 saw the whole area out there. Alaska is so far behind us now.  
27 We are the people from so far away, but why do people from so  
28 far away have to control our lifestyle? Why is that? So it  
29 seemed forever, at first, to get to Washington, D.C., having  
30 traveled from Alaska.

31  
32 So long ago as when we were growing up we all realized,  
33 we all came to our senses as soon as we were able to look  
34 around us. And in those days we were in control of what we saw  
35 around us. And now our counterparts are controlling our  
36 lifestyle from as far away as Washington D.C.. For those of us  
37 that are aboriginal -- original -- original people of the land,  
38 we live with the land. And all of the animals, they don't eat  
39 fish or meat, but all they eat is plants. Even the waterfowl  
40 they eat nothing but plants and whatever. And so along with  
41 them we subsist from the land. So it is very slow. It seems  
42 like our counterparts are gradually pulling in our resources,  
43 and sometimes we have a reason for saying that this land  
44 belongs to the America or United States or waterfowl agency,  
45 but as the original people of Alaska, as Natives, we only  
46 recognize that we are from the land and so thereby we are from  
47 the land and we do have to subsist from the land.

48  
49 If I catch a ptarmigan or a ground squirrel, as I open

50 its gizzard it will have a plant in his stomach. And if he

0031

1 catches a rabbit, the same way, and a moose will be the same  
2 way, and the caribou is also the same way. Open up their  
3 stomach and you see for yourself what they eat.

4  
5 So you know now that the land in which these Natives  
6 have survived on and their animals survive on it too, as well.  
7 So the land should not be an issue, the game should not be an  
8 issue. The word subsistence, as I see it, that the word  
9 "subsistence" is not understood by our counterparts. The state  
10 of Alaska, this issue of subsistence, has been -- I have spoken  
11 highly to realize and understand to define the word  
12 "subsistence" to our counterparts and understand it thoroughly  
13 what it means to a needy person in the state of Alaska. And I  
14 have beckoned the AFN representatives and their officers over  
15 there and asked that that issue to be there and asked to give  
16 testimony on it. Their response was always that the agenda is  
17 there and has been established and there was no place to be put  
18 into. So when it's time to talk about subsistence, that's all  
19 they talk about, subsistence, no definition has ever been  
20 given. And as the chairman has presented the idea of  
21 subsistence from the roots of a plant and how an animal thrives  
22 from the land as well as the people of the land, it's clearly  
23 understandable. On the other hand there is a law, some things  
24 like weeds have a different strength -- even a twig has  
25 strength. So if a person is using that twig of some kind, he  
26 will use that twig, and if it's too weak, he'll use a wider  
27 one, a stronger one, and it will fit the need.

28  
29 And the law has been established now, the law that has  
30 never changed. I asked someone and his response was that he  
31 could not respond to the -- that issue of land and subsistence.  
32 So I pointed it out elsewhere that my right to subsistence has  
33 no -- I have no response to it.

34  
35 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David.

36  
37 MR. DAVID: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
38 David O. David. As stated earlier, when we come to the meeting  
39 here and find out and sit down and already find out that the  
40 law has already been established for this particular species,  
41 so this is how much we're going to be able to catch or harvest,  
42 so our ancestors tell us that whenever the game or fish are  
43 available, thereby you should take advantage of the  
44 availability of the game and fish and store enough for the  
45 winter.

46  
47 In the earlier days this issue of subsistence, when he  
48 took the place as chairman, the director Dick Pospahala, the  
49 state man, he told 'em to write it down and send it to him, and

50 he doesn't even know the word subsistence -- the definition of

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1 subsistence up to this time, but he knows his style, he knows  
2 his lifestyle and how to eat and subsist on what he was raised  
3 on. But the word "subsistence" itself is in limbo in his  
4 feeling. So this subsistence word is not a lifestyle of our  
5 ancestral people. But to them the value of being able to  
6 harvest when a species or plants are available is by itself  
7 unconstitutional. And whatever the -- our counterparts produce  
8 and develop for us, these people should be able to say the  
9 subsistence word, a limitation of game and stuff should be  
10 demanded by the Natives as unconstitutional. Whoever it was --  
11 where ever who made these laws for Natives, it is  
12 unconstitutional.

13  
14 He didn't know this was a subsistence meeting but to  
15 me, David O. David, and the Natives as well, all of us, those  
16 of us that are here from far and wide, if we put the limit on  
17 what we can make or how much they can make in their work and  
18 thereby know they will take us to court, no doubt about it.  
19 And for those who -- so you might say, we have a new limit, by  
20 golly, we were limited to how much we can harvest by our  
21 ancestral people to tell us, although it's not written in the  
22 law or in any form, we know exactly how much to harvest and  
23 there is a limit for us of our ancestral people have --  
24 although it's not written, we know how much to take. The word  
25 "subsistence" and the money in which people earn -- that the  
26 value of money is sort of like hindering and limiting us as to  
27 how much we can take.

28  
29 The style of life that the Eskimos -- the Natives are  
30 leaving should be handed down to our young people so they in  
31 turn can practice the lifestyle that was handed down from us  
32 from our ancestors from time immemorial, and my dad and others  
33 goes with him a long time ago, they didn't have -- they weren't  
34 questioned as to how much to take or -- up to this time. And  
35 they have not been asked, what if we take your land? The land  
36 was not taken but it was stolen in the name of the dollar, the  
37 almighty power of that dollar. But this lifestyle as a Native,  
38 I would like the people to really understand, I do have a mind  
39 just like you. And I was created by God equally, as well as  
40 you, and we should not have any power over other neighbors,  
41 regardless of where we come from. We should understand that,  
42 brothers and sisters, and work together.

43  
44 When I talk about Christopher Columbus, as he went --  
45 the only reason why he was adventuring was to say a prayer, not  
46 to give command as to how much they could harvest from the  
47 land. He didn't come here on purpose; he was lost and he was  
48 found in the land.

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Quyana. (Yupik spoken and

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1 English translated) It's about time for lunch, but we will  
2 come back at 1:00. Don't gulp down your food, so we'll take a  
3 lunch break till 1:00. Then we'll hear reports from  
4 Mike Rearden. Quyana. We'll see you at 1:00 o'clock.

5

6 (Off record)

7

8 (On record)

9

10 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
11 translation) The meeting will start again. We're down to item  
12 VIII. F., Reports. It's time for the Yukon Delta National  
13 Wildlife Refuge, manager, Mike Rearden. Is Mike here?

14

15 MR. REARDEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've got a  
16 couple things I want to talk about. (English translated into  
17 Yupik, cannot transcribe) in your manuals. I made copies  
18 (English to Yupik) It's under section K in your agenda that you  
19 adopted there to talk about, and I'll just briefly go through  
20 it so that I can kind of interpret what this says. The changes  
21 in the appropriations committee of Congress directed the Fish &  
22 Wildlife Service to develop a taskforce or a committee to study  
23 trapping on wildlife refuges to find out how many are used, who  
24 is using them, and to what extent they're used by the Fish &  
25 Wildlife Service and other people. The Fish & Wildlife Service  
26 didn't get the information till pretty late. It was actually  
27 November before we found out that we'd been directed to do  
28 this. And our attorney -- the Fish & Wildlife attorney told us  
29 that we didn't have time to establish a taskforce, so we  
30 decided to go as a group in direction, and we collected data  
31 from Fish & Game, from fur buyers and people in villages. And  
32 we put it all together and prepared a prepared a report to  
33 Congress, and all of the other refuges in Alaska doing this,  
34 putting it all together in the regional office in Anchorage, it  
35 will be submitted to Congress with all of the other refuges  
36 across the United States.

37

38 But an important part of this process is that the  
39 public needs to make Congress aware of the importance of  
40 trapping on National Wildlife Refuges, especially in Alaska. I  
41 noticed something that Phil Guy gave me, Kwethluk already has  
42 provided a very good response to that, explaining the  
43 importance of trapping to the local economy of traditional  
44 resources on the Delta here.

45

46 Perhaps a statement from an organization like this  
47 would also be helpful to let Congress know the importance of  
48 that.

49

Fish & Wildlife Service's perspective on this is that

0034

1 trapping is recognized in ANILCA as a legislation that  
2 established these refuges as a subsistence activity, therefore  
3 it is legal on every refuge in the state of Alaska to trap.  
4 And Fish & Wildlife Service coordinated regulations on  
5 trapping with the Federal Subsistence Board and Alaska  
6 Department of Fish & Game in a timely fashion. So, my reason  
7 for being here is to just make you aware of the issue that we  
8 submitted our report for the Delta here telling how many  
9 animals that are trapped annually and how many (indiscernible -  
10 away from the microphone and Yupik translator drowning speaker  
11 out) Another important step for individuals and organizations  
12 to ultimately provide information (indiscernible) helpful step  
13 in the importance of it.

14

15 Any questions?

16

17 There's a phone number and addresses in -- well, the  
18 addresses aren't in here. If you wanted to provide statements,  
19 you could provide them either to me here at the refuge and I'll  
20 make sure that they get in to Anchorage, or you can submit them  
21 directly to Anchorage so they'll get it filed with all the  
22 other information.

23

24 MR. MANUMIK: My question, the information that you  
25 received from the fur buyers,.....

26 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Paul, please speak into a  
27 microphone, please.

28

29 MR. MANUMIK: My question is the number of reports you  
30 got from the fur buyers, is that consistent on the last three,  
31 four years back or is it just what's sitting there?

32

33 MR. REARDEN: They asked -- in some parts of the report  
34 we designed -- they asked for five years of data, and in some  
35 of it they asked what was accumulated over just the last year.  
36 They say that in the future they'll probably be more requests  
37 that will probably be compiled over a longer period of time.  
38 But, no, we recognize that some years are low and some years  
39 are high, and so it's much better to have an average.

40

41 Okay. Do you want me to talk about the emperor geese?

42

43 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: That would be all right.

44

45 MR. REARDEN: If you'd pass that around. This won't  
46 take but a few minutes of your time and it's mostly for your  
47 interest in that it reveals that emperor geese and other  
48 waterfowl -- primarily with the Waterfowl Conservation  
49 Committee, but we felt some of the things that they cover in

50 there are important enough that you should be aware of them

0035

1 all. So I don't have the population levels with me of the  
2 other geese 'cause we're not going to talk a lot about them  
3 today, but most of it is good news. The white-fronted geese  
4 are -- the population is up to over 300,000. I believe it's  
5 323,000 birds now in the Pacific flyway for white-fronted  
6 geese. Brants (ph) are remaining just about the same, cackling  
7 Canada geese are somewhere between 160 and 200,000 birds now.  
8 And their population at one time was down as low as 25,000  
9 birds. So, as a result of cooperation between people in this  
10 area, California, Oregon, Washington, all along the flyway, the  
11 hunters along that route have been successful in allowing the  
12 population to come back.

13  
14 The one population we still have serious concerns about  
15 are the emperor geese. Although this last spring when we did  
16 our survey, we counted over 80,000 birds. The previous three  
17 years, as you can see on there, they've been a little over  
18 52,000, 57,000, 54,000, so 80,000 was a pretty good jump.  
19 We're real glad to see it, but we also need to see what the  
20 surveys are in another couple of springs before we feel that  
21 we've increased the population very much. We're still seeing a  
22 significant number of emperor geese being killed on the Delta,  
23 even though in the agreement of the Y/K Geese Management Plan,  
24 people have agreed to abstain from hunting the bird, and that's  
25 enough of a concern also that when the population gets this low  
26 things affect them much more. So if we're killing a  
27 significant bunch of birds of the population it may be holding  
28 them from growing back up to a higher population that we're  
29 hoping for in the future. That's about all I had on emperor  
30 geese.

31  
32 And one other thing that we were tasked with last year,  
33 they scheduled us and asked us to see if lead shot was  
34 affecting emperor geese also because the population went down,  
35 and we studied a little over 200 -- captured a little over 200  
36 birds, took a little blood and let them -- and released the  
37 birds and tested the blood from these birds and found that lead  
38 does appear to be a problem with emperor geese.  
39 (Indiscernible) we found an incident of lead, a small incident  
40 in one bird. So that doesn't appear to be the problem.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David.

43  
44 MR. DAVID: Mike, (Yupik spoken and English  
45 translation) does the 80,000 last spring, is that the last  
46 spring count?

47  
48 MR. REARDEN: They did a count last fall. Do you  
49 remember what it was, Chuck?



0036

1 MR. HUNT: Which?

2  
3 MR. REARDEN: The fall count on emperor geese.

4  
5 MR. HUNT: I haven't got that information yet.

6  
7 MR. REARDEN: Yeah. I don't know if we have it.  
8 Generally the -- what we agreed to -- you know, like in the --  
9 years ago is that we'd use the spring count that is probably  
10 more accurate, and compare them with every year that -- we  
11 compare the spring counts all the time, and we compare the same  
12 things all the time.

13  
14 MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman, I used to sit on the.....

15  
16 REPORTER: I can't hear you, Mr. Manumik.

17  
18 MR. MANUMIK: I'm sorry. My name is Paul Manumik, and  
19 my question in on the emperor geese. I used to sit on the  
20 (indiscernible) before. At that time, if I recall correctly,  
21 the (indiscernible) had recommended that we do a fall count  
22 with the spring count and see how many would return.

23  
24 MR. REARDEN: Yes, that's correct, and we're still  
25 doing that. I just don't have the numbers to give you now, but  
26 that's one of the reasons they do it is so they can get an idea  
27 of how many birds leave the Delta and then how many are coming  
28 back, and get an idea of how many birds are surviving the  
29 winter.

30  
31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David.

32  
33 MR. DAVID: We just increased -- they don't allow no  
34 sports hunting until you reach the number that (indiscernible).

35  
36 MR. REARDEN: Right. Yeah, there won't be any sport  
37 hunting allowed at all until it reaches 150,000 birds, and  
38 hopefully there will be a reduction (indiscernible) so that we  
39 can get the population back up to a reasonable height.

40  
41 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
42 translated) Any more questions on the emperor geese? I see  
43 none.

44  
45 I will now recognize Chuck Hunt to give us an update.

46  
47 MR. HUNT: Yeah. Quyana, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken)  
48 I'm a translator, but first of all I'm going to report it in  
49 Yupik, and I'll translate it in English. It will be a lot

50 better that way for Moses. We have done this before, so it's

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1 not going to be too difficult for him to translate. (Yupik  
2 spoken)

3  
4 Now I'll do it in English. We have been doing steel  
5 shot for quite some time. I think it's over five years now.  
6 We started prior to 1996 with a couple of steel shot seminars,  
7 including clinics here in Bethel, and we've done one in  
8 Emmonak, and then Chevak and Toksook Bay. And last year, in  
9 1996, we conducted seminars in city clinics in 12 villages; the  
10 villages of St. Marys, Mountain Village, Marshal, Quinhagak,  
11 Chefornak, Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Kotlik, Nunapitchuk, Pilot  
12 Station, Tuntutuliak, and Kwethluk. In all the attendance of  
13 the seminar type of meetings that we had, we had a total of 183  
14 participants. And in the attendance of actual shooting,  
15 hunters learning how to use steel shot, we had 151 attendants.  
16 And so far we've had very good attendance in all of the steel  
17 shot seminars and shooting clinics that we've had.

18  
19 And for this coming April we are planning to conduct  
20 steel shot seminars and shooting clinics in four villages, the  
21 villages of Nightmuit, Kongiganak, Kotlik and Mountain Village.  
22 And we're planning to continue on from the latter part of July  
23 and all of August, possibly in nine villages. If we can get  
24 permission from them prior to doing any steel shot seminars and  
25 shooting clinics we usually have permission from the village to  
26 conduct these. For July and August we have Newtok, Tununak,  
27 Kipnuk, Kwigillingok, Alakanuk, Sheldon Point, Russian Mission,  
28 Aniak, and Mekoryuk.

29 And last year we made a resolution for the villages to  
30 sign in support of -- including the use of non-toxic steel shot  
31 in hunting or subsistence hunting of waterfowl to the Y/K Delta  
32 Goose Management Plan. And we have, at the present time, 24  
33 resolutions from 24 villages supporting that steel shot or  
34 non-toxic steel shot be incorporated into the Y/K Delta Goose  
35 Management Plan.

36  
37 And I think there's a couple of people from Nightmute  
38 here, we have heard that their council has stated that they are  
39 no longer going to sell any lead shot in their stores once they  
40 have sold out all of their lead shot, it's going to be nothing  
41 but steel shot in that village. And I want to comment on that.  
42 That makes me feel really happy that one village -- there's  
43 another village also that is planning on doing the same thing.  
44 In the resolution that we sent out to the villages in support  
45 of including non-toxic steel shot in the Goose Management Plan,  
46 we also stated that the Fish & Wildlife Service and Alaska  
47 Department of Fish & Game will start enforcing the use of steel  
48 shot in March of 1998, and I think that by August of 1998, we  
49 will have approximately six more villages to do our non-toxic

50 steel shot seminars and shooting clinics. And these villages

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1 will probably be Kasigluk, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Oscarville,  
2 Akiak, Akiachak and Tuluksak.

3  
4 And much of the participation that we have in the  
5 village seminars and shooting clinics have been very good, and  
6 we haven't had any problems out in the villages, except for  
7 trying to get to the village in August is something else. We  
8 usually have some real heavy winds and a lot of rain, and  
9 that's probably the only problem that we have in trying to get  
10 to the villages. And we're still continuing to do this. And  
11 if we haven't gotten to your village yet, it's because you're  
12 not on our list yet. But when we do go out, we do get  
13 permission from the traditional council to do the seminars and  
14 shooting clinics. But the refuge information technicians that  
15 are traveling out in the villages also talk about lead  
16 poisoning in waterfowl and use of steel shots in their  
17 meetings, also in their school programs. (Yupik spoken)

18  
19 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Afcan.

20  
21 MR. AFCAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is  
22 Patrick Afcan, with Fish & Wildlife Service. I'd like to add  
23 to Chuck's information on steel shot. When I attend meetings  
24 in villages a lot of people ask me why the government does not  
25 want to stop the manufacturers from making lead shot for  
26 shotguns, and I advise them that a lot of people steel use lead  
27 shot for other hunting besides geese at their sites and there's  
28 other land animals, but while hunting waterfowl they're  
29 required to use steel shot. And up here in Alaska as well I  
30 don't think the sale of lead shot will ever stop because the  
31 lead shot is cheaper as well as they can be used in the  
32 wintertime for ptarmigan and rabbits, both are used with lead  
33 shot in the wintertime all right, but in the spring time the  
34 waterfowl have been -- this steel shot use will become  
35 mandatory for summer use. Quyana.

36  
37 MR. HUNT: I would like to make a comment on that and  
38 make -- hopefully make my assistant -- help bring him up to  
39 date. Use of lead shot for waterfowl has been illegal since  
40 September 1, 1991, but what we -- why we have taken that long  
41 is because we need to inform the people out in the villages  
42 before we start enforcing it. We want to make sure that people  
43 out in the villages and hunters are informed and know how to  
44 use steel shot before we start enforcing it, so the enforcement  
45 for the use of steel shot will become -- they will start  
46 enforcing it as of March 1998 for everything, whether it be  
47 waterfowl, whether it be wintertime for ptarmigans and rabbits,  
48 it doesn't matter. (Yupik translation)

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: David O. David.

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1 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman, Chuck (Yupik spoken and  
2 English translation) although their.....

3  
4 MR. HUNT: (Yupik spoken)

5  
6 MR. DAVID: Mr. Chairman,.....

7  
8 MR. HUNT: (English translation) David O. David asked  
9 me if we have asked the manufacturers to stop manufacturing  
10 lead -- lead shot. There has not been any rule or regulation  
11 or law establishing to that effect, so they're going to  
12 continue to manufacture lead shot until such time Congress or  
13 the states make laws stating that they cannot use lead shot any  
14 more.

15  
16 MR. DAVID: If they're not going to be using lead shots  
17 -- if we are going to have to stop using lead shots, you have  
18 got to outlaw manufacturers, too, not -- and not make crooks  
19 out of us hunters. That's no fair. If they're still making  
20 lead shots, we're -- I am still going to be buying them.

21  
22 MR. HUNT: Like I said earlier, David, as of March  
23 1998, lead shot is going to be enforced and you wouldn't be  
24 able to use them on the refuge.

25  
26 MR. DAVID: If they're in the store -- I don't know  
27 what to say about that.

28  
29 MR. HUNT: We will look for you.

30 MR. DAVID: You won't have to look for me; you know  
31 where to find me.

32  
33 MR. HUNT: I know that, but whenever I get there I have  
34 to look for you all the time.

35  
36 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Paul Manumik.

37  
38 MR. MANUMIK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Paul Manumik here.  
39 Thank you. Chuck, when your RITs are in my village in Sheldon  
40 Point they did not cover the steel shot. I was wondering if  
41 they could to that the next time they come around, sometime in  
42 April or March?

43  
44 MR. HUNT: We're going to have -- we're planning to  
45 have a steel shot seminar and shooting clinic in July and  
46 August in Sheldon Point, so we'll be able to cover it at that  
47 time, but if you want us to go over there and talk to you about  
48 steel shot and lead poisoning or how to use steel shot, I'll go  
49 over there myself.



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1 MR. MANUMIK: Well, what I'm asking is the RITs, when  
2 they go to all of the villages explaining that for the first  
3 time,.....

4  
5 MR. HUNT: Yeah, they are supposed to do that.

6  
7 MR. MANUMIK: And include.....

8  
9 MR. HUNT: They are supposed to include lead poisoning  
10 in waterfowl and steel shot. If they haven't done that, I want  
11 to know.

12  
13 MR. MANUMIK: Quyana.

14  
15 MR. HUNT: Quyana.

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any more questions? Mr. Philip.  
18 (Yupik spoken)

19  
20 MR. PHILIP: Yeah, quyana, Mr. Chairman, I'm  
21 Philip Guy. (Yupik spoken and English translation) Whenever  
22 the use of steel shot arises, how about these shotguns, the  
23 bores of the shotguns, how will they be affected with the use  
24 of steel shot? Is it -- do we have to buy new barrels for our  
25 shotguns or altogether new shotguns in order to use a steel  
26 shot? Include in the seminar/clinics, and whenever RITs are in  
27 travel will that be better to have our -- just go along with  
28 them?

29  
30 MR. HUNT: (Yupik spoken and English translation) What  
31 he was saying was that there is a lot of people that are a lot  
32 of times afraid that steel shot will do damage to the gun, such  
33 as blow up or scrape the barrel and things like that. Yeah,  
34 these are, you know, true things that a lot of people talk  
35 about, but that is the reason why we have the steel shot  
36 seminars and shooting clinics, and all of my RITs are trained  
37 in the use of steel shot, and they have a very good  
38 understanding of it, and these are some of the things that they  
39 have to answer when they're talking about steel shot and the  
40 use of shotguns with steel shot. But, then again, steel shot  
41 is safe -- very, very safe. It's new technology, and, of  
42 course, when new technology shows up a lot of people are  
43 usually afraid to use it because it's something that they have  
44 never used before.

45  
46 I remember when we first got snowmachines, some guys  
47 went out there and broke down and walked home and didn't know  
48 how to fix it, didn't know how to work on it. So they went  
49 back to their dog teams. Nowadays, most people go with

50 snowmachines. It's the same thing, it's a new technology and

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1 people are afraid of new technology. I never liked computers,  
2 I felt I liked my typewriter, but now that I know how to use my  
3 typewriter -- or my computer, I'm never going to trade it for a  
4 manual typewriter or electric typewriter, it doesn't matter.

5  
6 (Yupik translation)

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Moses.

9  
10 MR. MOSES: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to  
11 respond to Paul Manumik's comment regarding why the RITs were  
12 not delivering the message about the steel shot use. I was  
13 just in Sheldon Point where Paul Manumik is from, and he was in  
14 attendance in a public meeting, and when I expressed the  
15 importance of why the birds are being poisoned by lead, when I  
16 bring that about spectacled eiders and stellar eiders and other  
17 types of birds, other species that are being poisoned by steel  
18 shot -- I mean by lead shot, particularly in my home area where  
19 they study was made, in Hogshlew (ph), down on the Kajunik  
20 (ph), lower Kajunik (ph) area, they asked me, never, ever, any  
21 hunters out in that area for years, those lead shots may have  
22 been shot some years ago, but they are still collect- -- the  
23 birds are still eating them. When I stressed why it is  
24 important for us to lay off the lead shot, it's not going to  
25 heal it right away, because all that lead shot is there yet,  
26 and I have beckoned the public, please, prefer to using steel  
27 shot. And I also advised them that steel shot is going to be  
28 enforced in 1998. I told them that, and you were there.

29  
30 MR. MANUMIK: I may or I may not have been.....

31  
32 MR. MOSES: You may have been thinking of something  
33 else when I was giving that presentation.

34  
35 MR. MANUMIK: Well, Leo -- my name is Paul Manumik, but  
36 the point I wanted to get across was that I did not want our  
37 young hunters to get caught out there without knowing it with  
38 lead shot in their pockets and law enforcement there. What are  
39 they going to do?

40  
41 MR. HUNT: Yeah. If you want us to go over to Sheldon  
42 Point and do a steel shot seminar/shooting clinic in April,  
43 we'll be there. All we need to do is have permission from the  
44 traditional council, and we'll make the point to get over there  
45 so that all your young hunters and old hunters will be able to  
46 learn how to use steel shots. We're going to have law  
47 enforcement people traveling around this spring, the same as  
48 usual, and one of the things they're going to do is they're  
49 going to check to see if hunters are using steel shot or lead

50 shot, and if they're using lead shot, they're going to talk to

0042

1 them about using steel shot. The.....

2  
3 MR. McCANN: Mr. Chairman.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yes, Billy. You need to go to a  
6 microphone.

7  
8 MR. McCANN: Billy McCann. (Yupik spoken and English  
9 translation) It would be wise for the agency to inform the  
10 public, let alone the law enforcement -- section of the law  
11 enforcement personnel would be a nuisance in the area. I guess  
12 it would be wise for the agency here to inform the public in  
13 the villages the importance of the use or outlaw it altogether  
14 in the villages. Let them know that it is essential that they  
15 use steel shot, and completely outlaw the lead rather than  
16 having the enforcement people to go around -- so sometimes  
17 violations are done, there's always money to pay or something  
18 else.

19  
20 MR. HUNT: Thank you, Billy, that's why we go out to  
21 the villages to do our seminars and the shooting clinic, to  
22 trade people with lead shot for the same box and things like  
23 that. That's a real good idea. We tried that when we had our  
24 refuge open house here in Bethel. When was that -- November?

25  
26 MR. REARDEN: October.

27  
28 MR. HUNT: October. And quite a number of people came  
29 into the open house and brought a box of lead shot, and we  
30 traded them for whatever kind of steel shot that they wanted.  
31 And it was working well. We have thought of that, and we may go  
32 ahead and do that one of these days, too. But when we have  
33 these seminars and shooting clinics in the villages, a lot of  
34 times when we give them a test at the end of the shooting  
35 lessons, we usually give maybe a box of steel shot to the best  
36 shot, maybe sometimes two boxes if he shoots 8 out of 8. And  
37 the next guy that shoots 7 out of 8, then we give them a box,  
38 and, you know, that really makes them feel good. They just  
39 want to keep shooting until we run out of shells. And this is  
40 a good incentive, and I like that idea. We may pursue that  
41 when we hold our steel shot seminars in the villages and trade  
42 them for their lead shot. We have tried it already and it's a  
43 good idea. Quyanana, Billy.

44  
45 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Chuck.

46  
47 MR. CHALIAK: Chuck Chaliak, (Yupik spoken and English  
48 translation) before March '98 gets around to us I guess it  
49 would be best to inform all of the regional villages -- inform

50 all of the villages regarding what effects it will be through

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1 their city councils and IRA councils and corporation boards,  
2 and inform all of them about the message of the upcoming season  
3 for enforcing the steel shot use. So when that information  
4 gets to the villages, we definitely will be talking about them  
5 and informing everybody in the community that it will be  
6 enforced.

7  
8 MR. HUNT: Thank you, Chuck. We sent down all of the  
9 information -- all the information has been sent to all the  
10 stores in the villages. (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
11 We have already written to all of the small stores in the  
12 villages. I think that was done in October, and informed them  
13 of what we're going to do, hoping we're going to enforce steel  
14 shot, and we also provided them with information as to where  
15 they might be able to get steel shot at a cheaper price. And  
16 we got a note from Nightmuit, Chris Tulik (ph), who is the  
17 store manager in Nightmuit, asking -- asked us for that  
18 information. And he even ordered steel shot, found out where  
19 he can get them cheaper, how he can get them cheaper, and our  
20 refuge manager was over there not too long ago, and come to  
21 find out, the prices between lead shot and steel shot over at  
22 Nightmuit, came to find out that steel shot in that store is  
23 not more or less than lead shot.....

24  
25 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Newtok.

26  
27 MR. HUNT: Oh, not Newtok, not Nightmuit, so we're  
28 getting somewhere.

29  
30 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Steve.

31  
32 MR. WHITE: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. My name is Steven  
33 White.

34 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken)

35  
36 MR. WHITE: My name is Steven White. I'm from Eek.  
37 (Yupik spoken and English translated) In my village it's been  
38 quite a while since I've heard about the effects of the lead  
39 shot use, and they have been informed about the steel shot, and  
40 their response was that even the lead that goes into the birds,  
41 into their bodies, they never seem to have an effect. Those  
42 people seem to favor the use of lead shot, and the use of steel  
43 shot that's coming up in the future.

44  
45 Chuck explained it and he assured that steel shot will  
46 not affect -- have any effect on a barrel of the shotgun. And  
47 some people apparently have tried the difference between the  
48 lead and steel and it was feared that in this particular  
49 community that if they have to buy a replacement barrel, it

50 would be costly. So the outcome of that outlook is yet to be

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1 seen.

2

3 If I understand correctly, these people hear that they  
4 may have to change their barrels annually in order to keep up  
5 with the use of steel shot. There are many different people  
6 that make different monies in the villages. Some make less  
7 than -- way less than the others, so I sense to understand the  
8 people -- the people's annual income differs and some do not  
9 fear the annual change of a barrel on their shotgun, but some  
10 that don't have -- the next guy that don't make as much money  
11 here, the annual replacement of the barrel on the shotgun --  
12 there's another thing that they talk about.

13

14 So it's feared by the people that the enforcement --  
15 when the enforcement comes around to our area, so what effect  
16 it will be -- why to -- so the person that made a statement was  
17 the fact that why would an individual using lead shot have to  
18 be put in jail for trying to feed the family and putting food  
19 on the table? So people realize before Alaska became a state  
20 and they were -- the aboriginal people of the state was in  
21 opposition to becoming a state, and they were promised that  
22 their subsistence lifestyle would not change at all, and one of  
23 them stated that why would I have to be put in jail in trying  
24 to put food on the table for my family. But the particular  
25 person that was spoken to didn't have any response to that  
26 statement. So this incident or comment that I heard I am  
27 conveying to you.

28

29 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman.

30

31 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Mr. Hunt.

32

33 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
34 translated) You can take steel shot and take cases and cases  
35 and cases of steel shot, if your shotgun is properly  
36 maintained, clean, it's not going to do any damage to it. The  
37 only time that it may damage the barrel is if you had some snow  
38 in it or a piece of dirt in it or never kept it clean. When we  
39 went out to the villages, a lot of times we had to carry WD-40  
40 with us because a lot of these doggone guns were so dirty that,  
41 you know, they couldn't function. Honest, I've been out there.  
42 If you keep your shotgun clean and working properly and take  
43 care of it, you can shoot steel shot forever, it's not going to  
44 do any damage to it. The only time that it may damage anything  
45 is if you don't take care of your equipment. That's the only  
46 time. I know that people don't make very much money, but I  
47 have seen people come to Bethel with their dividend checks and  
48 blow it away buying bottles from bootleggers. Now, if that's a  
49 bad comparison, that's a bad comparison, but that's the truth.

50 If we're going to go out there and try to save the resources

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1 from continuing to die because of what, you know, what we do,  
2 those are the resources that we depend on for, you know,  
3 subsistence. Then we must do something to correct it, and if  
4 we don't correct it, then we're contributing to their, you  
5 know, mortality, their death.

6  
7 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: I think I'm going to ask for one  
8 more person. But one thing that you've got to understand, when  
9 we're talking about an item, we're not talking any other.  
10 We're talking about steel shot, not alcohol. So you guys have  
11 to -- I'm going to start calling order pretty soon. Go ahead.

12  
13 MR. AFCAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is  
14 Patrick Afcan, Yukon Delta. (Yupik spoken) Quyana. (No  
15 translation into English)

16  
17 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Okay.

18  
19 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translation) Even  
20 if they're going to give the cleaning and with the steel shot  
21 to how the bird is affected by any shot, a long time ago one --  
22 the people did not have access to many shotguns. In those days  
23 when the birds come by don't -- they just let it go by because  
24 it's out of range because they didn't know how far the pellets  
25 will travel actively. The reason why they let the bird go by  
26 is the fact that they were short of shells, and besides, the  
27 bird would be wounded and it will be -- it will go off and have  
28 -- it'll fall down about so many miles away before it gets out  
29 of sight, and so that's a waste of bird if they can't retrieve  
30 the bird. So the best way that those elders let them go was  
31 the fact that they took care of their shells and they saved  
32 their shells to be sure that the range is good, and to be  
33 effective it has to be measured in the distance. So where  
34 they're told that the shotgun shells were to be saved, so  
35 everybody knows how far the shotgun pellets will be effective  
36 by shooting on the water, and if the bird is too far away, the  
37 pellets will travel over the water, and if it's too far it will  
38 be way, way dispersed out there if it's too far away. But for  
39 a closer range, they know how far the pellets will be  
40 effective.

41  
42 At this time because of the influx or as many shotgun  
43 shells that they have now, as soon as they see a bird going by,  
44 regardless of the distance, it's just boom, boom, boom away and  
45 never even try to save any shotgun shells for the future. So  
46 we do know that we can estimate the effectiveness of the  
47 pellets by shooting on the water in a distance.

48  
49 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English

50 translation), Paul John. So much for the pellets and shotguns.

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1 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken) Mr. Chairman,  
2 I think we're going to have a seminar in Mountain Village. Mr.  
3 Chairman, come over.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
6 translation) We're going to go to another item on the agenda.  
7 Before the presenter is introduced, there is a lady sitting  
8 among the crowd here, Lucy Spark (ph). Quyana.

9  
10 (Yupik spoken and English translation) After that,  
11 we'll go down to number 4., Association of Village Council  
12 Presidents, Greg Roczicka. Make sure that you've got a loud  
13 speaker and who you are and.....

14  
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, my name is Greg Roczicka.  
16 I work for the resource specialist and the (indiscernible)  
17 director at (indiscernible - away from microphone. Perhaps  
18 before I get started I'd like to introduce another fellow who  
19 is here and who recently joined our shop as a management  
20 trainee, maybe you know Calvin. He's working very closely with  
21 Kim Andrew from Mountain Village.

22  
23 He (indiscernible) a lot of what is presented here, so  
24 I thought I'd present -- I just thought I'd kind of give a  
25 brief overview of.....

26  
27 (over-modulation of microphones)

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: What's wrong with the mikes?

30  
31 COURT REPORTER: I'm trying to hear you, that's all.  
32 You know, bring it up closer to you, and you can speak softly  
33 and it should come through.

34  
35 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. To put it in a broad sense, our  
36 resource department, to focus our activities on pursuing  
37 further development of co-management programs between the area  
38 villages and the state and federal government. Even giving the  
39 current situation between a political situation, I guess, if  
40 you will, this area pioneered co-management long before  
41 McDowell ever came about, and (indiscernible) program changes,  
42 if anything is going to survive in any realistic form, that's  
43 going to be the only way to go if subsistence is going to be  
44 maintained.

45  
46 Under marine mammals, we've put a lot of time and  
47 effort working with the Indigenous People's Council on marine  
48 mammals (indiscernible) through RurAL CAP, and one of their  
49 main accomplishments over this past year was to develop an

50 umbrella agreement regarding putting together co-management

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1 programs (indiscernible) state. And that was brought about  
2 through amendments of the Marine Protection Act. Along those  
3 lines, that agreement, in a large part, again was formed from  
4 the previous efforts of Calvin Simeon, our current director.  
5 He's the chairman of that committee now on a statewide basis.

6  
7 Coming up, we're working with the Alaska Department of  
8 Fish & Game to (indiscernible) funding in a program for a  
9 meeting of the -- of our regional marine mammal group,  
10 (indiscernible) otherwise the meeting is set for February 19  
11 through the 21st (indiscernible). And this group was started  
12 in November of '95 at Hooper Bay under auspices of the Section  
13 119 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, as I mentioned  
14 earlier. It consists of 21 coastal villages (indiscernible),  
15 and one of the primary components, it is a distinct entity,  
16 it's not like a part of AVCP. AVCP (indiscernible) technically  
17 own the coordination assistance and so forth, (indiscernible)  
18 body and so forth.

19  
20 Under fisheries there is -- everything is kind of on  
21 hold since it's the wintertime.

22  
23 Robert Sundown has been working with the  
24 (indiscernible) staff on planning for (indiscernible) projects  
25 -- (indiscernible) projects and the management plans for this  
26 coming summer. I haven't had a chance to get together with him  
27 yet. Those meetings were just -- actually they were held  
28 yesterday and today, and prior to that, (indiscernible) Juneau,  
29 and actually I haven't had a chance to touch bases with him a  
30 whole lot to tell you about that.

31  
32 There was a recent court decision that came down on  
33 halibut in Southeast that brought to light there are no  
34 regulations or formal recognition, if you will, for subsistence  
35 fishing halibut. That is currently being addressed. The  
36 initial steps are being taken by the North Pacific Fisheries  
37 Management Council which is meeting this week in Anchorage. I  
38 believe they're addressing this issue today to put together a  
39 first crack at some kind of formal or formalized structure or  
40 recognition for the subsistence use of halibut. There was a  
41 committee forming to address this, and one of the primary  
42 recommendations to the North Pacific Council was that the  
43 subsistence (indiscernible) have halibut and (indiscernible)  
44 and tribally based subsistence rights language in its  
45 regulatory framework. (Indiscernible voice lower than  
46 translator's)

47  
48 Regarding moose. Many of you have heard by now that  
49 the lower Kuskokwim Advisory Committee got together and had a

50 living memory on that (indiscernible) agreement and submitted a

0048

1 proposal to the State Board of Game to make a regulation if  
2 it's going to have (indiscernible) horsepower in effect to make  
3 it (indiscernible) and have like aircraft (indiscernible).  
4 They also, at that time at that meeting, requested and endorsed  
5 the (indiscernible) to put together some kind of co-management  
6 program also for (indiscernible)\_concept what is done in the  
7 Lower Yukon.

8  
9 And along the same lines, at the caribou meeting last  
10 week (indiscernible) that the lower Yukon put together a  
11 five-year moratorium when they (indiscernible). Given that  
12 we've got tens of thousands of the Mulchatna caribou coming  
13 through every year, this may be an opportune time to  
14 (indiscernible) on the lower Kuskokwim.

15  
16 Coming up on the -- everybody knows what subsistence  
17 is. I'm here just to speak to a paper on subsistence. Coming  
18 up next week, on the 15th to 17th there is scheduled to be a  
19 statewide roundtable summit of the Native groups across the  
20 state to try to come together for the purposes of trying to get  
21 some consensus as to how to address possible amendments of  
22 ANILCA, amendments to the state constitution, whatever, kind of  
23 a combination of those, something that can be satisfactory to  
24 everyone. A lot of ideas have been thrown about for years.  
25 There's a couple new ones that are seen that I certainly don't  
26 know how to (indiscernible), but there's a real possibility  
27 maybe that major history will happen. We're hoping it does.  
28 The law provides for co-management. The Alaska Bar Association  
29 is also sponsoring a forum in March, bringing together high  
30 level officials from Washington, D.C., state department of the  
31 State of Alaska, and the various organizations and groups that  
32 are involved throughout the state and Native community to talk  
33 about co-management and its viability. It has gained so much  
34 recognition over the past few years, principally about in '94  
35 when there was a summit held in Anchorage, these  
36 (indiscernible) most state government and Native entities, and  
37 we're throwing the word "co-management" around now, and people  
38 speak of it (indiscernible). Four or five years ago if it were  
39 to be mentioned in that document (indiscernible) at a  
40 governmental level now, they'd throw it in the trash. We've  
41 made some in-roads along those lines, and we'll continue to do  
42 so. And I expect if anything comes of an amendment to ANILCA  
43 that will certainly be a major (indiscernible) as well.

44  
45 I guess that concludes my report, and I'll answer any  
46 questions if you want.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Greg, (Yupik spoken) Les.  
49

MR. WILDE: Yeah, Lester Wilde. Greg, you mentioned

0049

1 something about 40 horse -- mandatory 40 horse across the  
2 board. What did you mean by that? And airplanes, too, you  
3 said.

4  
5 MR. ROCZICKA: The Holitna River is in (indiscernible)  
6 in major controversy about the last 15 to 20 years, and in 1992  
7 the State Board of Game, in response to a lawsuit that was  
8 filed and one by the Village of Sleetmute, (indiscernible), by  
9 the way was asking for a limitation of fly-in hunters. And the  
10 Board of Game chose to, rather, limit the horsepower of boats  
11 going up the river. And there was a great deal of confusion at  
12 that time because that was right after McDowell went down and  
13 the state was claiming (indiscernible). It protects  
14 subsistence and so forth, but yet when something happened, who  
15 was restricted? The subsistence user, the prime people who  
16 primarily are dependent and most dependent on it.

17  
18 MR. WILDE: Thank you.

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Quyana, Greg.  
21 (Yupik spoken and English translation) After that we should be  
22 at Togiak Wildlife Refuge. They're not here. The Bureau of  
23 Land Management don't seem to be here at this time. That  
24 brings us down to Alaska Department of Fish & Game.

25  
26 MS. ALEXIE: Quyana. (Yupik spoken) My name is  
27 (translator speaking over testimony) Fish & Game,  
28 (indiscernible) Section. (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
29 For the game I have accepted the 40 horse, so the information  
30 will be sent out to the communities in the region how they are  
31 going to accept that concept, whether to approve it or  
32 disapprove it. So when they meet in March we'll decide on what  
33 to do with that horsepower limitation. And this coming Monday  
34 there is going to be a meeting in Goodnews Bay, it is the  
35 Advisory Committee. David O. David is the chairman of that  
36 group. They're going to talk about sports fishery and  
37 activities of that nature. So -- sport fishing by hooks. And  
38 this coming spring, April 10 -- there's a deadline April 10 if  
39 you want to make a proposal regarding -- or call me on the  
40 phone and get the format to make a proposal to that effect.  
41 The lower Kuskokwim, we meet at Eek February 27, and their  
42 proposal will be accepted at that time regarding the fishery in  
43 Kuskokwim district.

44  
45 So that's the extent of my message.

46  
47 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
48 translation) Any questions or a side comment to her  
49 presentation? Quyana. Next person, ADF&G Subsistence,

50 Mike Coffing.

0050

1 MR. COFFING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mike Coffing,  
2 with Fish & Game Subsistence. I'll be brief. I'd like to  
3 follow up with something Ida mentioned or kind of connected to  
4 that. Next fall this area will be up for a meeting as well, so  
5 what I -- I think the deadline is probably going to be sometime  
6 in August of '97 for the (indiscernible) for this area. I  
7 think the meeting is going to be in Nome. Is that right, Ida?

8  
9 MS. ALEXIE: Yes.

10  
11 MR. COFFING: So this is probably going to be your last  
12 regional council meeting till maybe next fall, and probably the  
13 deadline is going to be here in August before you meet again.  
14 I wanted to make sure that you know. You'll probably hear this  
15 again. Most of you are on some of the advisory committees from  
16 your area and you'll probably hear this again.

17  
18 One thing I want to, I guess, start off with here is  
19 all of you are aware that we lost a game biologist here at the  
20 end of November, and it has certainly impacted the department's  
21 ability out here to be involved in management to the degree  
22 that we have been. I mention this because I want also to let  
23 you know that the department is in the process now of  
24 recruiting to fill that position. They're advertising for that  
25 position now. I don't know how long that will take. But  
26 hopefully when you have your next meeting next fall there will  
27 be somebody in that position here at the middle of August.

28  
29 Let's see, I guess, just to let you know, you know,  
30 we're, as usual, every year we do our subsistence salmon  
31 harvest survey on the Kuskokwim. Commercial fisheries, we do  
32 them over on the Yukon, we do them on the Kuskokwim. That  
33 information will be available here probably in another month or  
34 so, the catches from last year. And what I normally do out of  
35 the Bethel office is send summary information to all the  
36 Kuskokwim villages and let them know what their harvests were  
37 for the villages for the region. We do hearing -- subsistence  
38 hearing surveys in June, and in the middle of (indiscernible)  
39 area, and we plan to do those again.

40  
41 From here to the end of the fiscal year, which is the  
42 end of June, I think our subsistence division's activities are  
43 going to be primarily focused on marine mammals. And as Greg  
44 mentioned briefly, we do have some money we're trying to work  
45 into a cooperative agreement with AVCP and the Marine Mammal  
46 Resource Commission to write them some money to meet the  
47 travel, sit down and talk and identify research needs that they  
48 may have as a group, and go from there. And that meeting is  
49 going to be planned for the middle of February.



0051

1 I think that's basically it. I just want to also let  
2 you know that, as every year and perhaps this year as much as  
3 any, one thing that affects our ability in the department here  
4 to get involved in traveling to villages involving resource  
5 management is the budget we have, and it's likely again this  
6 year that we (indiscernible) in the legislature that normally  
7 happens as the state downsizes here, and that's, no doubt,  
8 going to affect our ability manage fish and game out here and  
9 be involved with you. That's all I have. And I'll be here  
10 tomorrow, too, to answer questions or help out where I can.

11  
12 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Go ahead,  
13 Paul John.

14  
15 MR. JOHN: (Yupik spoken and English translation) The  
16 mid-February meeting in Chefnak some of the people of the  
17 Chefnak will be in Toksook Bay and adjacent villages,  
18 Tununak, will also be in -- starting from the 14th of the month  
19 we'll be gathered in Toksook Bay as the Eskimo Dancing  
20 Festival. So since you mentioned Chefnak, I just throw this  
21 in for your information, that Toksook Bay will be a place to  
22 gather for the regional people there.

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
25 Translation) Are there questions regarding Mike's presentation  
26 or the MOA agreement? Sue's presentation will be right after  
27 the break.

28  
29 (Off record)

30  
31 (On record)

32  
33 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
34 translation) On to the New Business. Sue is going to be  
35 giving a presentation on MOA Management Agreement.

36  
37 MS. DETWILER: Thank you. My name is Sue Detwiler. I  
38 work in the Anchorage office.....

39  
40 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Please.....

41  
42 MS. DETWILER: Hold it? Okay. My name is  
43 Sue Detwiler. I work for Fish & Wildlife Service in Anchorage  
44 for the Office of Subsistence Management. I'm the coordinator  
45 for the Interagency Subsistence Staff Team that advises Federal  
46 Subsistence Board. This agenda is just an informational item.  
47 The board wanted to convey to all of the council that the state  
48 has approached the Federal Subsistence Program wanting to  
49 develop a Memorandum of Agreement between the board and the

50 Department of Fish & Game. A memorandum of agreement,

0052

1 otherwise known as a MOA, is kind of a standard document that  
2 formalizes the working relationship between the state and the  
3 federal agency. It's used in all of the states, and basically  
4 it defines agency roles and responsibilities. It promotes  
5 cooperative agreements and it establishes procedures for  
6 communication and cooperation from the state and the federal  
7 agency. In generally, it smoothed the working relationship  
8 between the state and federal agencies.

9  
10 The federal agencies have had Memoranda of Agreements  
11 with the state ever since the 1960s. They've been revised as  
12 needed. The last set of revisions was in the early 1980s when  
13 the federal government assumed subsistence management  
14 responsibilities in 1990. The state and -- or Department of  
15 Fish & Game and the federal agency decided to develop a new  
16 Memorandum of Agreement. But they were unable to reach  
17 agreement on several items, so the MOA has not been revised.

18  
19 With impending -- with the upcoming expansion of the  
20 federal jurisdictions that Federal Subsistence Management, the  
21 state has once again approached the board wanting to develop a  
22 Memorandum of Agreement. And they wrote a letter elaborating  
23 on some of the issues that they would like to see addressed in  
24 a MOA. And you have a copy of that letter that they wrote in  
25 your packets, the yellow tabs.

26  
27 And essentially what -- in a nutshell what the state is  
28 asking to have addressed in a MOA is to improve public  
29 involvement. In other words, better coordination between the  
30 state and federal advisory committees, regional councils and  
31 the board system. They would like to improve their  
32 participation in the federal regulatory process. They want  
33 appropriate compensation for their participation, their  
34 contributions to federal subsistence database. They also want  
35 to develop a statewide coordination plan -- an over-  
36 (indiscernible) coordination plan that will serve as kind of a  
37 template for very specific management plans. The Interagency  
38 Staff Committee that reports to the board met with some  
39 representatives from the Department of Fish & Game in January  
40 to discuss some of the concepts that ADF&G has set forward.  
41 And that committee subsequently talked to the board -- Federal  
42 Subsistence Board about what it was ADF&G was wanting to do.  
43 The board endorsed continued communications be developed, an  
44 MOA, and that's as far as it's gotten.

45  
46 The board did make a commitment to keep the regional  
47 councils in the loop,. So they will make sure -- so we'll make  
48 sure that as discussions proceed, the councils are kept fully  
49 informed of any developments or relevant discussions, and also

50 consult with council on issues that directly affect those

0053

1 councils as the MOA is developed.

2

3 That's all I have. Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken) Thank you.

6 (Yupik spoken) Wait. Philip Guy.

7

8 MR. GUY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Phil Guy. Just a  
9 question of Ms. Detwiler. Are we at liberty to get a copy of  
10 the revised MOA?

11

12 MS. DETWILER: We can send copies of the current one.  
13 It's kind of out of date. I hasn't been revised since 1982.  
14 We can certainly make copies available.

15

16 MR. GUY: Mr. Chairman, ma'am. I would be interested  
17 in having a copy just to see how it's structured since we think  
18 we will need to approach the agency with a group we have.  
19 Thank you.

20

21 MS. DETWILER: We'll do that.

22

23 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, thank you. Before I call  
24 the next one, for those of you who have come in late, we're  
25 looking at the agenda, VII. to VIII., Update on Implementation  
26 of Federal Subsistence Fishery, tomorrow, that agenda we're  
27 going to work on, VII. to VIII. Cultural Center (Yupik spoken)  
28 8:30. We're on New Business, A., Update on Nominations  
29 Procedures, Regional Coordinator Andrew.

30

31 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken)  
32 This particular membership is nine, so every other year there's  
33 three members whose terms are up. Names are being called for  
34 those, Chuck Chaliak -- their seats are up for re-election.  
35 All of these statewide seats are -- every three years they are  
36 outdated and they have to fill out a new piece of paper to stay  
37 on the board or council.

38

39 The federal board, we received -- it was the end of  
40 February, all of the 10 regional advisory councils. All of  
41 these regional councils, they feel for the people that are  
42 subsistence users within the state, so it was brought up to the  
43 council's attention that they have a deep feeling for the  
44 subsistence users, and they have stressed their need for  
45 further use of subsistence -- these regional councils are  
46 called not needy: Southcentral, Southeast, and down in Kodiak  
47 and Aleutians, and Bristol Bay area and Dillingham area, and  
48 also in our Kuskokwim-Yukon area, Western Interior and Seward  
49 Peninsula, Northwest Arctic, Eastern Interior and North Slope

50 Region as well.

0054

1           You can fill out the piece of paper, you can fill out  
2 the forms yourselves or nominate someone to be on the council.  
3 When you fill out an application for the position, think of B.,  
4 put down where you are from, what region. It may be woman,  
5 man, elderly, or -- how well you are aware of subsistence, the  
6 issues. And you should have a thorough knowledge of fishing  
7 use and also have a knowledge -- be knowledgeable about the  
8 game, fish, big and small. You should be ready to travel at  
9 the notice, starting from October, February. Those months are  
10 the ones that they usually meet, October and February. And  
11 when you are asked to go to the Federal Subsistence Board, you  
12 can attend those as well. These councils are -- these boards  
13 will then review all of the resumes of the people interested in  
14 those positions, and those will be sent out to the Secretary of  
15 the Interior. And after they have sent out to those, then the  
16 appointment then will be processed and who will be at the  
17 September meeting of the regional council.

18  
19           In section I in this -- I am reading from the section  
20 I, and the second page -- on the second page of the I (tab)  
21 there is an instruction how to -- the regional council  
22 chartered in 1993. These Alaskans -- to the managements and  
23 councils -- whether they are interested in serving on these  
24 councils and boards in the..... Our councils are under ANILCA  
25 subsistence management -- under the Subsistence Management  
26 Program. And the members -- if you can become a member, get  
27 accepted to the membership. Repeat. If you have to fill out  
28 towards the end of this month, the deadline, March and April  
29 will be reviewed and sometimes in the summer it will be  
30 forwarded to the D.C., perhaps in the summertime around July.  
31 And those of us here in the Yukon Delta can call 1-800-621-5804  
32 or 1-907-543-3151. On the other side of this -- for more  
33 information, please call -- around here and for the Yukon-  
34 Kuskokwim Delta region, the number is here -- on the other side  
35 of that page is the copy of an application form, Federal  
36 Subsistence Regional Advisory Council Membership.

37  
38           CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah. Max Milian (ph).

39  
40           MR. MILLAN: Yeah. My name is Max Milian,  
41 Mr. Chairman. I'm from Kwethluk. My question is the people  
42 that were mentioned that their terms were being up this year,  
43 and I brought that question up when we had a Kwethluk  
44 (indiscernible) group meeting in Kwethluk regarding who would  
45 run for members. If like there are two Bethel seats and one in  
46 Nunapitchuk, when I looked at the opinions and information that  
47 was passed out, the only requirement was that when it comes to  
48 the finding that the only requirement was that the regional  
49 advisory councils body would compose of rural Alaskans or

50 people residing in that region.

0055

1 I was wondering if the composition of the three members  
2 that their terms are up, and I was wondering if anybody in the  
3 Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta can apply besides those villages that  
4 were mentioned to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Advisory  
5 Council.

6  
7 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, Max, (Yupik spoken and  
8 English translated) There is no limitation as to who can --  
9 well, there's no specific instruction as to who can run and who  
10 can't run. Anybody from within this region can apply if he's  
11 interested to the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory  
12 Council. So the process will be made sometime in the summer of  
13 maybe July, and then they will be sent to the Secretary of the  
14 Interior. All of those recommendations will be sent there, and  
15 they themselves will decide who will be selected to serve on  
16 the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

17  
18 MR. MILIAN: Mr. Chairman, if I understand correctly,  
19 anybody can fill that out if they follow that process, so  
20 that's my understanding. Quyana.

21  
22 MR. McCANN: (Yupik spoken)

23  
24 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Billy McCann.

25  
26 MR. McCANN: Yeah, my name is Billy McCann. Earlier --  
27 I want to ask you a question. There was a vote regarding the  
28 alternates for these members. They have to fill out an  
29 application, and that application will go as far as Secretary  
30 of the Interior, and that application is approved, that  
31 individual then becomes a Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory  
32 Council member. In the event that anybody is sent out to be an  
33 alternate, what then? If his name is not on the.....

34  
35 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman, Billy, the only thing that  
36 he discussed was the terms, not regarding the alternate. All  
37 of those reviews are original councils who in 1998 they are  
38 going to review again how the status of the alternate will be.  
39 So they're only concerned about the three remaining seats that  
40 are being vacated soon.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Anything relating to regional  
43 council? Chuck.

44  
45 MR. CHALIAK: Yeah, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and  
46 English translated) There are some members that don't attend  
47 these meetings, just like Gene Peltola is absent, and how can  
48 we better have a representation? And if people that are not  
49 attending these meetings, perhaps they can be asked to drop out

50 of the council and have some reliable person fill out the

0056

1 unfinished term of someone that's not doing a good job. So  
2 perhaps it would be better that the Bethel representative --  
3 Antone is here all right. Bethel has two representatives, but  
4 Gene Peltola is not here now. So I feel that the community  
5 would put in someone that would do better service to the  
6 commitment.

7  
8 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: (Yupik spoken and English  
9 translated) So much for that. Anybody that wants to run, be  
10 he a woman, good-young-man, an elderly willing to serve in good  
11 health, good spirit, perhaps they can fill out the application  
12 form for the Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council.

13  
14 So we're down to B. on our agenda. He's going to go on  
15 leave so he'll recess after this report of 1. and 2. by  
16 Fritz George.

17  
18 MR. GEORGE: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. (Yupik spoken and  
19 English translation) What Mr. Chairman is wanting to do is  
20 recess early so he's got something to work with tomorrow.  
21 (Yupik spoken and English translation) So I'm not going to  
22 read this specific report, he's not going to read the whole  
23 thing altogether.

24  
25 November 19 and 20, 1996, chairman had let him take the  
26 -- when Anchorage Subsistence Board was going to have a meeting  
27 and he was asked to represent him in that meeting in Anchorage,  
28 and Steven White, he wanted to -- he would have gone as an  
29 advisory chairman. The 19th meeting.....

30  
31 MR. MOSES: He's going to read them as they are  
32 written, but I don't have a copy. Maybe something is coming.  
33 Can somebody make sure I have a copy of that?

34  
35 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translated)  
36 11/19/96 evening meeting of the Regional Advisory Council, RAC,  
37 The Chairs was to prioritize the issues raised during the  
38 October 31, 1996 teleconference.

39  
40 November 20, 1996, joint meeting with Federal  
41 Subsistence Board, started at 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Lion  
42 Hotel conference room. The first subject of the discussion was  
43 per diem rate of the Regional Advisory Council. The FSB gets  
44 \$300 per day while the RAC gets \$67 a day. 550 person days and  
45 budget remains at the same level. Our position is like  
46 voluntary, not for the money, sacrificing time and pay. The  
47 difference is that the FSB is getting paid for sitting here.  
48 Per diem subject, a possible item on the January meeting.  
49 Bristol Bay, these people have come out to these meetings, just

50 leave their work behind and go sit at the meetings for nothing

0057

1 and no pay, just -- while representing our lifestyle.

2

3 Last January perhaps he had discussed this per diem  
4 item about the per diem. We had discussed it at the January  
5 meeting but he wasn't there. Annual reports -- \$600 a day and  
6 these people here only got \$67, so I thought it unfair for  
7 people from around there to only have \$67.

8

9 Annual reports. Wants expeditious handling of the  
10 reports. No jurisdiction for marine mammal and migratory  
11 birds. These are under international treaties. And there are  
12 a number of proposals on these issues. Board action, and this  
13 is the result and input for the next cycle. Very easy to  
14 accomplish, get them promptly from regional coordinators.  
15 Getting right kind of equipment for RAC chairs, like computers,  
16 and be connected to e-mail, World Wide Web. Southeast wrote on  
17 the wall and got responded by the wall. Minutes of the Federal  
18 Subsistence Board is the only communication we got with the  
19 Federal Subsistence Board, that videotaped meetings be  
20 developed for new council members. Example is how the process  
21 works.

22

23 Katie John update by Ms. Rose, Chief of Resources,  
24 Subsistence Division, US Fish & Wildlife Service, works with  
25 Tom. Steps 10, 11 next. 1 to 4 accomplished and part of he  
26 proposal done.

27

28 MR. MOSES: Perhaps they don't know Tom and he doesn't  
29 him himself.

30

31 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
32 Draft gong to DC soon. Winter meetings and number 19  
33 transmittal, sign your name during the meetings, comment  
34 opportunity open until December 14, 1996. She is working on  
35 Federal Subsistence Fisheries Management in Alaska. Said that  
36 congress tells her to wait, but the courts tells her to start  
37 working on it. We need to support her efforts, and I urge all  
38 the advisory councils to fill out the Request for Public  
39 Comment and send it to her office.

40

41 Fishing. Local US Fish & Wildlife Service land  
42 managers issue guiding permits. Perhaps these -- like Togiak  
43 National Wildlife Refuge manager issued sports fishing guiding  
44 permit for sports fishing on Kanuktik (ph) and Goodnews Rivers.  
45 Wants to follow up on Y-K Delta 5, there were five fishing  
46 citations, perhaps they were -- that's to go to court, and  
47 there was three at Bethel seawall, and two Akiak residents as  
48 Kasigluk River. Dolly G. wants subsistence licenses issued  
49 without adding sports fishing licenses. And perhaps those

50 people that were fishing were elderly and they were given an

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1 uneasy feeling because they didn't have any fishing licenses  
2 while they were fishing -- jigging for fish. Concerning  
3 intercept fisheries, mentioned Joshua Phillips' statement about  
4 seeing less female salmon during summer of '96 at the fish  
5 camp. There is a 40% mortality of catch and release program  
6 sport fishing. That fish wheels be used for counting fish  
7 without hurting the salmon, and it will be cheaper, too.

8  
9 Central Yukon. Fewer people smoking salmon, more  
10 people buying strips. This way people are supporting cultural  
11 subsistence lifestyle. Several main hunters are providing  
12 villages with meat. You will know more about this, call AVCP  
13 and put in for an inquiry regarding why jiggers have to be  
14 enforced.

15  
16 MR. MOSES: I'm getting ahead of the speaker.

17  
18 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken and English translation)  
19 There was one statement that was made by one of the elders that  
20 was fishing for subsistence, and he has made the comment that  
21 there was not much salmon that had roe in them, and he was  
22 surprised that usually he had -- he catches abundant salmon  
23 that have roe in 'em, but perhaps the fisheries down in the  
24 Pacific trawlers, perhaps are 40% (indiscernible - Yupik  
25 spoken).

26  
27 So there was another comment that stated that fish  
28 wheels be used to make a count.

29  
30 MR. MOSES: Where am I. Say, recorder there, do you  
31 have a copy of this? Yeah, okay. I guess I don't need to do  
32 this. Thank you.

33  
34 MR. GEORGE: (Yupik spoken, but not transcribed. The  
35 translator asked that the referenced memo to YKFSRAC, from  
36 Fritz George, Secretary, 11-29-96, be referred to in place of  
37 translation into English again.)

38  
39 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Qu yana, Mr. George. (Yupik  
40 spoken and English translation) Just a brief summary of the  
41 report of the meeting they had on staff concerns. Do you have  
42 anything staff concerns of the state fishery?

43  
44 MR. BURKEY: Mr. Chairman, I didn't come prepared to  
45 proceed with any presentation, I just came to see if there were  
46 any comments or questions with the Department of Fish & Game.

47  
48 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: I didn't quite understand you.  
49 Will you come over to the microphone?



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1 MR. BURKEY: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. My name is  
2 Charlie Burkey (ph). I'm the area management biologist with  
3 Kuskokwim area, Commercial Fisheries Division here in Bethel.  
4 I just came to observe and listen and learn, and just in case  
5 there were any issues brought up on fisheries or any questions  
6 or comments, I could respond to them. I plan on being at the  
7 meeting tomorrow in case there are any issues, but I didn't  
8 come -- I did not come to this meeting prepared to give any  
9 presentations or anything like that, just to listen.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Thank you. Next, to our agenda,  
12 C., Staff Concerns. Is the staff here? We would like to hear  
13 your concerns. You have no concerns. That's good. Any other  
14 New Business? Chuck.

15  
16 MR. HUNT: Mr. Chairman, (Yupik spoken and English  
17 translated) Steve probably took longer than anybody that was  
18 presented. (Yupik spoken)

19  
20 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any other new business? If there  
21 is no other New Business.....

22  
23 MR. HUNT: For giving me a hard time,.....

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Some of us, we were talking  
26 earlier why we didn't finish our agenda for tonight. I think  
27 the reason is why we didn't finish our agenda tonight, these  
28 problems are very important to our people. We are chosen by  
29 our people to help them do what we can. So tomorrow, 8:30 in  
30 the morning, we're going to start proposals. At this time  
31 we're going to recess for today.

32  
33 MR. HUNT: I want to thank all board members and give  
34 all of the board members with a hat that says, I care, I use  
35 steel, a camouflage hat with a (indiscernible) face on it. And  
36 I told them that they have to use it.....

37  
38 MR. WHITE: (Yupik spoken) Mr. Chairman, before we get  
39 into recess, I'd like to make a motion to accept George's  
40 report that he has, it was very hard work.

41  
42 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Is there a second?

43  
44 MR. CHALIAK: Second.

45  
46 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Seconded by Chuck.

47  
48 MR. MANUMIK: Discussion.

49

CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Discussion?

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1 MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman, there was something in here  
2 in the report that we should support a proposal to restructure  
3 the Federal Subsistence Board.

4  
5 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Any more discussion?  
6

7 MR. MANUMIK: Mr. Chairman, the reason why  
8 Mr. Katchatag put it off in his report is because most of those  
9 people that are -- who don't know what we are facing up against  
10 in our regions out there, he wants the chair to -- either wants  
11 to be sitting on that Federal Subsistence Board, the Regional  
12 Advisory Council chairs, that was his proposal.

13  
14 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Yeah, okay.  
15

16 MS. DETWILER: This is Sue Detwiler, from Fish &  
17 Wildlife Service. The don't think the Seward Peninsula Council  
18 has come up with a proposal yet. I think the plan is for all  
19 the council chairs to meet on the Sunday evening preceding the  
20 March board meeting, and they're going to discuss two things.  
21 One is the restructuring of the board, and possibly come up  
22 with a proposal to do that essentially (indiscernible); and the  
23 other is to talk about developing an Alaska Native policy. So  
24 those two things are going to be discussed that evening.

25  
26 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Okay.  
27

28 MR. MILIAN: Quyana, Mr. Chairman. My name is Max  
29 Milian, I'm from Kwethluk. In Fritz George's report, I noticed  
30 the wording is ANILCA is going to be amended. We need to  
31 change rural to Alaska Native. The reason why I wanted to  
32 comment on that was that we have fought in the state and  
33 federal court for some time since, I think, ANILCA was passed,  
34 since we began to talk about our land since ANCSA was  
35 implemented. After ANILCA became in effect, section Title 8 of  
36 ANILCA, rural preference, we have been talking about that for a  
37 long time, we have spent millions of millions of dollars in  
38 court costs, and we've been battling enough. I was wondering  
39 if we shouldn't take a good look at the word "rural" in ANILCA,  
40 to change that to Alaska Native or Native preference, because  
41 when we look and research and talk about it, it kind of depicts  
42 our people together costs a lot of money to go into court.  
43 Sometimes we get stalled, we don't know anything, know where to  
44 go, and our position in Kwethluk, is that we want to change  
45 that word "rural" to Alaska Native -- "Alaska Native  
46 preference." It lets only the Alaska Natives living in the  
47 rural villages or those migrated to the urban centers to be the  
48 only ones that are supposed to be like what David O. David  
49 said, practice of the subsistence, because the resource is

50 going to be very limited in the future. Most of our rural

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1 villages, their populations are increasing. There's going to  
2 be some demand on the subsistence resources in our waters, land  
3 and air, and I was wondering if, for the sake of our children  
4 in the future and their grandchildren, I think to me that  
5 certain section in ANILCA should be changed from rural to  
6 Alaska Native so that, you know -- I don't know how long we're  
7 going to continue to fight on this one word, "rural."

8  
9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10  
11 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: I want a motion to approve our  
12 report from our secretary here. (Yupik spoken)

13  
14 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: (Yupik spoken) I move to approve the  
15 report of the secretary.

16  
17 MR. WHITE: Second.

18  
19 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Question.

20 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Question's been called for. All  
21 in favor, say aye.

22  
23 IN UNISON: Aye.

24  
25 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Opposed, say no.

26  
27 IN UNISON: Aye.

28  
29 CHAIRMAN WILDE, SR.: Motion carried. You wanted to  
30 say something?

31  
32 MR. WILDE: Well, Mr. Chairman. Lester Wilde, from  
33 Hooper Bay. I noticed that you stopped a little bit short of  
34 the time and place of next meeting, but I'm not -- I was  
35 instructed to handcarry a letter to be read to the Federal  
36 Subsistence Advisory Council today. They made a typo and  
37 addressed it to the Federal Board of Subsistence, the Board of  
38 Directors, but this is meant for you. And it is from the  
39 Hooper Bay Traditional Council. It states:

40  
41 Dear Subsistence Council: Your advisory, I think it  
42 says -- anyway your board of directors' members are cordially  
43 invited to the community of Hooper Bay for the next Federal  
44 Subsistence Board of Directors' meeting. Having no commercial  
45 fisheries besides commercial herring and subsistence  
46 activities, the only source that the community has to offset  
47 their monetary means. Once again, your board of directors'  
48 members are cordially invited to have their board of directors'  
49 meeting here in Hooper Bay. And it's signed by the president

50 of the Tribal Council, Boscoe Olson.



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C E R T I F I C A T E

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA            )  
  )ss.  
STATE OF ALASKA                        )

I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing pages numbered 02 through 62 contain a full, true and correct Transcript of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council Public Meeting, taken electronically by Laurel L. Evenson, on the 5th and 6th days of February 1997, beginning at the hour of 8:00 o'clock a.m., at Bethel, Alaska;

THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by Laurel L. Evenson to the best of her knowledge and ability;

THAT I we are not employees, attorneys, or parties interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 14th day of February 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSEPH P. KOLASINSKI  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 04/17/00