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YUKON-KUSKOKWIM DELTA FEDERAL  
SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

VOLUME I

Marshall, Alaska  
September 5, 2007  
9:00 o'clock a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Robert Aloysius, Acting Chair
- William Brown
- James Charles
- Mary Gregory
- Edgar Hoelscher
- Joseph Mike
- Phillip Moses
- Raymond Oney
- Greg Roczicka
- Harry Wilde
- Acting Regional Council Coordinator, Donald Mike
- Louie Andrew, Yup'ik Translator
- Andrew Kelly, Yup'ik Translator

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P R O C E E D I N G S

(Marshall, Alaska - 9/5/2007)

(On record)

ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Good morning, again, welcome to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Regional Advisory Council. I'm happy to see the young people up here to join us. One thing I would ask you is when you're coming down the stairs, please tread lightly because this room echoes and those chairs -- I mean those bleachers are very noisy and when we're in the middle of discussions or something, it's very important that we, or you be quiet, all of us.

It is my deepest honor and privilege, I'm very humbled to be here among the great people of the Lower Yukon River. All my distant relatives were born up here, not too far up here, just on the other side of Russian Mission, just about halfway between Russian Mission and Holy Cross in an abandoned fish camp called Iinruq, and Iinruq literally translates to medicine for spirit. So I'm back home with my people. All the ones that drifted down with the high water.

It is 11 minutes after 9:00 and I call the meeting to order. Roll call and establishment of the quorum by our Secretary, Greg.

MR. ROCZICKA: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Beginning James Charles.

MR. CHARLES: Here.

MR. ROCZICKA: John Andrew.

(No comment)

MR. ROCZICKA: Ray Oney.

MR. ONEY: Present.

MR. ROCZICKA: William Brown.

MR. BROWN: Here.

MR. ROCZICKA: Harry Wilde, Sr.

MR. H. WILDE: Here.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Edgar Hoelscher.  
2  
3 MR. HOELSCHER: Here.  
4  
5 MR. ROCZICKA: Mary Gregory.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: Here.  
8  
9 MR. ROCZICKA: Phillip Moses.  
10  
11 MR. MOSES: Here.  
12  
13 MR. ROCZICKA: Lester Wilde, Sr., is  
14 not here yet, we've been informed he's on his way by  
15 boat and hopefully he'll be here later today.  
16  
17 Elias Leo Kelly.  
18  
19 (No comment)  
20  
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Absent. Joe Mike.  
22  
23 MR. MIKE: Here.  
24  
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka here. And  
26 Bob Aloysius.  
27  
28 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Here.  
29  
30 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman, we have  
31 three absent, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven,  
32 nine, 10 attendants, we've got a quorum.  
33  
34 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you,  
35 Greg. At this time I call on Alvin Owletuch. He's our  
36 resident pastor and elder for the community of  
37 Marshall.  
38  
39 MR. OWLETUCH: (Invocation)  
40  
41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you,  
42 Alvin. At this time I call on Donald Mike to do the  
43 housekeeping items and announcements.  
44  
45 MR. D. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. My  
46 name is Donald Mike, I'm with the Office of Subsistence  
47 Management. As far as on the roll call, Mr. Chair, Mr.  
48 John Andrew, he had a medical appointment, that's why  
49 he couldn't be here today. And Mr. Elias -- Mr. Kelly,  
50 I'm mean, I'm sorry, he had another commitment to

1 attend to, he's out firefighting.

2

3                   And for the public, Mr. Chairman, when  
4 we get to the proposals we have a blue sheet for those  
5 that wish to testify on the fisheries proposals, so  
6 please fill one out, either hand it to me or to the  
7 Chair and the Chair will recognize you to testify on  
8 each fisheries proposal. Mr. Chair, the blue sheets  
9 are located on the table behind the Council members.

10

11                   As for the coffee, the coffee is  
12 brewing right now and it will take awhile to get it  
13 done, Mr. Chair, so when the coffee is done we can take  
14 a break -- you can call a break, Mr. Chair.

15

16                   As far as the use of the gym, Mr.  
17 Chair, the school will have their lunch at 11:00  
18 o'clock, so we need to keep that in mind. By 11:00  
19 o'clock we need to get the agenda for the day sort of  
20 completed and we can sort of clear the room for the  
21 school so the children can have their lunch break.

22

23                   I think that's about it, Mr. Chair.

24

25                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The bathrooms  
26 are located there, and where is the real bathroom,  
27 because that one is just a urinal there and where do  
28 you have to go for the other?

29

30                   MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair, if you head  
31 out the hallway and take a left there's a boys and  
32 girls restroom on the left side.

33

34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay. Review  
35 and adoption of the draft agenda. I would like you to  
36 follow the procedure which is simple, you address the  
37 Chair to be recognized and if there's any agenda item  
38 -- the first thing we do is move to adopt an agenda  
39 item and it's seconded, followed by discussion and then  
40 after discussion, the particular item that's brought up  
41 is voted on.

42

43                   So the first item we have here is the  
44 review and adoption of the draft agenda. Do I hear a  
45 motion to adopt.

46

47                   MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. I move  
48 that we adopt the -- I move to adopt the agenda as it  
49 is prepared.

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Is there a  
2 second.

3  
4                   MS. GREGORY: Second the motion,

5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Second over  
7 there. Okay, discussion. Anybody want to add or  
8 delete or whatever on the draft agenda. Don.

9  
10                  MR. RIVARD: Good morning, Mr. Chair.  
11 My name is Don Rivard, I'm with the Office of  
12 Subsistence Management. I would just recommend the  
13 order of the fisheries proposals that we do 15/16 and  
14 17 and hold off on 13/14 until later. The reason is,  
15 is I think the first two, 15/16 and 17 will go -- I'm  
16 anticipating fairly quickly, we could probably do that  
17 in the morning but 13/14 is probably going to take a  
18 little bit more time. And we may be able to get the  
19 first two done in the morning before the lunch break  
20 and then we'd have all afternoon for the other one.

21  
22                  Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23  
24                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
25 requests for changes or additions.

26  
27                  MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.

28  
29                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Don.

30  
31                  MR. D. MIKE: Our office received two  
32 petitions from AVCP and if -- as far as addressing the  
33 petitions from AVCP, we either can add it as an agenda  
34 item or hold it until under the agency reports.

35  
36                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Can you turn  
37 the volume down just a hair because it's really echoing  
38 in here? Try again.

39  
40                  MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. I was saying  
41 that AVCP has two petitions they submitted to our  
42 office and they would like the Council to address the  
43 petitions that they provided, either under the tribal  
44 agency reports or you can add it to the agenda items.  
45 That would be up to you and we have a representative  
46 from AVCP that will be presenting those two petitions.

47  
48                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Where do you  
49 want the item to be placed?

50

1 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair, the petitions  
2 can be under the agency reports, agency organization  
3 reports, on Page 2 of your book and that would be under  
4 the Association of Village Council Presidents updates.  
5 The two petitions that they have provided.

6

7 MR. RIVARD: 14E.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: That would be  
10 included in the Item 14E, and Tim will take care of  
11 that when it's time. All right, thank you. Greg.

12

13 MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
14 Regarding Item 10 on the agenda, the Draft Customary  
15 and Traditional Use Policy for Council recommendations.  
16 I saw nothing in the packet of any kind of draft  
17 policy, and a policy of that nature is something I'd  
18 certainly want to have a look at and chew over and  
19 discuss with other people prior to making any  
20 recommendations from this Council and I'm wondering if  
21 there's any information available on that and whether  
22 that might be something we might want to delete from  
23 the agenda at this point, rather than to take an action  
24 without having a thorough understanding of what's  
25 involved here.

26

27 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. I do have a  
28 copy of the Draft Closure Policy and I'll provide  
29 copies to the Council members. The draft policy wasn't  
30 completed in time for the publications of the Council  
31 book and that's why it's late coming out but I will  
32 provide a copy to the Council members and you can have  
33 it and get a chance to read it over the breaks and we  
34 can address it tomorrow afternoon.

35

36 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

37

38 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, Greg, we  
39 can get a copy of that during a break so we won't be  
40 interrupting what our proceedings are. Thank you. Any  
41 other additions, changes on the agenda.

42

43 (No comments)

44

45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: If not.....

46

47 MR. HOELSCHER: Question.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: .....the  
50 question has been called. All those in favor signify

1 by saying aye.

2

3 IN UNISON: Aye.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: All those  
6 opposed same sign.

7

8 (No opposing votes)

9

10 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No opposition,  
11 the motion carries. The agenda has been adopted.

12

13 Item 6, review and adoption of the  
14 minutes from March 15 and 16, 2007 meeting in Hooper  
15 Bay. Need a motion for adoption.

16

17 MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman, so moved.

18

19 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There's a  
20 motion to adopt the review and adoption of the minutes.

21

22 MR. CHARLES: I second the motion, Mr.  
23 Chairman.

24

25 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There's a  
26 second. Discussion. I have some notes that -- most of  
27 them are just typos and grammar and one of the things  
28 that I would suggest very strongly is that whoever  
29 reviews the minutes or writes them up, use the grammar  
30 and spelling checker on the computer, they're very  
31 easy. Just hit it and it will take care of the things  
32 in there. There are quite a few little things like:

33

34 On Page 6, top of the page motion Edgar  
35 P. Hoelscher moved, second by John W. Andrew at for  
36 unanimous consent to elected -- it should be elect.  
37 And two-thirds of the way down, Edgar Hoelscher moved  
38 asking for a unanimous consent to elect Greg Roczicka  
39 as a secretary, you should scratch A.

40

41 On Page 7, the Alaska Department of  
42 Fish and Game should and has it's involve -- it's  
43 involved -- should be involvement. And the right under  
44 that, Department of Commercial and Sportfisheries, it  
45 should be Division of Commercial and Sportfisheries.  
46 It should also have representatives in future Council  
47 meeting. Under that Council may ask then a Council  
48 meeting to provide information and to provide answer to  
49 any questions Council may ask that relates, not  
50 related, to ADF&G.

1                   Page 10 that last sentence on the  
2 motion by Greg reads something to the effect that --  
3 boy, that's a long, long sentence. Greg Roczicka  
4 moved, seconded by Mary Gregory, the Council on their  
5 letter received and submit a special action request to  
6 the Subsistence Board to restrict the use of an 8 inch  
7 gill -- 8 mesh gillnet during ADF&G commercial fishing  
8 on the Lower Kuskokwim Federal waters until the  
9 Department of Fish and Game provide information on the  
10 numbers of large kings -- king -- it's king salmon.

11  
12                   Page 11, half of the summer was spent  
13 -- and this is Eva Patton's report, SRONR, is that the  
14 correct acronym for that? That's the agency that's  
15 working up there in the Kwethluk, anybody have any  
16 idea?

17  
18                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. I think that  
19 refers to, if you go two paragraphs up it talks about  
20 the Salmon River Observatory Network Research station,  
21 I think that's probably what that acronym stands for.

22  
23                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, thank  
24 you. Page 12, one, two, three, the fourth paragraph  
25 down, the Refuge very much appreciates and respects and  
26 honor the commitment Regional Advisory Council make, is  
27 that a complete sentence, I don't know.

28  
29                   Anyway, Page 13, second paragraph I  
30 have a question for Tim, what does Mr. Art Ivanoff do  
31 for AVCP? He just said, Mr. Art Ivanoff originally  
32 from Unalakleet and former subsistence coordinator for  
33 Maniilaq was introduced, he has worked with the  
34 Circumpolar Conference on various issues. Mr. Ivanoff  
35 has extensive experience in subsistence advocacy. But  
36 what does he do for AVCP?

37  
38                   MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. Tim Andrew  
39 with AVCP. Art Ivanoff is the -- his formal position  
40 or his official position is resource advocate for AVCP.

41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: What?

43  
44                   MR. ANDREW: Resource advocate.

45  
46                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you, sir.  
47 The paragraph following that, third sentence, Mr.  
48 Andrew said there is absolutely no tribal consultation  
49 when rural advisory councils and the Federal  
50 Subsistence Board Chair, that is not a complete

1 sentence.

2

3 Mr. Andrew indicated that there were --  
4 that there are, at least, 12 regional organizations  
5 that needed to be contacted to insure the subsistence  
6 mission and valued in the Chair of the Federal  
7 Subsistence Board -- again, that sentence doesn't make  
8 sense. Whoever wrote these has that -- fixed up and  
9 clarified.

10

11 And Page 14, Regional Council business,  
12 the third line, the recommended changes on charter were  
13 draft -- it should be drafted, and forwarded to Ann  
14 Wilkinson.

15

16 That's all the things I saw in the  
17 minutes.

18

19 If anybody else has any other  
20 questions, comments or corrections on the minutes,  
21 please address them at this time.

22

23 MS. GREGORY: I have a couple of  
24 questions on Page 12, the top of the page. Report from  
25 Tom Kron regarding the letter from Julie Kitka, I'd  
26 like to know, can you enlighten me again, the letter  
27 concerning what, Mr. Kron.

28

29 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Are you.....

30

31 MS. GREGORY: I'm asking. I'm asking  
32 him because he doesn't explain what the letter is  
33 about.

34

35 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Don Rivard.  
36 That letter, Mary, that was a letter that Julie Kitka  
37 sent to the Secretary of the Interior expressing their  
38 advocacy and concern about the Office of Subsistence  
39 Management budget and the program, where it was headed.  
40 This was in your Council book last time. And then the  
41 under-Secretary wrote back and responded to that, that  
42 letter was also in your Council book. So I don't  
43 remember all the details of that but there was some  
44 reassurance that the program would continue. There was  
45 some talk about a \$500,000 budget reduction that was  
46 coming down the line. So those were the kind of things  
47 that were addressed. And I don't have a last Council  
48 meeting book but that's my recollection.

49

50 Thank you.

1 MS. GREGORY: Thank you. Mr. Chair, I  
2 have another one. On Page 13, third paragraph, I'd  
3 like to ask Mr. Andrew about how this, the problem they  
4 were having with Federal Staff, if it has improved or  
5 not.

6  
7 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mr. Andrew.

8  
9 MR. ANDREW: Tim Andrew with AVCP.  
10 First paragraph on Page 13?

11  
12 MS. GREGORY: No, the third paragraph.

13  
14 MR. ANDREW: Oh, third paragraph, okay,  
15 my apologies. The Association of Village Council  
16 Presidents was very concerned about the lack of tribal  
17 consultation in the Office of Subsistence Management,  
18 the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal Subsistence  
19 Board and the appointment of the Regional Advisory  
20 Councils, and also the appointment of the Chair of the  
21 Federal Subsistence Board. And those were the concerns  
22 that we had expressed at the last RAC meeting in Hooper  
23 Bay.

24  
25 Mr. Chair.

26  
27 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

28  
29 MR. ANDREW: And if I may, Mr. Chair.  
30 We will report on the progress, Mrs. Gregory, when we  
31 get to our update where we have gone so far with the  
32 consultation process.

33  
34 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

35  
36 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Any  
37 other concerns on the agenda -- or I mean on the  
38 minutes. Remember these are just minutes.

39  
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

41  
42 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.

43  
44 MR. ROCZICKA: Not necessarily a change  
45 on the current minutes that are here, but for the  
46 future when you record the action on proposals, if you  
47 could possibly please put in a brief little one line as  
48 to what the proposal was, you know, such as set out in  
49 our agenda, we have FP08-13 salmon restrict gillnet  
50 size 35 mesh deep and in the minutes it just gives the

1 proposal number and I'm sorry I can't remember what  
2 each proposal number was and which proposal so it would  
3 help just to have that little one liner in there to  
4 what the proposal is asking, or to stating the Council  
5 recommendation action.

6

7 Appreciate it, thank you.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay.

10

11 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

12

13 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

14

15 MS. GREGORY: Page 14, October 4 and 5,  
16 meet, I just want to make a note that we are now  
17 meeting on September 5 through 7.

18

19 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
20 corrections.

21

22 (No comments)

23

24 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Question's been  
27 called. All those in favor of the motion to adopt the  
28 minutes say aye.

29

30 IN UNISON: Aye.

31

32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Opposed, same  
33 sign.

34

35 (No opposing votes)

36

37 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No opposition,  
38 motion carries. Next we have Item 7, Regional Advisory  
39 Council concerns and comments. The floor is open to  
40 the RAC members for comment and concerns.

41

42 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes.

45

46 MR. H. WILDE: I do have a concern.  
47 Every time when we go meeting in the villages, a lot of  
48 time our villagers don't understand what we're talking  
49 about. I think it's time to let them know our duties  
50 and responsibilities of Advisory Council, just a little

1 part, I think we let our people understand.

2

3

4 It says that for thousands of years  
5 Alaska Natives harvest fish and wildlife resource. In  
6 1971 Congress passed ANCSA that conveyed to Alaska  
7 Native to more than 40 million acres of land and that  
8 land and near billion dollars worth of compensation to  
9 Alaska Natives. We will have hunting and fishing  
10 rights. And the Secretary of Interior and the State of  
11 Alaska will take the action necessary to protect the  
12 subsistence needs of Alaska Natives. Then State  
13 subsistence laws create a priority for subsistence over  
14 all other fish and wildlife users but does not define  
15 subsistence users. So in 1980 Congress passed ANILCA  
16 to protect the subsistence needs of rural Alaska. So  
17 two years after Congress passed ANILCA to protect the  
18 subsistence and Alaska Board of Fish and Game adopt  
19 regulation to create rural subsistence preference and  
20 the State program is in compliance with ANILCA [sic],  
21 but here's the part that we should always know, but in  
22 1989 the Alaska Supreme Court rules residents  
23 preference violate the Alaska Constitution. That's  
24 something that I cannot -- I don't understand. Seems  
25 to me today the State is controlling everything,  
26 hunting in my hometown, the hunting regulation every  
27 time when we want to go hunting we have to use a State  
28 regulation books and hunting regulation books and all  
29 that.

29

30

31 We are sitting here, we're supposed to  
32 protect what the Native people's need. That's our duty  
33 and our responsibility. I think it's time for us to  
34 let our people understand subsistence is very important  
35 because it has been there for over a thousand years.  
36 And it seems to me right now, today, no one protecting  
37 it.

37

38

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

39

40

41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you,  
42 Harry. Anybody else.

42

43

MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

44

45

ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

46

47

48 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
49 Maybe my comment might be more of a question. When we  
50 work on the proposals there is a comment period in  
there for, I would say, local area Advisory Committee,

1 Fish and Game Advisory Committee, I have been making  
2 comments on those because I am Lower Kuskokwim Advisory  
3 Committee Chair. But we meet at different areas, like  
4 in Yukon or down the coast, maybe there AC member can  
5 make a comment instead of me. So that's my question,  
6 Bob, is that -- which is the -- which way is the legal  
7 way to make a comment because it always seems that when  
8 we work on the proposals there's a comment period for  
9 certain organizations and maybe when we meet like in  
10 the Yukon, Yukon area Lower or Upper or Middle, those  
11 people would make comment.

12

13                   Maybe Don could answer that, I don't  
14 know.

15

16                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Well, according  
17 to the procedure for presentations on proposals, on  
18 Page 1, you have eight different areas that are there  
19 and No. 7, public, to me, that means people who are  
20 here. And there's, you know, the ADF&G, the Federal,  
21 State and tribal agencies, InterAgency Staff, Fish and  
22 Game Local Advisory Committees, you know, those are all  
23 included in there and to me the most important one is  
24 always kind of left out, is the public, so I think it's  
25 in the best interest of all of us here that whenever we  
26 get to this No. 7 that we ask people from the audience  
27 if they have any comments and use that blue card. And  
28 if you don't want to go to the mic let somebody else  
29 read it for you.

30

31                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

32

33                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

34

35                   MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
36 Chairman. This summer I had an opportunity to sit in  
37 on two teleconferences, one with the State and the  
38 Federal fisheries representative and the tribal  
39 councils and also the update on the moose season  
40 opening. Echoing Mr. Andrew's report to the Federal  
41 Subsistence Advisory Council, this past winter, you  
42 know, I think it's a good opportunity to let, you know,  
43 AVCP and YRDFA and those agencies that work with our  
44 Federal tribal councils also be involved with, you  
45 know, such teleconferences and such updates to let them  
46 know what is going on.

47

48                   Thank you.

49

50                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

1 Anybody else. Greg.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I got a  
4 couple of suggestion requests for Staff if they could  
5 pass them on. One, is I really appreciate the  
6 transcripts that are published for the different  
7 Councils that are put on OSM's website, and being able  
8 to look at other Councils and their deliberations on  
9 proposals. However, I would really appreciate it and  
10 I'm surprised it hasn't been thought of or been brought  
11 forward before by others, but if you could put, insert  
12 the agenda in front of that, and reference some page  
13 numbers for that, there's 200 plus pages over each of  
14 two days and it's a long and arduous task to try to  
15 find specific issues and so forth. So if you could  
16 just reference some page numbers in there with some  
17 page numbers with the agenda inserted, it'd be a quick  
18 cut and paste, I think, as far as looking for the  
19 pages. I'd greatly appreciate that.

20

21 And then the other is that I would also  
22 recommend, if you can, to put all the current policies  
23 that the Federal Subsistence Board operates under and  
24 make those available on the website as well. For  
25 bringing issues forward, I would certainly like to be  
26 able to look at what those policies are and reference  
27 specific points on them for the Board to act on, and  
28 having those in one spot where we could access them to  
29 look at, I think, would be a very beneficial thing to  
30 Council members and people interested throughout the  
31 state. And maybe even take it one step further for  
32 those that are under consideration and have your draft  
33 form out for our recommendations. I'm not really  
34 comfortable with getting this one right now on  
35 customary and traditional use and then we're supposed  
36 to make recommendations and act on it today without  
37 really absorbing what's in there. So anything you can  
38 do to make those more available so that we can have a  
39 chance to really what's contained in there and what it  
40 does or doesn't do for the future of subsistence  
41 protections.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: I'd like to take this  
2 opportunity to thank people of Marshall for allowing us  
3 to keep our meeting here this time and I want to thank  
4 my host for very good accommodations. And also I'd  
5 like to hear from the people of Marshall regarding  
6 subsistence issues and I think we should allow them to  
7 talk, like people to be heard, make an allowance for  
8 them, because the way our agenda is made up it's just  
9 cut and dry, there's no room for flexibility, and I  
10 think we need to do that every now and then because we  
11 represent the people that we serve. we serve

12

13 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

14

15 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. In our  
16 agenda I didn't see the introduction of Staff and  
17 visitors because they are always helping us. I wanted  
18 to know who all is here from different agencies. I  
19 didn't see that in our agenda so I think people should  
20 introduce themselves, who they are and what agencies  
21 they come from.

22

23 Thank you.

24

25 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Good  
26 observation there, James. At this time I'll just break  
27 away from our comments and ask our guests to introduce  
28 themselves.

29

30 MR. EASTLAND: I'm Warren Eastland.  
31 I'm the InterAgency Staff Committee member for the BIA.  
32 Thank you.

33

34 MR. KRON: Tom Kron with OSM.

35

36 MR. GEORGE: I'm Mr. George from the  
37 Marshall Traditional Council Tribe.

38

39 MS. FITKA: Mildred Fitka, Ohogamiut  
40 Traditional Council.

41

42 MR. ORABUTT: David Orabutt. Kuskokwim  
43 Native Association, fisheries director.

44

45 MR. ANDREW: Tim Andrew, AVCP.

46

47 MR. RIVARD: Don Rivard with the Office  
48 of Subsistence Management.

49

50 MS. WILLIAMS: Liz Williams,

1 anthropologist, Office of Subsistence Management.  
2  
3 MS. KENNER: Pippa Kenner,  
4 anthropologist, Office of Subsistence Management.  
5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
7  
8 MR. ALSTROM: Bill Alstrom, I'm from  
9 St. Mary's. I'm a subsistence fishermen. I also sit  
10 on the board of Yukon River Drainage Fisheries  
11 Association.  
12  
13 MR. ALSTROM: My name is Ray Alstrom.  
14 I'm the Mayor of Marshall. I'd like to welcome you and  
15 I hope you enjoy your stay here.  
16  
17 MR. ANDREW: I'm Louie Andrew, Bethel,  
18 Yukon National Wildlife Refuge.  
19  
20 MR. KELLY: Andrew Kelly, Emmonak, RIT.  
21  
22 REPORTER: My name is Tina and I'm the  
23 court reporter for the Council.  
24  
25 MR. D. MIKE: My name is Donald Mike.  
26 I'm the acting coordinator for the YK Council. And  
27 just to remind the public we have a sign in sheet on  
28 the table, it's a yellow pad, so if you would please  
29 sign in your name that way we can keep a record of who  
30 attended the meeting.  
31  
32 So, thank you, Mr. Chair.  
33  
34 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Up here.  
35  
36 (Laughter)  
37  
38 MR. ANDREW: My name is William Andrew.  
39 I'm a subsistence user, also a commercial fisherman,  
40 deck hand and welcome to Marshall.  
41  
42 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The other thing  
43 we forgot to do is introduce ourselves and I'll start  
44 with that end over there.  
45  
46 MR. HOELSCHER: Hi. I'm Edgar  
47 Hoelscher, I'm from Hooper Bay.  
48  
49 MR. CHARLES: James Charles from  
50 Tuntutuliak.

1 MR. ONEY: Raymond Oney, born and  
2 raised in Marshall, now living in Alakanuk.  
3  
4 MR. BROWN: William F. Charlie Brown  
5 from Eek.  
6  
7 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: He's our  
8 Charlie Brown.  
9  
10 (Laughter)  
11  
12 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: My name is Bob  
13 Aloysius. I am from -- I'm presently living in  
14 Kalskag.  
15  
16 MR. ROCZICKA: Greg Roczicka from  
17 Bethel.  
18  
19 MR. MIKE: Joseph Mike from Kotlik.  
20  
21 MS. GREGORY: Yup'ik name Arnariak. I  
22 was named after my father's niece. My father's Yup'ik  
23 name is Kitlkillik, my mother's name is Isingarkak. I  
24 was born in the (In Yup'ik), which is on the mouth of  
25 the Kuskokwim River and I was raised in Pikmuk (ph) and  
26 I moved to Bethel 52 years ago. I'm a member at large  
27 on the Subsistence Council and I'm glad to be here.  
28  
29 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)  
30  
31 INTERPRETER: He said his name is  
32 Phillip Moses. He comes from Toksook Bay. So he  
33 participates in these kinds of meetings because right  
34 now his term is up but these people that I work with  
35 elect me, they renewed my term.  
36  
37 Thank you for listening.  
38  
39 MR. H WILDE: Harry Wilde from Mountain  
40 Village, originally from Hooper Bay. I'm member of  
41 Advisory Council.  
42  
43 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
44 Council member's comments, concerns.  
45  
46 MR. ONEY: Mr. Chairman.  
47  
48 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Ray.  
49  
50 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 The only comment that I'd have is a concern. I was  
2 appointed to attend the Federal Subsistence Board  
3 meeting in the month of January. I'd like to thank you  
4 for sending me there. The only concern that I have is  
5 that I went there with nothing. I didn't have no  
6 copies of how this Advisory Council took actions on the  
7 deliberations that were taken during the Federal  
8 Subsistence Board deliberations. Probably for the next  
9 time I'd like, you know, have whoever is going and  
10 attending that meeting be given a copy of how this  
11 Advisory Council took actions on those proposals to be  
12 better prepared.

13

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

17 Charlie Brown.

18

19 MR. BROWN: Yeah, I have concern to the  
20 State official because I seen this on the agenda on the  
21 moose population, that's my deeply concern because  
22 there was no survey last year. I wonder what your  
23 answer to this coming winter, for the State official.

24

25 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
26 Council members have concerns or comment.

27

28 MR. MIKE: No comment.

29

30 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I see a hand  
31 raised over there by our local elder and I'm just going  
32 to break away from the agenda a little bit and ask  
33 Alvin to comment on what he's concerned about.

34

35 MR. OWLETUCH: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, and  
36 all the Board members. I'm Alvin Owletuch. You know  
37 when you're concerned about something that changes in  
38 your agenda -- or your proposals. I see a letter  
39 hanging in various places here that the Board here is  
40 making a proposal, to report whatever changes that we  
41 need to do. Now, some of us don't know how to read and  
42 if the proposal changes and then you guys make the  
43 change, without the community's concern, we're lost, we  
44 don't know where we are.

45

46 So our concern is that when you're  
47 going to make a proposal would be someone in the  
48 community that knows, understands the writing of the  
49 proposal, should try to make it known to the community  
50 that this is a proposal that you guys want to change

1 but it has to be translated so that we could understand  
2 all these things. Now, the proposal that I see,  
3 they're hanging all over, nobody reads them, but we  
4 find out too late, they have changed it and then we  
5 come to, gee, who made this proposal that we -- you  
6 know it may vary from different regions, the region  
7 that we are here are different from Kuskokwim. So try  
8 to combine those two, I could see a problem where it  
9 may conflict between the two regions. My concern is  
10 that, we need someone that understands to use it, and  
11 make us understand that, you know, the proposal that  
12 you're making, we need to really understand before we  
13 could say something about it.

14

15 Thank you.

16

17 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana. Greg,  
18 do you want to respond to that.

19

20 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

21

22 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

23

24 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
25 When I receive proposal deadlines and the form to make  
26 proposals I usually post them in post office or  
27 community hall and make radio announcement, marine  
28 radio announcement so people in the village can hear me  
29 in Yup'ik. I usually do that. So if they want changes  
30 in the regulations tell them to make a proposal or have  
31 somebody help them make proposal so there has been  
32 couple proposals made from my village to the State but  
33 I haven't seen any to Federal regulations.

34

35 (In Yup'ik)

36

37 When people in the village can  
38 understand me in Yup'ik because we don't speak.....

39

40 (Power outage)

41

42 REPORTER: It's on again, sorry.

43

44 MR. CHARLES: But that helps, as a RAC  
45 member, I'm also a Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
46 member. When there are deadlines -- or deadlines --  
47 what's it, notices, I post that proposal form in the  
48 post office and community hall and back it up with  
49 marine radio announcement so people can understand me.

50

1 (In Yup'ik)  
2  
3 That helps people who don't read or  
4 write or don't understand in English.  
5  
6 Thank you.  
7  
8 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. A  
9 little addition to that, I think whoever writes up  
10 these proposals, I mean not writes them up, but sends  
11 them out to the villages, you ought to put a note on  
12 the bottom, if you have any concerns regarding this  
13 proposal and changes contact your RAC member or local  
14 Advisory Committee member and put the name of that  
15 person or people on that thing. That way if anybody is  
16 sincere then they could contact any of the members of  
17 the RAC Council or the local Advisory Councils.  
18  
19 It's my understanding that we're  
20 breaking for lunch at 11:00, is that what the -- we  
21 have to break at 11:00?  
22  
23 MR. D. MIKE: That's right, Mr. Chair,  
24 11:00 o'clock.  
25  
26 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay. Any more  
27 concerns from the RAC Committee -- I mean the Council.  
28  
29 (No comments)  
30  
31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: If not I will  
32 declare a 10 minute break so we can get those -- copies  
33 of the information that we requested earlier and dive  
34 right into the 2008/2009 Federal subsistence proposals  
35 for our review.  
36  
37 (Off record)  
38  
39 (On record)  
40  
41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Before we start  
42 Phillip Moses wants to make a comment.  
43  
44 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)  
45  
46 INTERPRETER: In English and in Yup'ik,  
47 I mean he kind of resents this as he was growing up.  
48 You never saw any White people, also there were no  
49 stores but those days were something but we can't use  
50 anymore. And they was much in those days. And also

1 the food was of nature. But the only items that were  
2 available to them were like tea, sugar, salt and those  
3 things -- those animals that they get from nature, what  
4 nature provides were always utilized. And they were  
5 very important to them in those days. A person who  
6 didn't hunt would be hungry. And there was no  
7 organized food.

8

9                   And also they did not have any regions  
10 in those days.

11

12                   And for those old folks that would  
13 teach us when we were young people and there was no  
14 priests or preachers and they -- believe in any  
15 regions. That's why he never gets those things and the  
16 young men were asked to sleep in the (In Yup'ik)  
17 because that was the place where everyone learned how  
18 to live alike. Even though they didn't read or write  
19 they were good professional people. And when a young  
20 man was old enough to have a kayak he was given one and  
21 he was expected to be a man and he was taught how to  
22 hunt. And people were treated with respect, you know,  
23 regardless of where they come from. And they never say  
24 I can't take you home, but they were saying you are  
25 very, very welcome in our community and they would  
26 bring them to their house and offer them what little  
27 they had. And there was no money, currency was very  
28 scarce, and would learn to trap, different types of  
29 furbearing animals and they looked seldom to White  
30 people. And the money was not too much -- did not have  
31 any value. And up to this date people are still living  
32 the subsistence life. Right now when we are out of  
33 something we run to the store and pick out what we  
34 need. Right now that's what we are doing.

35

36                   Also our young people do not believe  
37 what we say about what it was like when we were growing  
38 up without stores. And when I would catch something,  
39 he looked to share with other people and they --  
40 regardless of abundance of what nature provides they  
41 would stop hunting. They treated things with respect,  
42 even the birds were highly respected. And that's why  
43 people were things in harmony with what nature  
44 provides. We did not over hunt and we would provide  
45 some and share with other people what they caught.

46

47                   We also experienced -- he's the last  
48 one in the family. He had brothers and sisters but all  
49 of them are gone now and right now he's the only one  
50 left. His parents were getting very weak but he took

1 care of them as he was the last child in the family.

2

3                   And he often thinks about the past when  
4 he watches young people taking anything, eating  
5 anything, doctored food, that's not the right  
6 nourishment. But he thinks about the times that when  
7 people were out of certain things. Villages were very  
8 closely united with each other and even though visitors  
9 were very -- treated with great respect and welcomed  
10 and they say, I'm sorry I don't have anything, that was  
11 never heard of, but they were sharing. He was telling  
12 we will not treat you mean or mistreat you.

13

14                   Right now we are provided -- these laws  
15 and regulations are forced on us now. People are  
16 starting to get mixed up. And us people, Yup'ik people  
17 are forced to follow those rules and regulations that  
18 were imposed upon us, to follow them. Also Alaska does  
19 not have any rules and regulations, everything was  
20 given to us for us to use and the people were very  
21 closely related to each other and we were all closely  
22 united and when someone is out of the things that they  
23 need, they were provided from other people. And they  
24 did not hunt for money or work for money but they lived  
25 off nature.

26

27                   Now, he wants to share with you, he had  
28 something, but unfortunately the villages are not  
29 united anymore. When he thinks about the past he  
30 compares them with a united families, Natives were just  
31 like family and we just wants to share with you what we  
32 have.

33

34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: That reminds me  
35 -- I forgot to, with my own comments and concerns, one  
36 of the things that really has been a forefront in my  
37 life is I get reminded by our elder every time I hear  
38 him speak and one thing that I want to share with all  
39 of you and especially with the Council here, that our  
40 role as people is to love, live, learn, understand,  
41 practice and appreciate our role in life with respect  
42 to all of our relations. And our responsibility to  
43 that effect and to reciprocate. We need to give back  
44 to our relations. Our relations are our family, our  
45 relatives, our friends. But most of all, you know, its  
46 our land, the air we breath and the water, and all of  
47 our sisters and brothers that fly, roost, climb, walk,  
48 hop, crawl, slither, burrow and swim and grow on our  
49 Mother Earth. That is something we forget, I forget.  
50 And every time I hear an elder speak it reminds me of

1 how I was raised, to live, love, learn and understand  
2 my role and to appreciate it, to practice it and  
3 appreciate it because it's true, without our relatives,  
4 as I mentioned, we would have nothing. And too many  
5 times we just take advantage of what's there and forget  
6 our relationship to our relatives, all the animals, the  
7 fish, the plants that provide for us, to give us food,  
8 shelter, clothing, comfort, consolation and cure us  
9 from any ailments we might have, mental, emotional,  
10 spiritual and physical. Too many times we forget that.

11  
12 Our creator was so generous that he or  
13 she gave us everything we needed and it's our  
14 responsibility to be stewards of all that it's given to  
15 us. And this is something we need to remember every  
16 day of our lives.

17  
18 And I just get reminded of that every  
19 time I hear one of our elders speak. So just keep in  
20 mind that's what we're here for. And most of all I  
21 think we really, really need to educate our young  
22 people on the importance of our role in life.

23  
24 Thank you, very much.

25  
26 Any other comments from the Board -- I  
27 mean the Council, I'm sorry we're not a Board, we're a  
28 Council.

29  
30 (No comments)

31  
32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: If not we'll  
33 just go right ahead into Item 8, the 2008/2009 Federal  
34 Subsistence Fisheries proposals for Council review.  
35 And, again, the presentation procedures for the  
36 proposals is outlined right under that item number.

37  
38 Introduction.

39  
40 Comments from Fish and Game.

41  
42 The Federal, State and Tribal Agency  
43 comments.

44  
45 InterAgency Staff Committee comments.

46  
47 Fish and Game Local Advisory Committee  
48 concerns or comments.

49  
50 Summary of written public comments.

1 Public testimony. It's your chance  
2 here, the public.  
3  
4 And last but not least the RAC  
5 deliberations, recommendations and  
6 justification.  
7  
8 So I'll turn that over to Don.  
9  
10 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
11  
12 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
13  
14 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair, before we get  
15 started we have about a little under a half an hour  
16 before lunch starts. I don't know if you want to do  
17 the analysis presentation now and then continue after  
18 lunch and deliberate. What's the wish of the Council,  
19 Mr. Chair.  
20  
21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: What's the wish  
22 of the Council, let me hear it now or forever hold your  
23 peace.  
24  
25 MS. GREGORY: My wish is to go until  
26 11:00 o'clock and then after lunch.  
27  
28 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: We have no  
29 choice we are going to go until 11:00 o'clock and then  
30 we'll come back after lunch and continue our  
31 presentations. Or if you want to we can fill in until  
32 11:00 o'clock and then right after lunch go right into  
33 this Item 8 without stopping and take care of it.  
34  
35 What's your wishes.  
36  
37 MS. GREGORY: That's what I said, let's  
38 get started.  
39  
40 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
41  
42 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.  
43  
44 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd echo what Mary just  
45 said, let's start working our way through and get as  
46 far as we can until 11:00 and then whatever point we're  
47 at we pick up again after lunch.  
48  
49 MS. GREGORY: Yes.  
50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

2

3                   (No comments)

4

5                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: If not that's  
6 what we go for. All right, Don.

7

8                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair, as I mentioned  
9 earlier, Don Rivard with the Office of Subsistence  
10 Management. I would recommend that we start with  
11 15/16, I could present that within about five or 10  
12 minutes and we might even have time to start  
13 deliberations. If that's okay, I'll start with 15/16.

14

15                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Go for it.

16

17                   MR. RIVARD: Okay. None of your  
18 fisheries proposals made it into the book so they're  
19 all on a separate -- in a separate form so just look  
20 for the one that's got 15/16 on the front. There's an  
21 executive summary on the first two pages.

22

23                   MS. GREGORY: It's on Page 45.

24

25                   MR. RIVARD: Okay, very good. Proposal  
26 FP08-15/16 submitted by the Loudon Tribal Council of  
27 Galena requests an expansion of fishing time for the  
28 Federal drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B and  
29 4-C of the Yukon Northern Federal Subsistence Fishery  
30 Management area to include the entire weekly regulatory  
31 openings instead of just the last 18 hours of each,  
32 which is in regulation.

33

34                   Proposal FP08-16 submitted by the  
35 Alaska Department of Fish and Game requests the  
36 elimination of the Federal drift gillnet fishery in  
37 Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C.

38

39                   The proponent of No. 15 states that  
40 adoption of this proposal would reduce competition for  
41 Federal subsistence drift gillnet fishing sites across  
42 the villages from Koyukuk in Subdistrict 4-A, allow  
43 Federally-qualified users from Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C  
44 more time to explore, find and utilize viable drift  
45 gillnet sites as their proponent states that the time  
46 period right now is too short to do that with the  
47 current 18 hour openings. And it would also reduce  
48 fuel consumption costs and safety concerns by being  
49 allowed to travel shorter distances to fish.

50

1                   The proponent of Proposal No. 16 claims  
2 that the drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B and  
3 4-C is not a traditional fishery and is not consistent  
4 with the definition of customary and traditional use in  
5 regulations, which is:

6  
7                   Customary and traditional use means a  
8 long established consistent pattern of  
9 use incorporating beliefs and customs  
10 which have been transmitted from  
11 generation to generation. This use  
12 plays an important role in the economy  
13 of the community.

14  
15                   The proponent of No. 16 made similar  
16 claims when opposing Proposal 05-04 a couple -- well,  
17 three years ago. Claims that the Federal Subsistence  
18 Board considered and rejected when it established the  
19 drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C in  
20 January of 2005. Because under the Federal Subsistence  
21 Management Program it is the use of a resource that is  
22 determined to be customary and traditional, not the  
23 method or means of harvest. Residents and their  
24 antecedents of Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C have  
25 customarily and traditionally used salmon for  
26 generations and this is recognized through a positive  
27 customary and traditional use finding for salmon by  
28 residents of the Yukon River drainage and the residents  
29 of Stebbins.

30  
31                   You can see at the bottom of the page  
32 there the existing Federal regulations and then the  
33 proposed regulations are on what's labeled as Page 4.  
34 The only difference in the language for No. 15, you can  
35 see the words, the last 18 hour period of is crossed  
36 out. And then for the proposed Federal language for  
37 16, that third paragraph labeled C would be struck out,  
38 which means that there would no longer be allowed drift  
39 gillnet fishing in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C.

40  
41                   Again, a little bit of the history and  
42 this is now on Page 5, the bottom of Page 5. In March  
43 2003, the Western Interior Alaska Regional Advisory  
44 Council submitted Fisheries Proposal 04-05 to the  
45 Federal Subsistence Board and this proposal was  
46 rejected because of some of the concerns that were  
47 expressed at the time. But a year later in March 2004  
48 the Western Interior Council submitted a similar  
49 fisheries proposal to the Board, again, requesting  
50 expansion of the subsistence drift gillnet fishery to

1 include Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C as well as District 5.  
2 At its fall Council meeting the Western Interior  
3 Council recommended the proposal only apply to 4-B and  
4 4-C and it be limited to chinook salmon from June 10th  
5 to the 14th and the harvest of chum after August 2nd.  
6 In January of 2005 the Board adopted this proposal with  
7 modification to allow the harvest of only chinook  
8 salmon but not chum salmon by drift gillnet in the  
9 Federal public waters of Districts 4-B and 4-C [sic]  
10 during the final 18 hours of the weekly regulatory  
11 openings under a Federal subsistence fishing permit.

12  
13 In other words, this drift gillnet  
14 fishery has now completed its third year with the  
15 summer 2007 season. So I've got a little bit of  
16 history here, harvest history.

17  
18 For 2005 70 permits were issued and  
19 nine permit holders fished for a total of 60 hours.  
20 There was a total of 54 chinook salmon that were  
21 harvested. Feedback from Federal subsistence users  
22 indicated that productive drifting spots had not been  
23 located within the Federal public waters of  
24 Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C but fishing effort would  
25 likely increase if productive drift sites were found.

26  
27 And I want to direct you to, I believe  
28 there's a map here, the map, it shows the -- there's  
29 two areas in 4-B and 4-C where fishing is allowed in  
30 Federal public waters. You see this map here.

31  
32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Page 6.

33  
34 MR. RIVARD: Yes, Page 6. So there's  
35 from Galena downstream and then between Ruby and up  
36 stream to the border with Subdistricts 5-A and B.

37  
38 In the second year, 2006, the interest  
39 in the Federal subsistence fishing opportunity declined  
40 somewhat, only 18 permits were issued, 16 to Galena  
41 residents, one to a Ruby resident and one to a Koyukuk  
42 resident. You can see that in Table 2. Of the 18  
43 permittees who reported their fishing activity 13  
44 people did not fish and five fished approximately 18  
45 hours resulting in the harvest of 19 chinook and 11  
46 chum salmon.

47  
48 In 2007 the State and Federal regular  
49 subsistence fishery in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C was  
50 liberalized from two 48 hour openings per week to one

1 five consecutive days opening per week beginning on  
2 July 1st. In response the Federal in-season manager  
3 liberalized the Federal drift gillnet fishing time,  
4 which was the final 18 hours of weekly regulatory  
5 openings by a similar prorated amount to two 22 hour  
6 periods per opening and effective July 6th the State  
7 and Federal regular subsistence fishery in Subdistricts  
8 4-B and 4-C was liberalized to seven days per week and  
9 the Federal drift gillnet fishing time was liberalized  
10 by a similar prorated amount to two 31 hour periods for  
11 the week of July 8th. In 2007, this past summer, now,  
12 just completed, the interest in the Federal subsistence  
13 fishing opportunity continued to be exploratory. A  
14 total of 12 permits were issued this year, eight from  
15 Galena, one to a Koyukuk resident, three to Ruby  
16 residents, with six permits returned as of the end of  
17 July with a reported harvested of 13 chinook salmon in  
18 8.5 hours of fishing by drift gillnets. The low  
19 harvest numbers and the reality that all drift gillnet  
20 caught salmon are bound -- excuse me. The low harvest  
21 numbers and the reality that not all drift gillnet  
22 caught salmon are bound for Canada has minimized any  
23 preconceived notions about the impact of this fishery  
24 on U.S./Canada Treaty obligations which was one of the  
25 concerns that was originally expressed.

26  
27 Just to kind of keep this in  
28 perspective, in 2007 there were about 125,000 chinook  
29 salmon that were preliminary have been estimated to  
30 have passed through the Yukon River this year and ADF&G  
31 also conducted a directed commercial fishery for Yukon  
32 River chinook, which, with a harvest of approximately  
33 33,600 fish through August 5th. Again, only 13 chinook  
34 were harvested in the drift gillnet fishery in 4-B and  
35 4-C.

36  
37 The effects of the proposal, I'm here  
38 on Page 9 now. Adopting this proposal would provide  
39 additional -- this is for 15, if you adopt this  
40 proposal. Adopting this proposal would provide  
41 additional harvest opportunities to Federally-qualified  
42 subsistence users by giving them additional time to  
43 explore, find and utilize productive drift gillnet  
44 fishing sites. It would also align the subsistence  
45 drift gillnet fishing time period to be the same as  
46 other legal subsistence gear fishing times in  
47 Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C. This would result in  
48 increasing the time by 60 hours per week from 36 to 96  
49 hours, and that would mean -- in other words when the  
50 fishing season opens each year for Subdistricts 4-B and

1 4-C they have two 48 hour periods under the window  
2 schedule, however, no increase is anticipated in the  
3 combined harvest of chinook salmon in Subdistricts 4-A,  
4 4-B and 4-C as Federally-qualified users would likely  
5 only be changing the locations of where they fish and  
6 not the amount of chinook needed and/or harvested.

7

8                   Should more viable sites for drift  
9 gillnet fishing be found in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C  
10 fishing pressure and competition for the few desirable  
11 fishing sites near and down stream of the village of  
12 Koyukuk in Subdistrict 4-A would likely decrease.  
13 Federally-qualified subsistence users from and fishing  
14 in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C would be able to utilize  
15 their time and resources more efficiently by being able  
16 to use drift gillnet closer to their own communities  
17 and in doing so consume less fuel due to shorter trips.  
18 In addition the safety concerns of these fishers from  
19 4-B and 4-C associated with the time and distance  
20 required traveling to productive sites in 4-B would be  
21 reduced by being able to fish closer to their home  
22 villages. Aligning the drift gillnet fishing time with  
23 other legal subsistence gear fishing times will likely  
24 result in less confusion by fishers and less  
25 administrative actions that the Federal in-season  
26 manager would take.

27

28                   As always the Federal in-season will  
29 continue to have the authority to make in-season  
30 adjustments in fishing time and gear type in response  
31 to chinook salmon run strength.

32

33                   Now, for Proposal 16, adopting this  
34 proposal, which would eliminate this fishery, the drift  
35 gillnet fishery, would negate the Federal Subsistence  
36 Board January 2005 action establishing the fishery in  
37 the first place.

38

39                   Federally-qualified subsistence users  
40 in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C would no longer be able to  
41 use fishing that is legal to use in Districts 1, 2 and  
42 3 and the adjoining Subdistricts 4-A. It would also  
43 potentially increase the amount of time needed to  
44 harvest fish by using less efficient gear types.

45

46                   So the OSM, the Office of Subsistence  
47 Management preliminary conclusion is to support  
48 Proposal 15 and to oppose Proposal 16.

49

50                   The reasons for that, again, supporting

1 15 is that the chinook salmon subsistence harvest in  
2 the Federal drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B  
3 and 4-C have been extremely low in all three seasons so  
4 far, 2005, 2006 and 2007. The primary management  
5 concerns with the expansion of the drift gillnet  
6 fishery into Districts 4-B and 4-C which was a  
7 significant potential for harvest expansion beyond the  
8 historic level and the potential shift of stocks  
9 harvested by maybe taken more Canadian bound fish has  
10 not materialized. Aligning the drift gillnet fishing  
11 time with the other legal subsistence gear fishing  
12 times reduces confusion and provides additional harvest  
13 opportunities to Federally-qualified subsistence users.  
14 It also provides additional time to explore for, find  
15 and utilize viable drift gillnet sites. No increase is  
16 anticipated in the combined harvest of chinook salmon  
17 in Subdistricts 4-A, 4-B and 4-C.

18

19 Now, the justification for opposing No.  
20 16 is that our Staff feels that eliminating the Federal  
21 subsistence drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B  
22 and 4-C is not justified. The proponents two claims  
23 were considered and rejected by the Federal Subsistence  
24 Board when it established the fishery in 2005. And  
25 again it is the use of a resource that is determined to  
26 be customary and traditional, not the method or means  
27 of harvest. And the low participation rate by  
28 Federally-qualified subsistence users in the three  
29 years it's been in existence is not a valid reason to  
30 eliminate the fishery.

31

32 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Don.  
35 Questions or comments from the Council to Don.

36

37 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

38

39 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

40

41 MS. GREGORY: I move to support FP08-  
42 15, Proposal 15 and to oppose FP08, Proposal 16.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Can we do that  
45 just one at a time, please.

46

47 MS. GREGORY: I withdraw my second  
48 motion to.....

49

50 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Let's take 15

1 first.  
2  
3 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move to  
4 support FP08, Proposal 15.  
5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Is there a  
7 second.  
8  
9 MR. CHARLES: Second, Mr. Chairman.  
10  
11 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Second by  
12 James. Discussion.  
13  
14 (Pause)  
15  
16 MR. HOELSCHER: Question.  
17  
18 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Question's been  
19 called.  
20  
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Aren't we going to go  
22 through the.....  
23  
24 MS. GREGORY: What about.....  
25  
26 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
27  
28 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I'm going to go  
29 ahead.....  
30  
31 REPORTER: Wait. Wait.  
32  
33 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Sorry, about  
34 that.  
35  
36 REPORTER: Bob. Bob.  
37  
38 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
39  
40 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I'm going  
41 to.....  
42  
43 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
44  
45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Oh, I'm  
46 reminded we have to go through the procedures, it's too  
47 early for the motion. So we'll go through the  
48 introduction of the proposal and the analysis and then  
49 we go to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for  
50 comment so the motion is denied.

1 Anybody from the Department of Fish and  
2 Game here.  
3  
4 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes.  
7  
8 MR. D. MIKE: I think if we go through  
9 protocol, if we can have the maker of the motion  
10 withdraw her main motion and the second agrees, I think  
11 that would be the better way to do it.  
12  
13 Mr. Chair.  
14  
15 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay. Robert's  
16 Rules of Order, this Robert's Rules isn't going to  
17 apply, I guess, so if the maker of the motion would  
18 withdraw the motion I'd be happy.  
19  
20 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair. My motion is  
21 in order, that's the procedure we use.  
22  
23 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No, it's not.  
24  
25 MS. GREGORY: We make the motion to  
26 adopt and then.....  
27  
28 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No.  
29  
30 MS. GREGORY: .....we hear.....  
31  
32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No.  
33  
34 MS. GREGORY: .....comments.  
35  
36 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No. No. The  
37 motion is out of place so I'll deny it.  
38  
39 Anybody from Fish and Game to speak on  
40 this FP08-15.  
41  
42 MR. DUBOIS: Yeah, Mr. Chairman, Larry  
43 DuBois. Steve Hays is here, he just stepped out for a  
44 minute if you want to wait a few minutes I'm sure he  
45 might have a comment, okay.  
46  
47 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: We can get back  
48 to him. Anybody from the Federal, State or tribal  
49 agencies.  
50

1 (No comments)  
2  
3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody from  
4 the Feds.  
5  
6 (No comments)  
7  
8 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: State.  
9  
10 (No comments)  
11  
12 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay. Tribe.  
13 Mr. Andrew, AVCP -- oh, he came back. Go for it.  
14  
15 MR. HAYES: Mr. Chairman, forgive me, I  
16 just got in. I guess I'd like to ask how you'd like  
17 for me to proceed with this, which number first.  
18  
19 MR. RIVARD: Identify yourself first.  
20  
21 MR. HAYES: Oh, first of all my name is  
22 Steve Hayes. I'm the summer season area manager for  
23 the Yukon River with the Alaska Department of Fish and  
24 Game. And are we starting with Proposal 13 and 14?  
25  
26 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: 15.  
27  
28 MR. HAYES: 15/16.  
29  
30 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: 08-15.  
31  
32 MR. HAYES: Once again I apologize. I  
33 guess for a brief introduction FP08-15 would liberalize  
34 hours allowed for the Federal subsistence drift gillnet  
35 fishery in 4-B and 4-C of the Yukon River. The intent  
36 of the proposal is to allow more Federal subsistence  
37 fishermen to fish closer to home and alleviate  
38 competition between user groups and gear types or  
39 expanding the number hours to fish.  
40  
41 The proponent of the proposal states  
42 allowing more time to fish will allow people to explore  
43 and find and utilize viable drift gillnet sites.  
44  
45 FP08-16 would eliminate the recently  
46 implemented Federal subsistence drift gillnet fishery  
47 in Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C of the Yukon River because  
48 it was not a traditional fishery. There was not a long  
49 established consistent pattern of use incorporating  
50 beliefs and customs which have been transmitted from

1 generations to generations. It did not play an  
2 important role in the economy of the community.

3  
4 State regulations allowed a similar  
5 fishery to take place in the early 1970s but were  
6 repealed because there was little to no participation.

7  
8  
9 The creation in 2005 of the Federal  
10 subsistence drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts 4-B  
11 and 4-C of the Yukon River by the Federal Subsistence  
12 Board incorrectly expanded fishing opportunity on a  
13 fully utilized stock classified as a yield concern.  
14 The Alaska Board of Fisheries recently reviewed the  
15 stock of concern designation and extended it.

16  
17 Additionally, liberalization of the  
18 Federal subsistence drift gillnet fishery could  
19 increase competition with traditional subsistence users  
20 and customary fishing sites. State and Federal  
21 subsistence fisheries harvest mainly between districts  
22 and between drift gillnet and set gillnets and  
23 fishwheels in State waters and waters under Federal  
24 subsistence jurisdiction. Continuing this unnecessary  
25 divergence and liberalization of State regulations  
26 creates confusion for users, administrative and  
27 enforcement burdens, regulatory complexity and  
28 complicates management. Experience with the fishery  
29 has shown that drift gillnets are not efficient or  
30 practical to use in this area and allowing the use of  
31 set nets and fishwheels amply provides a meaningful  
32 Federal subsistence priority.

33  
34 Concerns for potential impacts to the  
35 users, Canadian chinook salmon stocks and fisheries  
36 management appear to be the reason for the YK-Delta and  
37 Eastern Interior RACs, the Alaska Board of Fisheries  
38 and YRDFA and the Department originally opposed this  
39 fishery. The Federal Board made restrictive  
40 modifications to address some of the voiced concerns at  
41 the 2005 Federal Subsistence Board meeting. Further  
42 liberalization of this fishery will be in conflict with  
43 the concerns addressed during the Federal Board's  
44 modification made in 2005.

45  
46 The Department's recommendation, oppose  
47 FP08-15, which would liberalize this fishery and  
48 support FP08-16, which would eliminate this fishery.

49  
50 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions

1 for the Fish and Game.

2

3 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

4

5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.

6

7 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. A couple  
8 points if you could clarify and I have a copy of your  
9 comments, they're preliminary ones dated from August  
10 22nd. But in your impact on subsistence users and you  
11 just read through there, you stated that the additional  
12 Federal subsistence fishery could increase competition  
13 and the Federal Staff actually came to the opposite  
14 conclusion, that it would spread the use out and reduce  
15 that level of competition.

16

17 And then on your second page under  
18 conservation issues in that second paragraph I just  
19 wondered, a statement here that really jumped out at  
20 me, and I wondered if we could quote in other arenas as  
21 well, where you have an observation that it's common  
22 traditional environmental knowledge along the Yukon  
23 River and should be appropriately accepted as the best  
24 available information. We've tried to bring  
25 traditional environmental knowledge to the State level  
26 many times and it's consistently been treated as  
27 anecdotal and, you know, as a result it doesn't achieve  
28 that same level. I just wonder how you came to that  
29 conclusion in that point.

30

31 And also if you would just clarify on  
32 that -- where the competition would actually be reduced  
33 and not exacerbated.

34

35 MR. HAYES: Well, Mr. Chairman, as  
36 these comments were put together by several people I  
37 had no input on this one, on your second question, so I  
38 can't comment on that.

39

40 Your first question as far as the  
41 harvest and creating competition among subsistence  
42 users is when you allow the drift gillnet fishery, you  
43 actually have people that move in from other areas  
44 looking for drift sites and compete with the local  
45 people in that area.

46

47 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. It's time to  
48 be wrapping up, the lunch is going to be starting here  
49 in about five minutes so if you have any final  
50 questions for the State this would be a good

1 opportunity.  
2  
3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: You have five  
4 minutes. Anybody else from the Council have questions  
5 or concerns to address the Fish and Game.  
6  
7 (No comments)  
8  
9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none,  
10 thank you.  
11  
12 MR. HAYES: Thank you.  
13  
14 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I think we'll  
15 just go ahead and break for lunch right now and that  
16 way we can come back with the third item on the  
17 presentation procedures for proposals, Federal, State  
18 and tribal agency comments.  
19  
20 How much lunch break do you want.  
21  
22 MR. GUY: We have two sets of lunch.  
23  
24 MR. D. MIKE: We can reconvene at 1:00  
25 o'clock, Mr. Chair, if you wish. Reconvene at 1:00.  
26  
27 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Two hour lunch  
28 break, holy cow. All right, anybody object to a two  
29 hour lunch break.  
30  
31 (Laughter)  
32  
33 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Well, we're at  
34 the mercy of this establishment so be here at 1:00  
35 o'clock sharp. We are breaking for lunch.  
36  
37 (Off record)  
38  
39 (On record)  
40  
41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Our meeting  
42 will come back to order. We're on the presentation  
43 procedures for Proposal 08-15. It is.....  
44  
45 (Power outage)  
46  
47 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: It has  
48 resurrected. We're on part three of the presentation  
49 procedures, Federal, State and tribal agency comments.  
50

1 Anybody from the Feds here to comment  
2 on Proposal 08-15.

3  
4 (No comments)

5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none,  
7 the State already -- we're not into that yet, somebody  
8 turn the lights back on.

9  
10 MR. RIVARD: Turn the lights back on.  
11 Turn it back on, we'll call for you.

12  
13 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

14  
15 (Laughter)

16  
17 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Just leave the  
18 lights on until we ask for them to be dimmed, not  
19 turned off.

20  
21 I guess it's tribal agency comments  
22 regarding 08-15. Tim.

23  
24 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chair. For  
25 the record, Timothy Andrew with AVCP.

26  
27 In, I quite can't recall what year it  
28 was, but there was a tri-RAC meeting that was held in  
29 Wasilla and a number of you were still -- or were at  
30 that meeting and there was a meeting between Eastern  
31 Interior, Western Interior and YK RAC regarding the  
32 Yukon River proposals. And at that meeting we were  
33 discussing this very issue, whether or not to allow  
34 District 4-A, B and C to be able to utilize nets for  
35 their subsistence fishery. And it was at that meeting  
36 that AVCP took the position in opposition to the  
37 allowance of this new gear type to be utilized in that  
38 area, primarily because we were afraid that the impact  
39 on the use of nets or the new gear type in the area  
40 would allow for increased harvest of king salmon on the  
41 Yukon River. And it is back then and it is still true  
42 today that the Yukon River chinook is a fully utilized  
43 resource for escapement, for subsistence and for  
44 commercial and also to allow for the Canadian  
45 escapement portion as well.

46  
47 So AVCP, at this point, still maintains  
48 the opposition to the allowance of this new gear type  
49 although it has been in use for a number of years now.  
50

1                   The other thing that we'd like to point  
2 out is in the regulatory language down at the bottom of  
3 Proposal 15, if you take a look at it on the first page  
4 there, down at the bottom it indicates that the gear  
5 depth shall be no more than 35 meshes deep.

6  
7                   MR. ROCZICKA: That's Proposal 13, not  
8 15.

9  
10                  MR. ANDREW: Pardon me, oh, 15, I have  
11 Proposal 15.

12  
13                  MR. ROCZICKA: Oh, I'm sorry.

14  
15                  MR. ANDREW: Down at the bottom it  
16 indicates that the proposal -- or the maximum depth of  
17 the gear in that area is going to be 35 meshes deep.  
18 And there's a proposal, as Mr. Roczicka had pointed  
19 out, Proposal No. 13, that allows for that maximum  
20 depth of 35 meshes deep. And what I'm afraid of is if  
21 the YK RAC takes action on this proposal in its current  
22 language allowing maximum depth of 35 meshes deep that  
23 you'll have no choice but to adopt Proposal No. 13,  
24 which calls for a maximum of 35 meshes deep. And I  
25 just want to make you aware of that possibility just in  
26 case you get into that dilemma.

27  
28                  Right now I believe in that area the  
29 maximum mesh depth is 60 meshes deep. We are,  
30 currently, on the Lower Yukon area, we're allowed a  
31 maximum of 45 meshes depth for unrestricted gear.

32  
33                  Perhaps, you know, if the Council  
34 wishes to endorse Proposal No. 15 that you reflect 45  
35 meshes deep just to make sure that we have consistent  
36 mesh deep all the way up and down the Yukon River  
37 rather than reflect the 35 meshes deep because that's  
38 what the Office of Subsistence Management, the Eastern  
39 Interior and other organizations are advocating for, 35  
40 meshes deep for the entire Yukon River. And I just  
41 thought I'd make you aware of that.

42  
43                  Thank you, Mr. Chair.

44  
45                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
46 for Tim.

47  
48                  (No comments)

49  
50                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

1 INTERPRETER: Those who don't have  
2 hearing -- issues, please let us know, there.....

3  
4 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Also for the  
5 non-Yup'ik speakers, there are translators if you want  
6 to understand what our Yup'ik people are saying. You  
7 can pick up a translator and you'll hear the  
8 translations from Yup'ik to English and vice versa.

9  
10 Don.

11  
12 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. In addressing  
13 something that Tim Andrew just said, the proposal is  
14 not about the 35 meshes deep, that's already in  
15 regulation and that's not what's being asked -- you're  
16 not being asked to vote on that, you're being asked to  
17 consider whether this drift gillnet fishery in  
18 Subdistrict 4-B and C should be expanded or eliminated  
19 altogether.

20  
21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
22 That reminds us that we are speaking only on Proposal  
23 15.

24  
25 Any other questions or comments for  
26 Tim.

27  
28 (No comments)

29  
30 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none,  
31 we'll go to the InterAgency Staff Committee.

32  
33 (No comments)

34  
35 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Do we have a  
36 rep for the InterAgency Staff Committee?

37  
38 (No comments)

39  
40 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No one here.  
41 Fish and Game Local Advisory Committee.

42  
43 Ray is wearing two hats.

44  
45 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
46 For the record Raymond Oney with the Lower Yukon  
47 Advisory Council.

48  
49 And for Proposal FP08-15, the Lower  
50 Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee opposes the

1 proposal because of additional pressure on the fishery  
2 and impact on the lower river users.

3  
4 AC comment. Additional pressure on the  
5 fishery may impact the lower river users. The AC  
6 opposed with a vote of zero support and seven  
7 opposition.

8  
9 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10  
11 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
12 or comments for Ray.

13  
14 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

15  
16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

17  
18 MS. GREGORY: Ray. Can you tell me why  
19 you opposed this?

20  
21 MR. ONEY: The reason why the Advisory  
22 Council opposed this proposal is because they felt that  
23 it would create more pressure on the fishermen on the  
24 lower Yukon River. By creating this gillnet fishery in  
25 this district, we felt that it would have an impact on  
26 the lower Yukon users.

27  
28 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

29  
30 MR. ONEY: We're in District 1.

31  
32 MS. GREGORY: Thank you.

33  
34 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
35 questions or comments.

36  
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

38  
39 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.

40  
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, Ray, did you guys  
42 have anyone from Office of Subsistence Management  
43 there, you know, looking at their summary on the  
44 proposal and I'd ask this of Tim as well, if AVCP had,  
45 but their contention is that this fishery would -- and  
46 I quote out of here, it says:

47  
48 Would likely only be changing the  
49 locations of where people fish, not the  
50 amount of chinook needed and harvested.

1                   If you guys addressed that at all.  
2  
3                   MR. ONEY: If we it would have been in  
4 these minutes of the meeting that were handed out to  
5 you. I don't recall if we took that, brought it up  
6 during the meeting.  
7  
8                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
9 questions or comments for Ray.  
10  
11                   (No comments)  
12  
13                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, hearing  
14 none, thank you.  
15  
16                   MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
17  
18                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.  
19  
20                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Is anybody here  
21 from District 2.  
22  
23                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.  
24  
25                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: District 3.  
26  
27                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman. Before  
28 we go on can I get back to Don?  
29  
30                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: (Nods  
31 affirmatively)  
32  
33                   MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
34 Chairman. Don, on Page 4, when the proposed  
35 regulation.....  
36  
37                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Page.  
38  
39                   MR. HOELSCHER: Page 15 [sic],  
40 Subsection C mentions.....  
41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Which document  
43 are you referring to?  
44  
45                   MR. HOELSCHER: Page 4.  
46  
47                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Which document?  
48  
49                   MR. HOELSCHER: 15 -- the proposed --  
50 Proposal 15, Page 4.

1                   On Subsection C there's a mention of no  
2 more than 35 meshes, can I get an explanation on that  
3 because you mentioned that we're not talking meshes  
4 earlier.

5  
6                   MR. RIVARD: Yes, Mr. Chair. Edgar, if  
7 you look at the existing regulation up towards the top  
8 of the page, it's the same wording, under Section C  
9 there, that is already the existing regulation.

10  
11                   MR. HOELSCHER: Uh-huh.

12  
13                   MR. RIVARD: The only thing that's  
14 being proposed to be changed under 15, it's in that  
15 Section C and it's crossing out the words, the last 18  
16 hour period of, which -- instead of just having 18  
17 hours.....

18  
19                   MR. HOELSCHER: Uh-huh.

20  
21                   MR. RIVARD: .....per regulatory  
22 opening, if this proposal is passed the people in  
23 Subdistricts 4-B and C will be able to drift gillnet  
24 fish the entire regulatory opening. And the season  
25 opens usually with a two 48 hour periods per week, so  
26 it's an expansion of time, it doesn't change mesh size  
27 or anything; that's already in regulation.

28  
29                   MR. HOELSCHER: Okay, thank you.

30  
31                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

32  
33                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

34  
35                   MS. GREGORY: Can you explain where  
36 Stink River is or Stink Creek is?

37  
38                   MR. RIVARD: If you look on Page 6 on  
39 the map. I don't know exactly where it's at but  
40 there's two hours where you can fish under Federal  
41 regulations and that's from Galena down stream to the  
42 border with 4-A, do you see that there, it's kind of a  
43 real small period, real small area. And the other one  
44 is from Ruby up stream up to the 5-A and 4-B, C border,  
45 that's a larger area as you can see. A larger stretch  
46 of the river.

47  
48                   I think the Stink Creek one is in the  
49 other area but I'm not sure. We'd need somebody from  
50 the Nowitna or the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge to

1 help us with that. But that's just a description of  
2 those areas that are on the map.

3

4 MS. GREGORY: So it's not lower Yukon,  
5 it's upper Yukon.

6

7 MR. RIVARD: Correct. We're talking  
8 between, as you can see on the map, between the village  
9 of Koyukuk and Tanana.

10

11 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
12 questions.

13

14 (No comments)

15

16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No one from  
17 District 2 or 3 here.

18

19 (No comments)

20

21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, summary  
22 of written public comments. Coordinator.

23

24 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. The summary  
25 of written public comments, I handed out a copy to all  
26 the Council members and at the top it states Summary of  
27 Written Comments on 2008/09 Fisheries Proposals for  
28 Yukon Northern Area.

29

30 For Proposal 15 we received one written  
31 comment from the Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory  
32 Committee opposing Proposal 15.

33

34 The Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory  
35 Committee opposes the proposal because of additional  
36 pressure on the fishery and the impacts on the lower  
37 river users.

38

39 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

40

41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
42 for Donald -- or Don Mike.

43

44 (No comments)

45

46 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I wish you'd  
47 rearrange our tables here so I don't have to keep  
48 looking back and forth this way. We had them in a U  
49 shape before and it worked a lot better.

50

1                   Hearing no questions for the  
2 coordinator, we'll go down here to Item 7, public  
3 testimony.

4  
5                   Like I said earlier, now's your chance  
6 as a resident of Marshall and this area to make your  
7 comments on this proposal. And you don't have to  
8 belong to Fish and Game or Fish and Wildlife or an  
9 agency or tribe. Just to make sure you understand,  
10 speak now or forever hold your peace.

11  
12                   (No comments)

13  
14                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none.  
15 And now I'll entertain a motion to adopt Proposal 08-  
16 15.

17  
18                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman, I move that  
19 we adopt Proposal FP08-15.

20  
21                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There's a  
22 motion on the floor, is there a second.

23  
24                   MR. ONEY: Second.

25  
26                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Second by Ray.

27  
28                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

29  
30                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Discussion.

31  
32                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

33  
34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Deliberations,  
35 recommendations and justification for your  
36 deliberations and your recommendations.

37  
38                   Mary.

39  
40                   MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik)

41  
42                   MR. D. MIKE: (In Yup'ik) Donald.

43  
44                   MS. GREGORY: Donna.

45  
46                   (Laughter)

47  
48                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Donald.

49  
50                   MR. D. MIKE: Donald Mike.

1 MS. GREGORY: Donald, you have written  
2 oppose for Proposal 15. Can you explain to me how it  
3 will impact the lower Yukon River users because 4-A, 4-  
4 B and 4-C is on the upper Yukon.

5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary, that --  
7 his -- he has no say on the comment, the written  
8 comments. The written comments are not written by him.

9  
10 MS. GREGORY: I know. It's from that  
11 Lower Yukon group.

12  
13 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.

14  
15 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Ray, would you  
16 take that question.

17  
18 MR. ONEY: Yes, thank you, Mr.  
19 Chairman. As I mentioned earlier we felt that by  
20 creating this new division on the Yukon, it would  
21 impact the fishermen on the lower Yukon, which would  
22 mean that we would have to sacrifice a lot more of the  
23 commercial catch that are coming into the Yukon. It  
24 would take a longer period for the users to open up  
25 commercial fisheries on the lower Yukon. And that's  
26 the reason why we chose to oppose Proposal 08-15.

27  
28 Does that answer your question?

29  
30 MS. GREGORY: Yeah. My reasoning is I  
31 can't see 4-B and C, which is on the upper Yukon, and  
32 Mr. Rivard was telling us that the only thing that  
33 changes is the 18 hour, or am I hearing people wrong.

34  
35 (Laughter)

36  
37 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The way I  
38 understand it is that there is not going to be any  
39 change in the number of fish that are harvested, it's  
40 just going to make it easier and longer for people to  
41 harvest in that area.

42  
43 Any other Council members.

44  
45 (No comments)

46  
47 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

48  
49 (No comments)

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.  
2  
3                   (No comments)  
4  
5                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Charlie Brown.  
6  
7                   (No comments)  
8  
9                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg. No. Oh,  
10 Greg.  
11  
12                   MR. ROCZICKA: Actually, Mr. Chairman,  
13 I'd like to ask for one more clarification here if I  
14 can and probably Mr. Rivard would be the one to answer  
15 it and I'm trying to find which one it came from.  
16  
17                   Oh, yeah, with the number of permits  
18 issued versus the total number of permits actually  
19 fished, I'm seeing it as a pretty huge difference  
20 there. You know, you have, you know, your total of 18  
21 permits, only five of those permits fished. And I'm  
22 recognizing the concerns that have been registered by  
23 AVCP and some of the lower river residences, when you  
24 open that door and farther down the line this becomes,  
25 if it expands, for those total number of permits, how  
26 are those people selected, is that taken into your  
27 equation about no additional impact on the amount of  
28 fish harvested.  
29  
30                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Don.  
31  
32                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Greg. The way  
33 the system works is that people from that area  
34 qualified -- Federally-qualified users, they need to  
35 have a Federal permit in order to fish with drift  
36 gillnet in 4-B and 4-C. And as you can see from the  
37 data, most of the people that have been getting these  
38 permits are from Galena. There's been a few from Ruby  
39 and a couple from Koyukuk. The first year, I think,  
40 even some Tanana residents obtained permits. Most of  
41 those people that got the permits didn't even fished.  
42 And those that did fish didn't get many fish.  
43  
44                   What the Louden Tribal Council, well,  
45 the reason they put this proposal in, again, is that  
46 folks there have been saying that these two 18 hour  
47 periods that they get each week is not enough time for  
48 them to go and scout out and try different sites. So  
49 with having much more time, two 48 hour periods, that  
50 would give them more opportunity then to look for sites

1 and to fish in those sites.

2

3 As Steve Hayes has pointed out and  
4 we've heard this in the past, there aren't a lot of  
5 supposedly viable sites in 4-B and 4-C for drift  
6 gillnet fishing so people have to really go out and  
7 look things over and try to find these spots.

8

9 And this kind of stemmed also from,  
10 there's a lot of people drift gillnet fishing around  
11 the village of Koyukuk, including people from 4-B and  
12 4-C that travel down river to fish in 4-A, where it was  
13 allowed prior to this other fishery being authorized by  
14 the Federal Subsistence Board. People are still doing  
15 that because it's a proven site and they can get their  
16 -- there's a lot of competition, there's a lot of  
17 people using that area around the village of Koyukuk.  
18 So the thinking is that with allowing more fishing time  
19 it will give people from 4-B and C, residents of  
20 Galena, Ruby mostly the opportunity to find more sites  
21 and to utilize them. These folks, from my  
22 understanding, they're not, just like most of you, they  
23 need a certain amount of fish each year and that's what  
24 they harvest. There's been concerns expressed here  
25 that this is going to increase harvest. In my  
26 estimation, from my analysis here, it's just going to  
27 shift where people are going to harvest their fish,  
28 it's not going to increase harvest at all.

29

30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

31

32 MR. ROCZICKA: But there is no limit on  
33 the amount of permits that could be issued at this  
34 point in time?

35

36 MR. RIVARD: That's correct. There's  
37 no limit on the amount of permits. As you can see, I  
38 think, the first year there were 70 but it's not even  
39 near that the last couple of years and we don't  
40 anticipate it being probably more than 50 a year that  
41 would be issued. But not everybody that gets permits  
42 fishes anyways.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else  
45 from the Council.

46

47 (No comments)

48

49 MR. CHARLES: Question.

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The question  
2 has been called. Roll call. Remember if you vote in  
3 the affirmative it means you're supporting the  
4 proposal. An aye vote means, yes, I support the  
5 proposal.  
6  
7                   MR. ROCZICKA: Okay. So motion to  
8 support or adopt for Proposal FP08-15. James Charles.  
9  
10                  MR. CHARLES: No.  
11  
12                  MR. ROCZICKA: John Andrew, absent.  
13 Ray Oney.  
14  
15                  MR. ONEY: No.  
16  
17                  MR. ROCZICKA: William Brown.  
18  
19                  MR. BROWN: No.  
20  
21                  MR. ROCZICKA: Harry Wilde.  
22  
23                  MR. H. WILDE: No.  
24  
25                  MR. ROCZICKA: Edgar Hoelscher.  
26  
27                  MR. HOELSCHER: No.  
28  
29                  MR. ROCZICKA: Mary Gregory.  
30  
31                  MS. GREGORY: Yes and it's because of  
32 that last 18 hour period, that's the only change that I  
33 see.  
34  
35                  MR. ROCZICKA: Phillip Moses.  
36  
37                  MR. MOSES: Yes.  
38  
39                  MR. ROCZICKA: Yes?  
40  
41                  MS. GREGORY: He didn't understand.  
42  
43                  INTERPRETER: (In Yup'ik) He said yes.  
44  
45                  MR. ROCZICKA: Lester Wilde, he's  
46 absent. Joe Mike.  
47  
48                  MR. MIKE: No.  
49  
50                  MR. ROCZICKA: Roczicka votes yes. Bob

1 Aloysius.

2

3                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes, and I'll  
4 tell you why. We're here, again, like we've been  
5 reminded many times, that we're here to make sure that  
6 our Federally-qualified residents have access to a  
7 product that is there for their taking. And it appears  
8 to me that, you know, we have not allowed that to  
9 happen, and this proposal to me gives the people up  
10 river more chance to harvest something that they  
11 thoroughly need, just as well as the people in the  
12 lower Yukon.

13

14                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. With  
15 three yes, six no, three absent, motion fails.

16

17                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Motion fails.  
18 Okay. Let's get into 08-16. I was reminded by the  
19 Secretary that our initial moving for adoption of the  
20 proposal has to come first and then the procedures are  
21 a part of the discussion. So I'd entertain a motion to  
22 adopt 08-16.

23

24                   MR. ROCZICKA: So moved.

25

26                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There's a  
27 motion on the floor to adopt 08-16, is there a second.

28

29                   MR. HOELSCHER: Second.

30

31                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Second by  
32 Edgar. Discussion. Okay, introduction of the proposal  
33 and the analysis. Don.

34

35                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. The analysis  
36 that I did was for both. so it's the same analysis.  
37 And all your voting on now is the ADF&G's proposal  
38 requesting that the drift gillnet fishery in  
39 Subdistricts 4-B and 4-C be eliminated altogether.

40

41                   Thank you.

42

43                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: ADF&G.

44

45                   (No comments)

46

47                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Feds.

48

49                   (No comments)

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Tribal agency.  
2 You got to move fast otherwise we'll run right over  
3 you.

4  
5                   MR. HAYES: Sorry, Mr. Chairman. I've  
6 already provided comments. And, of course, the State  
7 recommendation is to support this proposal, FP08-16.

8  
9                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I know Tim's  
10 ready. Tribal agency. Barely ready.

11  
12                  MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chair. I'd like to  
13 just refer to my earlier statements that I made  
14 opposing the prior proposal and supporting this  
15 proposal.

16  
17                  Thank you, Mr. Chair.

18  
19                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Support.

20  
21                  MR. ANDREW: Supporting, yes.

22  
23                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody from  
24 InterAgency.

25  
26                  (No comments)

27  
28                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Where's Carl  
29 Jack.

30  
31                  (No comments)

32  
33                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Fish and Game  
34 Local Advisory Committee. Ray.

35  
36                  MR. ONEY: Thank you, again, Mr.  
37 Chairman. Raymond Oney, Lower Yukon Advisory Council.  
38 On Proposal 08-16, the Council Advisory Committee --  
39 the Lower Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee  
40 supports this proposal because this was not a  
41 traditional fishery.

42  
43                  Those are the only comments I have, Mr.  
44 Chairman.

45  
46                  ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
47 for Ray.

48  
49                  MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.  
2  
3                   MS. GREGORY: Ray, can you tell me  
4 where 4, 5 and 6 are?  
5  
6                   MR. ONEY: I don't have the map but  
7 it's up around Galena area. The map that Don mentioned  
8 to you earlier, in the back of one of your handouts  
9 there's Districts 4-B and c, it's up around Galena  
10 area. You could correct me if I'm wrong.  
11  
12                   MR. RIVARD: Mary, behind you on the  
13 wall is a bigger map and I'll take you over there and  
14 I'll point out all those districts for you if you'd  
15 like.  
16  
17                   MS. GREGORY: Yes.  
18  
19                   (Pause)  
20  
21                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
22 questions for Ray.  
23  
24                   (No comments)  
25  
26                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Ray.  
27  
28                   MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
29  
30                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody from  
31 District 2.  
32  
33                   (No comments)  
34  
35                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: District 3.  
36  
37                   (No comments)  
38  
39                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Summary of  
40 public -- written public comments. Coordinator.  
41  
42                   MR. D. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We  
43 received one written public comment, which Mr. Ray Oney  
44 presented to the Council, which is to support the  
45 proposal.  
46  
47                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
48  
49                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Don.  
50 Public testimony. Anybody here who is not associated

1 with any Federal, State or tribal organization, now's  
2 your time.

3

4 (No comments)

5

6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Oh, I thought  
7 we had one. Okay. Regional Advisory Council  
8 deliberations, recommendations and justifications for  
9 your recommendations and your deliberations. I'll  
10 start with Edgar.

11

12 MR. HOELSCHER: No comments.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

15

16 MR. CHARLES: No comments.

17

18 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Ray, already.

19

20 MR. ONEY: No comment.

21

22 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Charlie Brown.

23

24 MR. BROWN: No comment.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Myself, no  
27 comment. Greg, no comment. Joe.

28

29 MR. MIKE: No comment.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

32

33 MS. GREGORY: I did already.

34

35 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Phillip Moses.

36

37 (No comments)

38

39 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Who's that on  
40 the side of him, Harry Wilde.

41

42 MR. H. WILDE: No comment.

43

44 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: You had your  
45 chance. The floor's open for question.

46

47 MR. HOELSCHER: Question.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Question's been  
50 called. Roll call.

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Okay, motion to support  
2 Proposal No. 08-16, which would eliminate the drift  
3 gillnet fishery in.....  
4  
5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Districts 4-B  
6 and 4-C.  
7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: .....4-B and 4-C. Ray  
9 Oney.  
10  
11 MR. ONEY: Yes.  
12  
13 MR. ROCZICKA: William Brown.  
14  
15 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
16  
17 MR. ROCZICKA: Yes?  
18  
19 MR. BROWN: Yes.  
20  
21 MR. ROCZICKA: Harry Wilde.  
22  
23 MR. H. WILDE: Yes.  
24  
25 MR. ROCZICKA: Edgar Hoelscher.  
26  
27 MR. HOELSCHER: Yes.  
28  
29 MR. ROCZICKA: Mary Gregory.  
30  
31 MS. GREGORY: Yes.  
32  
33 MR. ROCZICKA: Phillip Moses.  
34  
35 MR. MOSES: Yeah.  
36  
37 MR. ROCZICKA: Joe Mike.  
38  
39 MR. MIKE: Yes.  
40  
41 MR. ROCZICKA: Roczicka, no. Bob  
42 Aloysius.  
43  
44 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No, for the  
45 same reasons I voted the other way the last time.  
46  
47 MR. ROCZICKA: James Charles.  
48  
49 MR. CHARLES: Yes.  
50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chair. Motion  
2 carries, nine yes and two no.  
3  
4 MR. RIVARD: It would be eight.  
5  
6 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Motion passes.  
7  
8 MR. ROCZICKA: Oh, I'm sorry, eight yes  
9 and two no.  
10  
11 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: So that means  
12 we'll go back three numbers, can we just do 08-13 and  
13 14 together, Don, or is that to cumbersome?  
14  
15 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. I would  
16 recommend that you do No. 17 first and then 13 and 14  
17 will be one analysis just as 15 and 16 were. 13 and 14  
18 is probably going to take the most time, so I think 17  
19 we can do fairly quickly. That would be my  
20 recommendation.  
21  
22 Thank you.  
23  
24 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I'm sorry,  
25 yeah, I forgot. Okay, is there a motion to adopt -- or  
26 support Proposal 08-17, age exemption from the -- I  
27 don't -- I need a -- where is that, oh, this one here.  
28 Sorry about that. Okay, establish elder fishery on the  
29 Yukon River.  
30  
31 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.  
32  
33 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.  
34  
35 MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman. I move to  
36 adopt Proposal FP08-17.  
37  
38 MS. GREGORY: Second.  
39  
40 MR. ROCZICKA: We have to do the  
41 analysis first, the presentation.  
42  
43 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Who was the  
44 second?  
45  
46 MR. ROCZICKA: Mary.  
47  
48 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay,  
49 discussion.  
50

1 (Pause)

2

3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: As far as the  
4 discussion on Proposal FP.....

5

6 REPORTER: Bob. Bob. Bob.

7

8 MR. RIVARD: Microphone.

9

10 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: As part of the  
11 discussion on this motion without the introduction of  
12 the proposal and the analysis -- okay.

13

14 MS. WILLIAMS: Good afternoon, I'm Liz  
15 Williams with the Office of Subsistence Management.  
16 And Proposal FP08-17 is not in your books, it looks  
17 like this and it was handed out this morning.

18

19 It was submitted by the Yukon River  
20 Drainage Fisheries Association, and they request that  
21 in the Yukon River drainage elders 60 years old and  
22 older, when they're salmon fishing, not be subject to  
23 the windows, the window subsistence fishing schedules,  
24 and be able to subsistence fish 24 hours per day, seven  
25 days per week. The proposal also includes that the  
26 elder may be assisted by one individual less than age  
27 60.

28

29 The proposed regulation would read:

30

31 That elders who are age 60 or elder and  
32 are participating in the fishing  
33 activity themselves are not subject to  
34 the windows fishing schedule as set out  
35 in Alaska State law or Alaska  
36 Administrative Code 5 AAC 01.210(b).

37

38 One person less than age 60 may assist  
39 one or more elders, age 60 or older  
40 when they're fishing.

41

42 This proposal wouldn't apply to  
43 subsistence fishing closures before, during or after  
44 commercial openings. The subsistence fishing schedule  
45 right now requires people to stop fishing and take  
46 their gear from the water at the end of every  
47 subsistence period and that gear be put out again no  
48 earlier than the beginning of each subsistence period.  
49 This can be a physical hardship for elders when fishing  
50 with a set gillnet if they do not have someone to help

1 them. And this proposal was submitted by YRDFA after  
2 they'd received lots of complaints from people who were  
3 having problems.

4  
5                   Additionally, bad weather, illness  
6 during subsistence periods can slow down the ability of  
7 elders to harvest the right amount of salmon. Not  
8 being able to fish when the fish are running increases  
9 both the times that they have to spend and their costs  
10 having to fish on the calendar schedule is not  
11 consistent with the traditional, cultural fishing  
12 pattern of fishing when the fish are there and when  
13 you're ready to go.

14  
15                   In the proposal, YRDFA didn't specify  
16 what type of gear this new non-window fishing for  
17 elders would refer to, they just referred to fishing  
18 activity. And currently the allowable gear type under  
19 Federal subsistence regs for harvesting salmon in the  
20 Yukon including drift and set gillnets, beach seines,  
21 fishwheel and rod and reel. Rod and reel fishing you  
22 can already do 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Not  
23 many people do beach seining. Fishwheels are used  
24 mostly in the middle and upper portions of the drainage  
25 above Holy Cross. The proposed change for drift  
26 gillnet fishing would still include the physical  
27 demands of putting out and resetting nets so there's  
28 not a lot of physical advantage to the proposed  
29 exemptions for elders when drift gillnet fishing,  
30 although I'd like to hear your opinion on that.

31  
32                   The expanded opportunity would still  
33 remain for fishwheel and drift gillnet fishermen but it  
34 appears that there's no physical advantage to elders  
35 fishing with drift gillnets or fishwheels. Because of  
36 that setnet fishing was sort of narrowed down as what  
37 this proposal would apply to. Setnet fishing is a  
38 traditional method of taking salmon is the most common  
39 way of harvesting salmon on the Yukon. Setnets were  
40 used as the primary gill until the '70s when drift  
41 gillnets became more widely used. There aren't a lot  
42 of setnet sites available and providing an exemption  
43 for elders 60 years and older from the subsistence  
44 windows schedule would exempt them from the requirement  
45 to stop fishing, as I noted before.

46  
47                   Initially YRDFA asked for it to be 65  
48 years old but because in order to sort of incorporate  
49 people with disabilities as well they changed it to 60.  
50

1                   There have been some concerns stated  
2 about how law enforcement would deal with this. Also  
3 it's not known how many elders would be able to take  
4 advantage of this age exemption from the windows.  
5 Currently there are no limits on the harvest of salmon  
6 for subsistence in the Yukon although there are  
7 subsisting [sic] fishing permits required in some  
8 places up river. And I have a list of those if you  
9 want to hear them later.

10  
11                   The proposed regulatory change may not  
12 even be relevant in the near future as in-season  
13 managers are evaluating not using windows at all at the  
14 beginning of the season when the preseason outlook is  
15 for a good year.

16  
17                   The implementation or relaxation of the  
18 windows schedule should be done by State emergency  
19 order or Federal joint streamlining memorandum.

20  
21                   If this proposal is adopted there's  
22 several effects we can consider. It's not expected to  
23 increase the harvest but make it easier for elders,  
24 that was the whole intent of the proposal.

25  
26                   By not requiring elders to stop fishing  
27 or take their nets from the water at the end of each  
28 period and then resetting them at the beginning of the  
29 next period, it would just take the physical demands  
30 out for them.

31  
32                   Taking the subsistence windows schedule  
33 out for elders would be consistent with traditional  
34 fishing practices, people would have the option to fish  
35 continuously while the fish were there and decide for  
36 themselves about how many they needed and when to stop  
37 and when to start.

38  
39                   Adopting this proposal isn't expected  
40 to affect commercial or sportfishing because, again,  
41 the harvest shouldn't change, people should just have  
42 more convenience, elders that is.

43  
44                   Adopting this proposal wouldn't affect  
45 subsistence regulations in Districts 1 through 3  
46 requiring that subsistence-caught king salmon must be  
47 marked by removing the dorsal fin, people would still  
48 have to do that.

49  
50                   There have been concerns stated that

1 this proposal would increase work for law enforcement  
2 because they wouldn't be able to tell from the air if  
3 it was an elder fishing legally outside of the windows  
4 or not. They may have to spend a little more time  
5 making sure that the elders were fishing under the  
6 regs, just not under the window.

7  
8                   It should also be noted that fishermen  
9 -- subsistence fishermen can already use four-inch mesh  
10 gear during windows for other fish 24/7 so there's  
11 already a fishery in place that requires law  
12 enforcement to be watching even when the windows aren't  
13 open, so to speak.

14  
15                   The analyst noted that challenges  
16 associated with law enforcement of this windowless  
17 fishing for elders would be easier for law enforcement  
18 to deal with if we narrowed the proposal to only apply  
19 to set gillnet fishing. It is also noted that law  
20 enforcement would be made easier if the elder's name  
21 and address is put on the nets.

22  
23                   The preliminary conclusion is to  
24 support this proposal from YRDFA to exempt elders from  
25 the windows with some conditions, it can be stopped at  
26 any time by the Federal in-season manager, it would  
27 only apply to subsistence fishing with set gillnets,  
28 not the other gear types, there would be a requirement  
29 that the elder and the younger assistant would have to  
30 be Federally-qualified subsistence users, rural  
31 residents, and the elder must be in the boat when the  
32 net is being set, checked, retriev -- when fishing is  
33 happening, and when the net is being taken in. Elders  
34 and their younger assistants have to have ID with them  
35 just to make sure that they're a rural resident in case  
36 law enforcement needs to check. And the gillnet has to  
37 be labeled with the elder's first initial, last name  
38 and address.

39  
40                   So I think I'm going over a lot of the  
41 justification again. YRDFA proposed this just to make  
42 it a little bit easier for elders. There's no  
43 increased harvest anticipated.

44  
45                   And that's the end of that analysis.

46  
47                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
48 from the Council.

49  
50                   (No comments)

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
2 from the Council.

3

4                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

5

6                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

7

8                   MS. GREGORY: I have a comment because  
9 the proposal includes that the elder be in the boat,  
10 what if the elder is to old to be in the boat. Like my  
11 husband had silent strokes and he's an elder, he can't  
12 go in a boat because sometimes he goes on these memory  
13 losses and it's dangerous for him sometimes.

14

15                   There should be some way to make sure  
16 that the elder is represented by the fishermen and you  
17 guys need to do a little bit more research on how to  
18 make that a workable thing. Because I don't think  
19 every elder is going to go on that boat. Because like  
20 what I said our elders, some of them have physical  
21 ailments that they cannot participate and do things for  
22 themselves and that's my concern. You need to have a  
23 better identification or a better qualification system  
24 in there.

25

26                   MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.

27

28                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mr. Mike.

29

30                   MR. MIKE: My name is Joe Mike. We  
31 asked a elder -- the people that hunt moose in the  
32 regulations of Fish and Game, or some place in the  
33 regulations it says young person could take elder's  
34 permit along with the license and hunt for that person,  
35 even when that elder is at home, could that be possible  
36 in that too?

37

38                   MS. WILLIAMS: I have to defer to these  
39 experts behind me.

40

41                   MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Don Rivard  
42 with the Office of Subsistence Management. Somebody  
43 else has got their mic on -- okay.

44

45                   We do have a program where you can  
46 designate somebody else to fish for you, but if an  
47 elder were to do that, that person would -- it would be  
48 the person's age that was fishing that would be the  
49 important thing. So if an elder could not fish and  
50 designated somebody else, another Federally-qualified

1 user to go fish for him or her, that person would still  
2 be subject to the window schedule.

3

4 This regulation is the elder of 60  
5 years or older would have to be actively fishing in  
6 order to have the exemption from the windowed schedule.  
7 If they're not able to fish they can't have somebody go  
8 out there and then be able to fish 24 hours a day,  
9 seven days a week, they have to be actively fishing in  
10 order to get the exemption from the windowed schedule.

11

12 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

13

14 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
15 for Don.

16

17 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.

18

19 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

20

21 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Rivard, I think  
22 that's not fair. If you don't -- like when you go  
23 hunting for an elder, you guys should -- he's not going  
24 to live that long, you know, give him to live his life  
25 for the fullest, the way he knows how to do it.

26

27 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Mary. One  
28 option that your Council has, should you support this  
29 proposal, is you could support it with modification  
30 saying that you would also like to see an elder  
31 designate -- that designates somebody to fish for them  
32 to also be able to do this 24 hours, seven days a week.  
33 So you have that option to make that recommendation to  
34 the Federal Subsistence Board.

35

36 Thank you.

37

38 MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

41

42 MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
43 Chairman. Don, on the proposed regulation, under --  
44 unless superseded by a Federal special action so on the  
45 proposed regulation under Alaska Statute 16.05.06  
46 unless superseded by Federal special action, so the  
47 State would, you know, possibly say no comment or, you  
48 know, what's the status of the State on this proposal  
49 or what are their comments on that?

50

1 MS. WILLIAMS: Well, we don't want to  
2 speak for the State but I believe they oppose this  
3 proposal. But this would only affect like fishing  
4 within the Refuge boundaries or other boundaries with  
5 Federal land boundaries.

6  
7 MR. RIVARD: Federal public waters.

8  
9 MS. WILLIAMS: Federal public waters.  
10 And the point that you bring up is the Federal manager  
11 could shut it down if fishing -- if fish were running  
12 low and we always, though, coordinate with the State  
13 because they have data that we don't, we work together  
14 and so the Federal in-season manager might -- would  
15 work with the State manager if there was an emergency  
16 need to close this window free fishing for people over  
17 60.

18  
19 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else  
20 from the Council.

21  
22 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.

23  
24 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Joe.

25  
26 MR. MIKE: Joe Mike. Too many times  
27 that I've been hearing that word Federal subsistence  
28 fishers, we are all qualified Federal subsistence users  
29 because we live off the land and from the river, we are  
30 still called Federal subsistence users. That's hurting  
31 us also, Federal subsistence users, because we live  
32 from the land and from the rivers.

33  
34 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

35  
36 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

37  
38 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Harry.

39  
40 MR. H. WILDE: Harry Wilde from the  
41 lower Yukon.

42  
43 I am 78 years old, I think I'm  
44 qualified for subsistence user. I do have a problem  
45 with this proposal. In the middle Yukon there below  
46 first Y1 and Y2, there are hardly any eddies, in the  
47 lower Yukon we don't have no fishwheel, fishwheel was  
48 taken away by State. It's kind of very hard that --  
49 for the elders that I know, you can't do very much  
50 setting four inch mesh mouth of the slough, be catching

1 all kinds of mixed salmon.

2

3                   However it's kind of even hard for me  
4 to go out but I have a couple boys that I'm training  
5 all this time. After I got kind of heart attack I  
6 decide to get the -- make sure my grandson's doing what  
7 I train him for. And so I cannot support or I cannot  
8 say no to this because elders want to -- they work hard  
9 especially when you don't have anyone to work --  
10 helping -- I do -- I seen some elders older than me,  
11 they try, but if they have family to help them, it's  
12 okay.

13

14                   Sometimes, me, I think I kind of try  
15 too hard and I feel that it's going to cause the hard  
16 time and like the elders, like if they have to show the  
17 identification and all that stuff, I think it would be  
18 good some way if we could add this -- yeah, support --  
19 elders could even get someone to fish with them. I  
20 think that that's the best part. I been working on the  
21 fish ever since I could able to be -- handle the fish.  
22 I think it should be added if elder cannot, unable to  
23 do himself, they should have other people or relatives  
24 helping him, it don't really have to be in the boat. I  
25 got a hunting license that I could go out there hunt  
26 without no license, no nothing. That's the kind of  
27 license they should have, they should able to use, if  
28 they qualify -- if the Federal qualify this -- support  
29 it -- maybe Board support it, something would be done  
30 for the elders.

31

32                   I always say to myself that elder been  
33 doing everything, everything they're able to do. I  
34 like to support this but I'm kind of afraid to, you --  
35 I don't like Fish and Game come around and look at my  
36 buoys and all that stuff, they should have something  
37 option, that they could have -- get someone to help  
38 them subsistence fishing.

39

40                   Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

41

42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I'd like to say  
43 something here. It's just that we're going down to the  
44 Regional Advisory Council deliberations and  
45 recommendations and justifications, and let's keep that  
46 in mind that we are the last to speak on these  
47 proposals, so please keep in mind, you know, just to  
48 address your question to what's being presented right  
49 in front of us, not to go ahead.

50

1 Any other questions for Don or Liz.  
2  
3 MR. MIKE: Mr. Chairman.  
4  
5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Joe.  
6  
7 MR. MIKE: Yeah, if the State of Alaska  
8 or Federal give them permanent then I'd like to -- a  
9 license then.....  
10  
11 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Joe, can you  
12 hold that until our turn to speak.  
13  
14 MR. MIKE: Okay.  
15  
16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Then we can  
17 deal with that. Any more questions from the Council to  
18 Liz or Don regarding the analysis of the proposal.  
19  
20 (No comments)  
21  
22 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
23 Alaska Department of Fish and Game comments.  
24  
25 MR. HAYES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
26 Once again my name is Steve Hayes with the Alaska  
27 Department of Fish and Game. And I'll be presenting  
28 State comments on Fisheries Proposal FP08-17.  
29  
30 This proposal was intended to help  
31 elders to subsistence fish in the Yukon River, however,  
32 providing a super priority for elders at all sites and  
33 boats on the Yukon River and allowing assistance by  
34 another fisher effectively eliminates closures for  
35 conservation and management purposes undermining  
36 windows management for passing fish up river because  
37 every family could try to fish with an available elder.  
38  
39 Adoption of this proposal would also  
40 effectively reallocate available subsistence harvest  
41 between Federal and State subsistence fisheries.  
42 Between 60 and older subsistence users and those under  
43 60, between State waters and those claimed under  
44 Federal's jurisdiction. And between up river and down  
45 river users. If adopted all subsistence and other  
46 fisheries along the Yukon could be impacted as this  
47 fishery develops because most subsistence users will no  
48 longer have period, time and gear restrictions so long  
49 as they find an elder to go with them.  
50

1                   Allowing the Federal subsistence users  
2 to fish 24 hours a day, seven days a week during years  
3 when the Yukon River salmon runs are below average or  
4 weak could impact spawning escapements and future  
5 productivity and stability of these stocks.

6  
7                   This proposal could qualify the vast  
8 majority of the Federal subsistence users on the Yukon  
9 River to fish 24/7 as most extended families have at  
10 least one elder that is age 60 or older. A large  
11 proportion of the commercial fishing permitholders in  
12 both the lower and upper Yukon areas are over 60 years  
13 of age. There is an increased conservation concern if  
14 increased legal and/or illegal sale of subsistence  
15 harvest, especially during years of poor salmon returns  
16 coupled with a high commercial value.

17  
18                   The Department's recommendation is to  
19 oppose the proposal as published in the proposal book.  
20 And nothing in ANILCA authorizes the Federal  
21 Subsistence Board to discriminate amongst Federally-  
22 qualified subsistence users based on age.

23  
24                   The proponent originally drafted the  
25 proposal for consideration of changes to State  
26 regulations to establish elder only subsistence fishing  
27 times or areas in the Yukon River drainage. In order  
28 to consider State regulations that would apply to all  
29 waters and all subsistence users, we urge that this  
30 proposal be rejected with the advice to the proponent  
31 to submit it to the Alaska Board of Fisheries so that  
32 if adopted it would apply to all subsistence fishers in  
33 all waters.

34  
35                   Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

36  
37                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
38 for -- I forgot your name.

39  
40                   MR. HAYES: Steve Hayes.

41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Steve. Greg.

43  
44                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. Steve I  
45 don't see any difference in what's being asked here on  
46 the State's recommendation for this to apply to elders  
47 and the elder only areas other than the fact that  
48 you're asking for the Board of Fish to deal with it  
49 first instead of the Federal Subsistence Board.

50

1 MR. HAYES: Well, Mr. Chair, the  
2 difference would be that this would be just for  
3 Federally-qualified users so that in State waters the  
4 subsistence users would not have the same right under  
5 this, which, as we've said, it could become allocative.  
6 Federally-qualified subsistence users could be fishing  
7 longer, harvesting more fish as opposed to the State  
8 users. So that's why we recommended that this be put  
9 to the Board of Fish so that all users, subsistence  
10 users would qualify if it was adopted.

11  
12 MR. ROCZICKA: And not to debate you on  
13 it, but, you know, just because of the difference in  
14 the cycles that we have, we're looking at such a long  
15 time differential in between and, you know, whichever  
16 Board deals with it first, it's got to go through each  
17 separate process if we want to have consistent  
18 regulations and they both have their individual titles  
19 and labels that they put on what the fishery may be  
20 called, an elder only area or in this case, you know,  
21 elder subsistence users for the area and so on but I  
22 guess I'm having a hard time balancing.....

23  
24 MR. HAYES: Well, Mr. Chair, I believe  
25 that if you have an elder only area you have better  
26 control over numbers, what harvest are coming out of  
27 that area. And as I said earlier we do have a  
28 subsistence window schedule for the Yukon River and  
29 that was placed in 2001 based on the low returns. If  
30 this were adopted in the past, what that does is it  
31 seriously diminishes that tool, as a management tool.  
32 Because now we have no idea how many people are out  
33 fishing at any given time. And the goal behind the  
34 window is to pass portions of that run up river for  
35 escapement. So it does become a quality of escapement  
36 issue.

37  
38 MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

39  
40 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

41  
42 MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
43 Chairman. In the other State elder only river fishing  
44 areas, like Naknek or Yakutat, such things happening as  
45 you see will happen on the Yukon River?

46  
47 MR. HAYES: Mr. Chairman. I'm really  
48 not familiar with how they operate the fishery there so  
49 I really can't comment on that. But I can find out the  
50 answer to that question and get it to you.

1 MR. HOELSCHER: Follow up, Mr.  
2 Chairman.

3  
4 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Go.

5  
6 MR. HOELSCHER: At Naknek the similar  
7 process is happening what this proposal will be  
8 happening?

9  
10 MR. HAYES: Well, this proposal is  
11 asking that all Federally-qualified subsistence users  
12 with an elder 60 or older would qualify. In the other  
13 areas that you referenced, like Naknek, they're limited  
14 to a certain area, so, no, this would be a much broader  
15 range.

16  
17 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

18  
19 (No comments)

20  
21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
22 Tribal agency.

23  
24 MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
25 For the record, Timothy Andrew AVCP. AVCP supports  
26 this proposal with modification to reflect some of the  
27 concerns that Mary had earlier regarding her husband.

28  
29 And we also have a number of people  
30 that resides here in the community and like the rest of  
31 the communities in the YK-Delta that are widowed. And  
32 the large majority of the widowed are women because  
33 naturally we tend to see that the husbands normally go  
34 on before the ladies do and that really leaves them in  
35 a pretty hard position to try and get salmon for  
36 themselves. In fact, right here in the community of  
37 Marshall, if it weren't for the Marshall test fishery,  
38 some of our elders would not get any salmon throughout  
39 the entire summer. It is because of the Marshall test  
40 fishery that the majority of the widows are able to get  
41 it, but with the adoption of this proposal it would  
42 allow at least our widowed elders and some of our older  
43 people as well, my parents are 65 and older, my dad  
44 being older in the 70s and most instances he can't  
45 really go out and get salmon. The only time he  
46 possibly can get salmon is if he goes out and sets a  
47 net that is perhaps 15 fathoms long but when he is  
48 accompanied by one of his sons, which includes myself,  
49 we are able to go out and get more fish for them to  
50 harvest and work at their fish camp and be able to

1 produce salmon for themselves. And I believe this  
2 practice really keeps our elderly population here in  
3 the community healthy and also in the villages as well.

4  
5                   So we would support this proposal with  
6 modification to include that -- include provisions that  
7 would allow for designated fishermen to fish regardless  
8 of windows. I know that's not likely going to  
9 contribute to a huge increase in the harvest of salmon,  
10 both on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers because these  
11 elders are able to already determine their need. And,  
12 you know, most people in our villages and most elders  
13 and people that harvest salmon know their limitations  
14 and that limitation already exists on both Yukon and  
15 the Kuskokwim Rivers.

16  
17                   Like for my parents, when I went out  
18 and got 70 salmon for them, 70 kings for them this  
19 summer, that was it, that was total, that was done --  
20 they were done for the season, they did not need to  
21 harvest any more salmon for themselves, and that is  
22 true for a large majority of people all across the YK-  
23 Delta, we have a harvest limitation, we stick to that  
24 limitation. And by doing this, it would not allow for  
25 additional harvest and it's also something that our  
26 department, the Natural Resource Department at AVCP has  
27 been hearing for a long time from people all across the  
28 -- our elderly population all across the Delta, you  
29 know, why are we -- why are we told when to fish, how  
30 to fish, and in what manner -- in what manner we could  
31 fish when they've been here even prior to statehood,  
32 even prior to Alaska becoming a territory. And, you  
33 know, for their ancestors being here also -- also being  
34 here even prior to the Russians coming. And we, you  
35 know, at that time, you know, we were never told when  
36 to harvest, what to harvest and how to harvest.

37  
38                   But AVCP does support this with the  
39 modification that it includes the ability to designate  
40 a fisherman for elders, for the widowed elders and also  
41 to include drift gillnet.

42  
43                   The majority of the harvest on the  
44 lower part of the Kuskokwim River and also on the lower  
45 part of the Yukon River is primarily done by the drift  
46 fishery. There are very limited setnet sites and it's  
47 all a matter of how high the water is at the time where  
48 the set gillnet sites are and it just severely hinders  
49 the elder's ability to go out and get salmon for  
50 themselves.

1                   Additionally I'd also like to mention  
2 that elders can determine what their physical capacity  
3 is. If they're not able to go out and harvest salmon  
4 through a gillnet, drift gillnet, maybe they want to do  
5 a set gillnet, but just leave that option open rather  
6 than confining them into these little boxes where  
7 they're only able to do the harvest in such a manner  
8 that the law provides for, but give them the  
9 opportunity to utilize both setnet and driftnet in  
10 their harvest and perhaps maybe they would be able to  
11 be at peace with themselves with their ability to  
12 harvest their own salmon for their own needs.

13

14                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

15

16                   And there's also -- one of our local  
17 elders would like to testify if you would, please.

18

19                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I'll get to him  
20 at the proper time for public comment.

21

22                   MR. ANDREW: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23

24                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Remind me.

25

26                   MR. ANDREW: That concludes my  
27 testimony, Mr. Chair.

28

29                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
30 for Tim from the Council.

31

32                   (No comments)

33

34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.  
35 InterAgency Staff Committee.

36

37                   (No comments)

38

39                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: None again.  
40 Fish and Game Local Advisory Committee comments.

41

42                   Ray.

43

44                   MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
45 Ray Oney, Lower Yukon Advisory Council.

46

47                   I'm only speaking for the lower Yukon  
48 River as this proposal is being introduced by the Yukon  
49 River Drainage Fisheries Association which advocates  
50 for the river-wide area.

1 AC comments. Members asked if it would  
2 impact one part of the river most. This proposal, if  
3 an age exemption was warranted, the Advisory Council  
4 should put in their own proposal. It should come from  
5 the tribe, if needed.

6  
7 When the commercial fishery opens,  
8 subsistence needs are currently being met in the lower  
9 Yukon area. And also a lot of family members do fish  
10 for their elder group, their elder parents or even for  
11 our widowed ladies in my area. I work with a lot of  
12 elders in my area, down on the lower Yukon, and we  
13 provide fish for them, if need be. If they don't call  
14 us, we call them to see if their needs are being met.

15  
16 And, therefore, the lower Yukon  
17 Advisory opposed with a vote of two support and five  
18 oppose.

19  
20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21  
22 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
23 for Ray from the Council.

24  
25 (No comments)

26  
27 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none,  
28 thank you.

29  
30 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

31  
32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Summary of  
33 written public comments, our coordinator.

34  
35 MR. D. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We  
36 received one written public comment from the lower  
37 Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee which was  
38 presented by Mr. Ray Oney opposing Proposal 17.

39  
40 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

41  
42 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Now  
43 we get to the fun part, public comments, testimony  
44 regarding 08-17. All you non-Yup'ik speakers put the  
45 ears on.

46  
47 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. This is  
48 Anna Polty. She is one of our local elders and she  
49 whispered in my ear earlier that she would like to  
50 comment on this proposal so if you would allow, Mr.

1 Chair, she hasn't filled out the blue card but if you  
2 can make that exemption we'd really appreciate it.  
3 Thanks.

4  
5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: We didn't grow  
6 up on paper.

7  
8 MR. ANDREW: Thank you.

9  
10 MRS. POLTY: (In Yup'ik)

11  
12 INTERPRETER: I'd like to speak on this  
13 particular proposal. We are widows, yes, we don't have  
14 husbands all the time to care for us. And it's  
15 sometimes very difficult for us. Even if it's a woman  
16 elder, if we'd be able to get a piece of paper and go  
17 with whomever is helping them and to help them get what  
18 they need, harvesting fish.

19  
20 Us, who subsist, Federally-qualified,  
21 we're not that many, we fish the fish in the waters, it  
22 doesn't matter what species of fish it is, we use it  
23 for all our lives and still use it. And our husbands  
24 used to care for us as much as possible in trying to  
25 get as much fish as they can for our needs.

26  
27 And our children, they, themselves,  
28 once they are able to -- for themselves to help us and  
29 if -- and if that person becomes a widow and sometimes  
30 if their children don't help then they don't -- they  
31 have a very difficult time. Then if my son or daughter  
32 brings me or give me part of their catch then I'm very  
33 happy, that's how we are, we share if we can.

34  
35 And I'd like to ask, too, even if it's  
36 not a man, but could a woman elder, too, have -- if it  
37 was to pass, a proposal, that a woman, too, also have a  
38 permit or paper of sort to do that or is it some days  
39 that we don't have to follow them or we follow them if  
40 we need to, on that particular if we ever get to that  
41 point.

42  
43 Quyana.

44  
45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yeah, Quyana.  
46 (In Yup'ik)

47  
48 INTERPRETER: We should think of what  
49 this old lady told us and think about it.

50

1 MS. GREGORY: Quyana.  
2  
3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody have  
4 questions for her, you can speak English or Yup'ik,  
5 your choice.  
6  
7 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.  
8  
9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.  
10  
11 MS. GREGORY: Mrs. Polty. Quyana. (In  
12 Yup'ik)  
13  
14 INTERPRETER: Thank you very much for  
15 talking to us and those that don't understand us and  
16 even though we tell them they don't believe us, like  
17 right now because you are talking directly to us we  
18 want to thank you for sharing a few words.  
19  
20 MRS. POLTY: (In Yup'ik)  
21  
22 INTERPRETER: She says that she notices  
23 that the people from outside, they don't believe us,  
24 and they don't watch what we do, how we try very hard  
25 to catch what -- when we talk, even like for instance  
26 me, if I say something to them like they will not  
27 believe us.  
28  
29 MRS. POLTY: Doi.  
30  
31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.  
32  
33 MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)  
34  
35 INTERPRETER: That's very true. That's  
36 how I grew up, too. This is very true what she said.  
37  
38 I wish she could have talked about --  
39 what she said is the truth and she's telling the truth.  
40 She has talked about the things that I used to hear  
41 about as I was growing up.  
42  
43 Thank you for talking.  
44  
45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.  
46  
47 (In Yup'ik)  
48  
49 Tim.  
50

1 MR. ANDREW: Mr. Chairman. For the  
2 record this is Fedusia Shorty, she's a lifelong  
3 resident of the community of Marshall and Tukchuk (ph).

4  
5 MRS. SHORTY: (In Yup'ik)

6  
7 INTERPRETER: Yes, our counterparts,  
8 the ones who do not use our way of life, our way of  
9 life is not easy. Our elders before us, grandmothers,  
10 grandfathers, mothers, fathers, we learned from them  
11 and now we are the ones who are teaching.

12  
13 In our subsistence we are like -- it's  
14 really -- and a person each season or when season time  
15 to get fish, they try to get this as much as they need.  
16 And if they don't -- and if they get enough they share  
17 with others, without saying much of anything to  
18 another.

19  
20 And we never say anything about having  
21 closed subsistence seasons. We have subsistence  
22 seasons from the day we were born.

23  
24 Right now it's a whole lot different in  
25 this day and age for our children and their children,  
26 very different. The land's resources, the water and  
27 the air, we use it and we subsist more on the land than  
28 we do with store bought things. A few may be helpful  
29 from the store bought things but mostly our subsistence  
30 way of life, our use of the land is most important to  
31 us.

32  
33 And it's different, whereas, we say, or  
34 our children say if we have enough dollars or we get  
35 paid, we will get that or we will get this. Well,  
36 then we still care for our relatives and for our  
37 families. we care for our resources as much as you do  
38 or as much as they do. And, you know, we -- again, we  
39 share our resources to those who are in need.

40  
41 Yes, we have people who come in from  
42 other villages, too, and seeing that we still care for  
43 them. So most important for all of us is the natural  
44 resources, don't close down the elders.

45  
46 It's not against the law to catch what  
47 you need and same with families, we have lots of  
48 children and it's good that our natural resources are  
49 helping our younger generation. And fisheries,  
50 sometimes someone catches lots, sometimes someone don't

1 catch that much and sometimes we're a little short of  
2 what we need. So the care for the people, for the  
3 families, for the children most important this.

4

5                   And sometimes how we -- and our  
6 resources aren't that many and sometimes we have food  
7 shortages but what we subsist on and we look and we  
8 hope for the next time around again. While right now  
9 it may be a little easier for our younger generation,  
10 it may be, but we never know how it's going to be in  
11 the future.

12

13                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.

14

15                   MR. MOSES: (In Yup'ik)

16

17                   INTERPRETER: Thank you very much, that  
18 the elders are just -- what most of our elders, you  
19 know, because of the language differences, sometimes  
20 they cannot speak for themselves. Someone will have to  
21 speak for them, to help them. And in Alaska, but then  
22 we knew that we were to help each other like brothers  
23 and sisters throughout Alaska. And at the time we knew  
24 the seasons and we didn't have any closes seasons or  
25 closed windows. And now we're experiencing that, you  
26 know, our natural resources have seasons or closed  
27 windows.

28

29                   It's the same way with our lands, too,  
30 even in small villages, so we can't build a home as we  
31 please now, we have to follow rules. So we got rules  
32 but, yet, you know, our elders, our ancestors have been  
33 living off the land for centuries.

34

35                   Thank you.

36

37                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Questions for

38 (In Yup'ik)

39

40                   INTERPRETER: Does anyone have any  
41 questions for this lady.

42

43                   (No comments)

44

45                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana. Okay,  
46 we have one guy who's been patiently waiting up  
47 there.....

48

49                   REPORTER: Bob.

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS:   .....to be  
2 included in the public testimony on Proposal 08-17.

3  
4                   REPORTER:   Bob.

5  
6                   MR. ALSTROM:   There was some complaints  
7 from an elder during that meeting about all the work he  
8 has to do putting his nets in the river and pulling  
9 them out again and saying that when he was young he  
10 never had to do that.  He just went out and fished and  
11 when he wanted to go out there and fish when there was  
12 fish in the river when the weather was good for drying  
13 and smoking his fish and getting it all in one shot  
14 instead of going out there and doing the same thing --  
15 repeating the same thing over and over and putting more  
16 stress on his wife to going out there to cut a little  
17 bit fish and have to hang them up and smoke them and do  
18 the same thing while this all can be done at one time.

19  
20                   So that was the intention of this  
21 proposal, our organization submitted for -- to help out  
22 the active -- again, I say active fishers that are in  
23 the community to have at least one helper to help them  
24 out on a boat.  And I don't know how the Department  
25 would like to -- would like to foresee this, issue out  
26 a -- issue out a permit card or some kind of a card  
27 like they do out for the hunt -- people that are 65 and  
28 older for hunting purposes.

29  
30                   So this -- we know there was going to  
31 be some stipulations regarding this proposal but I  
32 would like to see this proposal go through because even  
33 though in our communities we got a lot of young guys  
34 that go out there and do the fishing for our elders,  
35 and a lot of -- but there's still a few elders out  
36 there that like to go out there and enjoy the fishing  
37 but they're, you know, kind of either disabled or, you  
38 know, kind of -- you know they're not as young as they  
39 used to be.  So that was the purpose of this proposal  
40 to kind of think of our elders up and down the Yukon,  
41 and this is regarding only the Yukon drainage.  I don't  
42 know if there's any other proposals on other river  
43 drainages or something like this on other river  
44 drainages or statewide.

45  
46                   So if you got any questions I'll be  
47 glad to try and answer them.

48  
49                   Thank you.  
50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any questions  
2 for him.  
3  
4                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.  
5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.  
7  
8                   MR. ROCZICKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
9 And thanks for coming forward, here, Bill, I was going  
10 to ask if anybody was here from YRDFA to speak to it.  
11  
12                   I guess in regards to this, I don't  
13 know if you got the State's analysis and criticisms on  
14 this proposal but they tend to say in there that if it  
15 could apply to all elders it would be a much better  
16 deal in their sight, maybe they'd even support it, I'm  
17 not sure if they actually went that far, if I'd read  
18 that much into it, but would it be your intention  
19 through YRDFA to carry this forward at the State level  
20 and follow it up to get something passed through the  
21 State regulation as well at the Board of Fish.  
22  
23                   MR. ALSTROM: Okay, we're having a fall  
24 board meeting coming up at the end of next month and,  
25 you know, whatever considerations are made at this  
26 level we'd like -- you know, we'd consider any  
27 modifications or, you know, whatever the RAC board here  
28 comes up with.  
29  
30                   And another thing, I forgot to mention  
31 on this resolution -- I mean not resolution, this  
32 proposal, that it does not include, you know, just  
33 setnet sites only. It also recommends -- this includes  
34 driftnet like Tim had mentioned earlier.  
35  
36                   Thank you.  
37  
38                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.  
39  
40                   (No comments)  
41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No, go ahead.  
43  
44                   MR. ALSTROM: Mr. Chair. May I follow  
45 up on the question to Raymond Oney with the local RAC.  
46 Yeah, Ray, I was wondering I noticed when you came up  
47 here that the Local Advisory Committee, is that for the  
48 Y1, Y2, and Y3 or just Y1?  
49  
50                   MR. ONEY: I'm not too sure how it

1 goes, I think it's 1, 2 and 3 all the way up to Russian  
2 Mission. Because I know there's board members on the  
3 Advisory Committee that are from Russian Mission so I'm  
4 thinking it's all the way up to Y3. You could correct  
5 me if I'm wrong.

6

7 MR. ALSTROM: One more question.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yeah.

10

11 MR. ALSTROM: And, you, I'm sorry I  
12 didn't really hear you, this gym's got a lot of echo in  
13 it but you said that the local Advisory Committee  
14 opposed this proposal?

15

16 MR. ONEY: Yes, there was a vote of two  
17 for, and five opposing.

18

19 MR. ALSTROM: Was there a reason why  
20 this proposal was opposed.

21

22 MR. ONEY: We felt that, you know, the  
23 family members are providing for the needs of the  
24 elders. And just about every teleconference that we  
25 had from YRDFA, the subsistence needs are being met  
26 before the commercial fishery opens.

27

28 MR. ALSTROM: Okay, thank you. Thank  
29 you, Mr. Chair.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Now, Don, where  
32 would the -- where would this guy fit into this, is he  
33 part of the Federal people or, you know, I'd like to  
34 know.

35

36 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Anybody can  
37 also testify as a private citizen, if they so identify  
38 themselves that they're not testifying for an agency.  
39 So if Andrew Kelly has some comments, some insight,  
40 some wisdom that he can share with this Council it is  
41 probably well worth doing.

42

43 Thank you.

44

45 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Go  
46 ahead, Mr. Kelly.

47

48 MR. KELLY: Quyana. I am not  
49 representing the Federal. I work for the Federal  
50 during the summertime, I help Fish and Game -- I mean

1 Fish and -- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an  
2 interpreter and I interpret the fisheries activities  
3 for Alaska Department of Fish and Game. And the  
4 people, especially the elders listen to me because they  
5 can't understand English. And there's lots of times  
6 people, especially the elders, come and talk to me  
7 whenever they see me.

8

9 And they cannot differentiate between  
10 Alaska Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and  
11 Wildlife Service, they think they're still the same,  
12 and I have hard time explaining to them that the  
13 difference. What I do is when an elder calls, the  
14 people that help me, like Gerald -- I work with Gerald  
15 Maschmann who's sitting over there, and when they can't  
16 understand someone they give the phone to me and I try  
17 to explain to them what's what.

18

19 And sometimes I get calls from Nunam  
20 'Iqua and some from Kotlik, elders, and they tell me,  
21 you work for Fish and Game, Fish and Wildlife, you  
22 should make changes in the law. We are not trying to  
23 clean the river out, we are fishing just to fill up our  
24 smokehouse, when it's filled up we stop. And that's  
25 what we've been doing ever since we were children. And  
26 these people come from elsewhere, down in the United  
27 States, they were not even raised up here, they come  
28 and tell us what to do and we bow down to them and say,  
29 yes, I will do what you want me to do. And that's what  
30 they tell me.

31

32 I try to tell them that I cannot make  
33 the rules and regulations. But then they keep  
34 insisting and they tell me -- one lady -- one old lady  
35 calls me and say my husband is out right now and it's  
36 really rough out into the ocean and he's trying to pull  
37 his net out and sometimes he falls in the river, in his  
38 boat and I'm afraid one of these days he's going to  
39 fall overboard and that will be the end of him and he  
40 is over 80 years old. And you should change that rule  
41 and make it easier for my husband.

42

43 And the other one is from Kotlik area.  
44 And this man tells me he's over 80 years old and he  
45 said to me, I got a setnet when it's time to setnet and  
46 even if it's really rough waters I put my -- I set my  
47 net and we fish for so long, a very short time, and  
48 when it's time to pull our net in I have to fight the  
49 waves and the wind and put my net in and catching  
50 nothing. It's really rough on us.

1                   These are the kinds of things that I  
2 get complaints and I don't know how to help them and I  
3 try to talk to other people but they tell me the law is  
4 the law.

5  
6                   And I hear someone say they should have  
7 someone to fish for them, but then the doctors always  
8 -- like myself, I am kind of sickly but my doctor  
9 encourages me to keep working, don't sit around  
10 otherwise you'll get weak, and if you want to fish we  
11 should be encouraging them to go out and fish but then  
12 they shouldn't be -- they should go out and fish until  
13 they fill up their smokehouses, which some of them say  
14 we are not here to clean the river out. They are  
15 trying for just -- you know, just enough to fill up  
16 their smokehouses and they will quit.

17  
18                   And so like I tell you, some people  
19 even tell me, whoever make this law should come and  
20 watch me or be with me in the boat and see how rough it  
21 is for us elders to catch that most wanted fish.

22  
23                   That's all I got. I was just trying to  
24 repeat what elders tell me.

25  
26                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. Any  
27 questions for Mr. Kelly.

28  
29                   (No comments)

30  
31                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Council.

32  
33                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

34  
35                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.

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

38  
39                   INTERPRETER: If you understand you  
40 understand that an elder can go fishing if he wants to,  
41 okay, but yet, you know, the proposal speaks to having  
42 a person -- assisting that elder.

43  
44                   MR. KELLY: (In Yup'ik)

45  
46                   INTERPRETER: And that lady in Nunam  
47 'Iqua, if she could get help, you know, to go fishing,  
48 that'd be great.

49  
50                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: (In Yup'ik)

1 MR. KELLY: I'm sorry.  
2  
3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: English.  
4  
5 MR. KELLY: Oh, I'm sorry. You're  
6 right, Mary, I agree. But then our young people are  
7 changing now even though there is work to be done, they  
8 don't want to work. And even that lady from Nunam tell  
9 me, I try to get some young man to help my husband but  
10 we couldn't find anyone to help him, that's what she  
11 said.  
12  
13 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else  
14 from the Council.  
15  
16 (No comments)  
17  
18 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.  
19  
20 MR. KELLY: Quyana.  
21  
22 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else  
23 from the public.  
24  
25 MR. WHITE: My name is Andrew White and  
26 I'm resident of (indiscernible) but I moved down here  
27 to Marshall. I'm not really -- but I have questions  
28 about the Federal land that I've heard and my grandson  
29 and my other grandchildren have asked me.  
30  
31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: We're.....  
32  
33 MR. WHITE: The moose hunting.....  
34  
35 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: We're talking  
36 about this proposal 08-17.  
37  
38 MR. WHITE: When are you.....  
39  
40 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Allowing elders  
41 to fish 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and that's  
42 -- I'm sorry but that's what we're discussing right  
43 now.  
44  
45 MR. WHITE: The elders to be going out  
46 if they wanted to go out for any subsistence, people  
47 like myself last year that I had, went out hunting,  
48 because I had to have an escort, except that when the  
49 moose charged at me I had no choice and I shot the  
50 moose because it was -- it was closed, but I went to

1 the court for that.

2

3 Come to think of subsistence issue.

4

5 (In Yup'ik)

6

7 INTERPRETER: He wants to talk about  
8 the elders and he will tell us -- he said we must  
9 follow -- we should listen to our elders when they say  
10 -- and we should refer them to our -- what we've been  
11 taught as we were growing up, we should stick with it  
12 and follow these things that we were taught as we were  
13 growing up.

14

15 Right now he is asking -- he is asking  
16 what is this right now, and those things that were  
17 taught to us are not followed. But some -- someone  
18 from outside, they come from elsewhere and they tell us  
19 to do this and that, those people, we were -- we were  
20 taught the things, how to do it, we should start having  
21 our own people to tell us what to do and we should have  
22 our own people go to school as biologists because they  
23 will understand us more.

24

25 And right now we are being told what to  
26 do and do this and that and the other ones that we must  
27 follow, don't take too much when you go out hunting,  
28 whatever you are hunting you could take as much as you  
29 want but enough. If you hunt too much that's not good.  
30 Other people will need -- other people will need to go  
31 hunting. You should stop when you have enough. If you  
32 hunt eggs -- when you find the nest you should take one  
33 or two and leave two or three in the next so that we  
34 won't -- for the population of the birds.

35

36 And he just wants to point out to you  
37 what he has in mind but later on he wants to say a few  
38 words later on because we were taught and told how to  
39 do things that we learn but thank you for the  
40 opportunity to speak.

41

42 When we are fighting each other for the  
43 game there will be food vanished because we're not  
44 following our ancestors way of life. The animals of  
45 the ocean are getting fewer and fewer. And he wants to  
46 thank everyone.

47

48 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else  
49 from the public who wants to speak on or comment to  
50 Proposal 08-17.

1 (No comments)

2

3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Hearing none,  
4 we'll go into the RAC deliberations, recommendations  
5 and justifications. And I'd like to take first crack  
6 at it before I forget what's on my mind.

7

8 I have absolutely no qualms about  
9 liking this, what somebody called it, good fellow or  
10 good guy proposal, nice guy proposal, but it literally  
11 scares me that there's too much possibility for abuse.  
12 If you look at the number of villages in the Yukon  
13 drainage and multiply that by the number of households  
14 and take into consideration the number of people 60 and  
15 over and then their relatives who are going to be able  
16 to help them and you're going to open up this fishery  
17 24 hours a day seven days a week and there's not going  
18 to be any restrictions and it really scares me.

19

20 I like the concept but let's be  
21 realistic. There's too much chance for abuse like  
22 everything else.

23

24 So think about that when you  
25 deliberate.

26

27 I have no problems helping elders to  
28 achieve what they need but let's face some facts that  
29 there's a lot of people who are out there who are going  
30 to abuse this, just like everything else. You give  
31 them an open hand and a free-for-all and we're going to  
32 be back to square one of having more and more  
33 restrictions, especially on the subsistence fisheries.

34

35 That's my comment.

36

37 Thank you, very much.

38

39

40 Don.  
41 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don  
42 Rivard with Office of Subsistence Management. I just  
43 wanted to reiterate what Bill said, he came up here a  
44 little bit ago, and it gets to your concern a little  
45 bit, our office did an analysis of this proposal and,  
46 again, the intent was to make it easier on elders who  
47 are still physically able and want to fish, that those  
48 would be the persons that would be exempt from the  
49 windowed fishing schedule. Those that still want to go  
50 out and fish. Those that are not physically able to go  
out and fish anymore, those folks hopefully are being

1 provided the fish they need from friends and relatives,  
2 and there's no need for -- there was talk about a  
3 designated fisherman for somebody, there doesn't need  
4 to be a formal designation in the Yukon River because  
5 there's no fishing limit, there's no limit on the  
6 amount of fish one person can harvest. If that were  
7 the case like there is in other parts of the state  
8 where you can only get 30 fish for yourself then you  
9 would have to designate somebody who could go out and  
10 get your 30 fish for you, but that's not necessary on  
11 the Yukon because there's no harvest limits there.

12

13                   So I just want to make sure, we don't  
14 need to talk about designated fishermen on the Yukon  
15 River.

16

17                   What Mary talked about earlier is  
18 possibly designating somebody for the elder to be  
19 exempt from the windowed fishing schedule, that's a  
20 whole different thing. But that's not the intent of  
21 this proposal.

22

23                   The intent, again, of this proposal,  
24 was to allow an elder who still wants to actively fish  
25 themselves, to have somebody to help them out and to be  
26 exempt from the fishing schedule so they could fish 24  
27 hours a day, seven days a week.

28

29                   So I just want to focus, again, on the  
30 intent of this proposal.

31

32                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.

33

34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: You know, I  
35 have a 73 -- no, I'm sorry, she's a 75 year old aunt  
36 who has 10 sons and they're all willing and able to  
37 fish 24 hours a day and that really scares me.

38

39                   RAC Council members, now's your chance  
40 to deliberate, recommend and justify on 08-17.

41

42                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

43

44                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

45

46                   MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
47 Chairman. I'll just comment. I'm going to talk about  
48 famination. My father, as I was growing up, used to  
49 talk to me the way they lived, subsistencing and  
50 famination was a reality. I know Harry Wilde used to

1 live down in Hooper Bay and he probably witnessed that  
2 and a lot of elders here and there witnessed that. And  
3 so the hardest times of the month were especially in  
4 February and March and, you know, fish was and still is  
5 the main food, practically in all the villages  
6 especially for the elders. The ones that, you know,  
7 are there, the ones that we are with, we, a lot of us  
8 grew up and the ones behind us are growing up with the  
9 Western society type living, you know, we got  
10 everything practically, we're spoiled.

11  
12 Our elders were not spoiled. They went  
13 through a powerful way of surviving, subsistencing, you  
14 know, we're talking about one specie. There's other  
15 species out there but still, you know, they're getting  
16 old. Like these two ladies testimony, you know, they  
17 wish, you know, they could have fish and that but their  
18 children have others to care for and, you know, they  
19 have to tend to their family needs and they're thankful  
20 for what they get.

21  
22 And so like I said, we are now spoiled  
23 with money and with what the government provides  
24 compared to what our elders went through.

25  
26 Thank you.

27  
28 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

29  
30 MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
31 Comment from the Kuskokwim area salmon fishing.  
32 Kuskokwim or Board of Fish lifted stock of concern for  
33 kings and chums on Kuskokwim last winter. And I am  
34 subsistence fisherman down on the mouth of Kuskokwim.  
35 I put up less kings and chums than last year, even  
36 we're out of window because of the weather, not drying  
37 our fish, I didn't go out because weather was bad and  
38 it was wet and it wouldn't dry my fish so there may be  
39 a lot of people -- that wasn't brought up awhile ago,  
40 weather factors.

41  
42 And I believe Tim saying that there  
43 wouldn't be people who won't put up more fish than  
44 usual, even if this proposal pass, maybe some might put  
45 up more but not everybody. And we also have calendars,  
46 subsistence catch calendars that Department of Fish and  
47 Game send us every year, we go by that calendar too.  
48 When my wife tell me we put up that many kings last  
49 year and it's time to quit. And they -- we limit  
50 ourselves. Now days, it's not like when I was a kid,

1 our smokehouses were limits those days and we fished --  
2 I mean we filled the fish racks twice per season, now,  
3 we only, if we're lucky even -- if we fill our fish  
4 racks once. So people are not like fishing like they  
5 used to long time ago. I just turned elder and my kids  
6 help me put up fish this summer. They were not helping  
7 me before. But my wife tell them weather is not drying  
8 our fish so they shouldn't go out because our fish will  
9 be spoiled if we try to dry them in this kind of  
10 condition.

11

12 That's my comment.

13

14 Quyana.

15

16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

17 Ray.

18

19 MR. ONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
20 have a lot of respect for elders. That's how we get to  
21 know who we are as people on the Yukon/Kuskokwim.  
22 They've utilized the resources, you know, since the  
23 beginning of time and, you know, like I mentioned  
24 earlier, you know, we provide for them when they're  
25 elders, us people that respect our elders, people that  
26 respect -- that know what respect means, take care of  
27 one another.

28

29 And the way this proposal is written,  
30 even with stipulations on it, you know, I would not  
31 support it because I feel that it's even more  
32 restrictions on the elders by letting them be in the  
33 boat while it's being set or being checked. I think  
34 that's humiliating our elders with all these  
35 stipulations that, if we're going to give them, you  
36 know, let them fish 24 hours a day, seven days a week,  
37 there shouldn't be any strings attached to it.

38

39 And they've taught us to catch what we  
40 need and that's what we've been doing all this time,  
41 all these years, to provide only what we can catch.

42

43 Like I said, you know, I will not  
44 support this proposal the way it's written even with  
45 the stipulations.

46

47 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

48

49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.

50 Charlie Brown.

1 MR. BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
2 just have a short comment about can we include -- if  
3 this passes, can we include those handicapped people  
4 before they reach their age, like old age. I know some  
5 handicaps are -- I see some on crutches, you know, they  
6 can't provide their young families, I wonder if that  
7 could be possible too.

8

9 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
10 Greg.

11

12 MR. ROCZICKA: I didn't raise my hand,  
13 but I'll say something.

14

15 Actually I do intend to support the  
16 proposal as written. Again, I really appreciate that  
17 the sponsors came down and clarified on the active  
18 part.

19

20 I'm not comfortable, kind of as you  
21 mentioned, about trying to go too far and making it  
22 more complicated.

23

24 Some of the stipulations that they do  
25 have in here, I don't see any real reason for having  
26 them there. If we just say that it's an elder permit,  
27 for somebody 60 years of age that are still actively  
28 fishing as the sponsors intended, they could have their  
29 whole family in the boat, you know, rather than one  
30 designated assistant or something of that nature,  
31 that's an unnecessary something to hang on there in my  
32 mind.

33

34 Also one of the things people tell me  
35 lots when I travel around the country side, in having  
36 that individual along on the other side is one of the  
37 biggest things -- concern I get is I get that people  
38 say the young people aren't learning anymore, younger  
39 folks are not coming with us, they're not learning. I  
40 heard three people who told me that since yesterday,  
41 since I got here, for this village, just in talking and  
42 going around and having coffee. So maybe by asking to  
43 having somebody along we'd help to encourage that to  
44 happen more often; that's the other side of it.

45

46 But I don't know how can you vote  
47 against something for an elder, and I see that I think  
48 that I see the people that sponsored really did put a  
49 lot of thought -- long thought into it and to try to  
50 make this opportunity there. And so I wouldn't want to

1 see a -- try to go too far with it and make it into  
2 another proxy permit allowance type of thing, but to  
3 allow the active elders who are out there and still  
4 fishing, give them that -- give them their 24 hours and  
5 make it -- and call it elders and the sponsors can take  
6 it forward and the State has said that they would like  
7 to see something like that brought to their Board that  
8 they can act on and cover it under their laws, to cover  
9 all elders, I can see that as a good thing.

10

11                   Whether or not the State Board of Fish  
12 would choose to pass it or not is anybody's guess, and  
13 whether or not the Federal Subsistence Board would pass  
14 this one is anybody's guess either.

15

16                   But I intend to support it as written,  
17 I wouldn't want to see it amended to any more  
18 liberalization at this point.

19

20                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you.  
21 Joseph Peter Mike.

22

23                   MR. MIKE: Yes, thank you. My name is  
24 Joe Mike. Everything I was going to brought up -- has  
25 already spoken to by the Council.

26

27                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana. Mary.

28

29                   MS. GREGORY: I have mixed feelings  
30 about this after hearing everything and being  
31 enlightened by the members of the Council that the  
32 proposal as written is not workable.

33

34                   And, yet, at the same time I'm a Yup'ik  
35 person who is living a total subsistence way of life.  
36 And as a matter of fact I brought some strips I made  
37 for Don Rivard but he can share it with you. The  
38 Yup'ik nature -- our nature is sharing and.....

39

40                   (In Yup'ik)

41

42                   MS. GREGORY: And if there's people who  
43 can't go out and help their elders then their parents  
44 didn't teach them how to live a subsistence way of  
45 life. I'm sorry to say this but sometimes that  
46 happens.

47

48                   I taught my children to live a  
49 subsistence way of life and my son, he does everything  
50 that Mr. Oney was telling -- saying about sharing and

1 fishing for widowers and orphans and that's how the  
2 Yup'iks live, you know, we -- we provide for those  
3 people who cannot afford to do it themselves, and when  
4 we do that we're blessed, we get more and like this  
5 gentleman was saying, the Lord provides for our needs  
6 and if we respect and not play around with our food, he  
7 will provide for us.

8

9 So I think I am going to change my vote  
10 and not support this because of those reasons that the  
11 people who are letting me know now, regulations.....

12

13 (In Yup'ik)

14

15 MS. GREGORY: .....we live that way.  
16 There's a lot of truth on both sides of the story right  
17 here.

18

19 (In Yup'ik)

20

21 MS. GREGORY: And at the same time the  
22 proposal, the way it is written, needs to be -- it's  
23 not acceptable.

24

25 The first time I heard it I was ready  
26 to vote for it but after being enlightened I changed my  
27 vote.

28

29 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana.  
30 Phillip Moses, (In Yup'ik)

31

32 MS. GREGORY: (In Yup'ik) I think he  
33 made his comments already.

34

35 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana. Wilde  
36 Harry -- I mean Harry Wilde.

37

38 MR. H. WILDE: Yeah, Mr. Chairman,  
39 heard some elder women here, I think to me I've been  
40 living -- grow up without not parents when I was 15  
41 years old, I was the oldest one taking care of my  
42 sister and brother. There was a lot of time I need  
43 help.

44

45 I was kind of -- kind of happy when I  
46 see this proposal, however, if it's my way I think I  
47 would amend this to make any help capable to fish for  
48 elder that couldn't -- unable to go out, or go out with  
49 him or go out fishing.

50

1                   If it got some kind of paper like moose  
2 hunting and all that I think we got some people,  
3 organization in our villages, that they could pick  
4 someone to help them, tribal -- tribal are the people,  
5 the ones that are taking care of a lot of these people  
6 who need help. I think, as myself, if there's any way  
7 to amend this useable for our elders that couldn't --  
8 unable to go out -- you hear when they say that they  
9 have hard time go out and try to take their nets out  
10 when it's rough, those people even -- unable to help  
11 them, I suppose it would be -- get help through tribal.  
12 In my village there tribal are helping a lot of the  
13 elders. And when they have test net fishery, the  
14 elders, they come first, they give the elders  
15 opportunity to take some fish -- fresh fish.

16  
17                   I would like to see this amended, Yukon  
18 River Drainage Fishermen Association proposal,  
19 something that could be workable through Federal  
20 subsistence.

21  
22                   Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23  
24                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you,  
25 Harry. I'd just like to make a suggestion to the Yukon  
26 River Drainage Fisheries Association, whoever they may  
27 be, that they -- I mean they take into consideration  
28 all the testimony we've heard for this proposal and  
29 work it out in such a way that it's going to include  
30 all the concern that the people have. And that's the  
31 only thing I could really see. Just the way it is, you  
32 know, other than it being so complicated, you know, it  
33 really scares me that it's going to open up too many  
34 things.

35  
36                   So if there are no more comments.....

37  
38                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

39  
40                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: .....if there  
41 are any more members that.....

42  
43                   MR. HOELSCHER: Mr. Chairman.

44  
45                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Edgar.

46  
47                   MR. HOELSCHER: Thank you, Mr.  
48 Chairman. Can we table this proposal instead of just  
49 killing it, for better modification or proposal --  
50 having the original motion maker rescind their motions.

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: What's the  
2 procedure for that, I don't have my book.  
3  
4                   MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair.  
5  
6                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Don.  
7  
8                   MR. D. MIKE: I believe the proposal  
9 was already put on the table as presented so the  
10 proposal is open to amendments. So you can either make  
11 an amendment to the proposal right now and the  
12 amendment can be adopted or voted down. And then if  
13 you need additional amendments to the proposal you can  
14 add more amendments to it and vote that up or down.  
15 But we still have the proposal as it's presented right  
16 now on the table so you can -- Council members can  
17 offer amendments to the proposal and vote on it.  
18  
19                   Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
20  
21                   MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chairman.  
22  
23                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Mary.  
24  
25                   MS. GREGORY: We can also vote it down  
26 and they can present another proposal that is workable.  
27 We can do that. We have that option.  
28  
29                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: That was  
30 basically my suggestion.  
31  
32                   MS. GREGORY: And I'd like to speak to  
33 the elders who spoke in Yup'ik, please.  
34  
35                   (In Yup'ik)  
36  
37                   INTERPRETER: I want to -- that  
38 proposal that No. 17, the way it's written and we're  
39 listening to all the testimonies and received comments  
40 from you in regards to it, we hear quite a bit, we can  
41 vote it down but yet, you know, they can submit another  
42 similar proposal maybe with amendments made through the  
43 comments by the people -- by the testimony of the  
44 people. And so who knows, and maybe there might be  
45 something workable, a solution to this particular  
46 proposal.  
47  
48                   So it probably will come before us  
49 again sometime in the future.  
50

1 FROM AUDIENCE: (In Yup'ik)  
2  
3 INTERPRETER: Yes, we do understand.  
4  
5 MS. GREGORY: Okay. (In Yup'ik)  
6  
7 INTERPRETER: And it's because -- right  
8 now it's a little too cumbersome and it's too  
9 complicated at the moment and so we'd rather not deal  
10 with it -- oppose it.  
11  
12 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any more  
13 comments from the Council, if not I'll -- Greg.  
14  
15 MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman. I think I  
16 like Edgar's idea that we can table this at the  
17 present. If we don't take any further action on it  
18 before the end of this meeting it goes away with a no  
19 action and no recommendation, neither oppose or  
20 support.  
21  
22 But we do have people here that --  
23 well, we do have a member of the sponsoring  
24 organization and others here who have had that  
25 criticism, if they could try to work up an amended or  
26 modified proposal to bring back before this body  
27 adjourns. And nobody's made a motion to adjourn -- or  
28 I'm sorry, to table this proposal, but if somebody does  
29 it's non-debatable and we have to vote on it.  
30  
31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Don.  
32  
33 MR. RIVARD: Mr. Chair. Greg. I just  
34 want to clarify something. That this proposal is the  
35 one you're deliberating on. And your Council can  
36 support it, reject it, modify it, table it, but from  
37 what I just understood you to say we can't have the  
38 proponent modifying something now and bringing it to  
39 you before the end of this meeting. Because this is a  
40 public -- this has been published, it's going to go  
41 before other Councils the way it is now and so it's got  
42 to stay in the form that it's in.  
43  
44 So, again, your Council could do  
45 something with it based on what you've heard. You  
46 could make a recommendation to support with  
47 modification and do all sorts of modifications if  
48 that's the way you want to do it to make it the way you  
49 would like to see it come out right now. And then that  
50 recommendation would go forward to the Federal

1 Subsistence Board for their consideration based on your  
2 recommendation and your reasons for your  
3 recommendations.

4  
5                   So I just want to make that real clear  
6 what you can and cannot do.

7  
8                   We cannot have the proponent change  
9 their proposal right now and then bring it back to you  
10 at this meeting because this is going -- this same  
11 proposal that you're -- that you had before you is  
12 going before two other Councils, maybe three and that's  
13 the form that they're going to look at it and consider  
14 it and make their own considerations. It's too late in  
15 the cycle to do any proposal modification at this  
16 point.

17  
18                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you. My  
19 suggestion is then let's vote on the motion.

20  
21                   MR. ROCZICKA: Mr. Chairman.

22  
23                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Greg.

24  
25                   MR. ROCZICKA: Move to table. It does  
26 not require a second.....

27  
28                   MR. HOELSCHER: Second.

29  
30                   MR. ROCZICKA: .....according to the  
31 book of Robert's Rules of Order, we need to vote yes or  
32 no to table.

33  
34                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There's a  
35 motion to table the motion. And the second.....

36  
37                   MS. GREGORY: Second.

38  
39                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: There is a  
40 second already.

41  
42                   MS. GREGORY: Okay.

43  
44                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Clarification  
45 from our -- that.....

46  
47                   MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.

48  
49                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Yes, go ahead.

50

1 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair. If you table  
2 the motion -- table the proposal, I think it would be  
3 -- maybe I need some help from our Staff, too, but I  
4 think it would be advantageous to defer the proposal  
5 until the next fisheries cycle.

6  
7 This proposal, proposal from YRDFA will  
8 also be addressed by the Eastern Interior Regional  
9 Advisory Council and the Western Interior Council and  
10 they're going to take action at their meeting next  
11 month, so they will look at the other Council's  
12 recommendations also. So this proposal has the most  
13 effect on the lower Yukon area, or Yukon River  
14 drainage, so my suggestion -- you've already tabled --  
15 made a motion to table it but I offer that the Council  
16 do an amendment to the proposal and go from there but  
17 if you want to table it or defer it until next cycle,  
18 that's up the Council.

19  
20 Mr. Chair.

21  
22 MR. ROCZICKA: A motion to table is not  
23 debatable, it is not amendable, a motion to table has  
24 to be voted on directly and that is why you very  
25 carefully make them and we have to make sure that we  
26 want this issue addressed, that we bring it back on the  
27 table before this meeting adjourns.

28  
29 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.

30  
31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: You heard  
32 the.....

33  
34 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.

35  
36 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: What's the  
37 wishes of the Board -- I mean the Council.

38  
39 MR. ROCZICKA: Question.

40  
41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Question's been  
42 called. All those in favor of the motion to table the  
43 motion say aye.

44  
45 MR. ROCZICKA: The proposal, aye.

46  
47 IN UNISON: Aye.

48  
49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Well, wait a  
50 minute, I thought we were working -- we were tabling

1 the motion to approve the proposal, so now we're going  
2 to table the proposal.

3

4 MR. ROCZICKA: I did table -- yes, that  
5 was the motion.

6

7 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Well, what has  
8 happened -- what happened to the main motion, the main  
9 motion was to approve this proposal?

10

11 MR. ROCZICKA: The main motion is  
12 overridden by a motion to table. It takes precedence  
13 over that.

14

15 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay. All  
16 right. Should we have a roll call vote or a voice  
17 vote.

18

19 MS. GREGORY: Voice.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The motion is  
22 to table the proposal, do you want a voice vote or roll  
23 call.

24

25 MS. GREGORY: Voice.

26

27 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Voice vote.

28

29 (Council nods affirmatively)

30

31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The question  
32 has been called, all those in favor of the motion to  
33 table the proposal say aye.

34

35 IN UNISON: Aye.

36

37 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Opposed, same  
38 sign.

39

40 (No opposing votes)

41

42 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: The proposal  
43 has been tabled. And I think it's time for at least a  
44 14 minute break.

45

46 (Laughter)

47

48 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: My teeth are  
49 starting to float and my -- anyway, we'll reconvene at  
50 10 minutes to 4:00.

1 (Off record)  
2  
3 (On record)  
4  
5 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Can we come  
6 back to order, please.  
7  
8 (Pause)  
9  
10 REPORTER: Yes, we're on.  
11  
12 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay.  
13  
14 MR. D. MIKE: Mr. Chair.  
15  
16 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Go ahead.  
17  
18 MR. D. MIKE: I'd like to make an  
19 announcement. I spoke with Mr. Lester Wilde after the  
20 lunch break today. He was still in Mountain Village  
21 and he requested that he be excused from this meeting  
22 and due to travel time he and his family members were  
23 too tired to travel so he asked that he be excused from  
24 this meeting.  
25  
26 And as far as time is concerned, the  
27 potluck starts at 5:30 today and we need to get done by  
28 5:00 today.  
29  
30 Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
31  
32 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you for  
33 reminding me. I was told that potluck was going to get  
34 ready -- starting getting ready at 5:00 that means we  
35 have to move our tables out of the way or -- are they  
36 going to use the tables?  
37  
38 MR. D. MIKE: Yeah, we'll have to move  
39 the tables, Mr. Chair.  
40  
41 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: No, are they  
42 going to use the table for the potluck?  
43  
44 MR. D. MIKE: Yes, they will. Yep.  
45  
46 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: So we'll have  
47 to clear everything out and bring all your paperwork  
48 home for tonight.  
49  
50 And what are the evening activities

1 while we're on announcements. I heard that -- somebody  
2 said we're going to be snowballing tonight after (In  
3 Yup'ik) so I don't know, so that pretty much rules out  
4 an evening session, right.

5

6 (Council nods affirmatively)

7

8 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: So we'll  
9 probably be gifted by the community with a song and  
10 dance and drumming and possibly a fiddle dance  
11 afterwards. So put on your dancing shoes and be ready.

12

13 (Pause)

14

15 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, back on  
16 schedule, FP08-13 and 14.

17

18 MR. RIVARD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Don  
19 Rivard with the Office of Subsistence Management. The  
20 proposal itself is another one of the stand-alone  
21 handouts that came with your Council book. It's not  
22 part of the Council book so, again, on the top it says  
23 FP08-13/14 Executive Summary. The proposal itself  
24 starts on Page 4 of that handout.

25

26 This is a rather involved issue and  
27 analysis and so I'm going to do a lot of reading here.  
28 I think we need to get a lot of this on the table for  
29 your consideration so I'm going to start with that.

30

31 I'm on Page 4.

32

33 Proposal FP08-13 submitted the Eastern  
34 Interior Alaska Regional Council requests that all  
35 gillnets with greater than six inch stretch mesh be  
36 restricted to not more than 35 meshes in depth in  
37 Federal public waters of the Yukon River drainage.

38

39 Currently there is only one gillnet  
40 depth restriction for subsistence uses in the Yukon  
41 area, the Federal drift gillnet fishery in Subdistricts  
42 4-B and 4-C is restricted to no more than 35 meshes in  
43 depth. And you looked at that when you were looking at  
44 the previous proposal analysis.

45

46 Based on current State of Alaska  
47 regulations commercial gillnets with greater than six  
48 inch mesh in Districts 1, 2 and 3 can be no more than  
49 45 meshes deep and in Districts 4, 5 and 6 no more than  
50 60 meshes deep.

1                                Proposal FP08-14 also submitted by the  
2 Eastern Interior Regional Advisory Council requests  
3 that the maximum gillnet mesh size be restricted to 7.5  
4 inch stretch mesh for subsistence commercial salmon  
5 fishing in Federal public waters of the Yukon River  
6 drainage.

7  
8                                In its proposal the Eastern Interior  
9 Regional Advisory Council points out that recent  
10 studies as well as discussions Council members have had  
11 with researchers show that 7.5 inch stretch mesh nets  
12 is the most efficient net size to harvest chinook  
13 salmon while still allowing the passage of larger fish,  
14 which are generally females, and allowing the passage  
15 of smaller fish which are generally chum salmon.

16  
17                                The reduction in mesh size would be  
18 phased in over a three year period for subsistence  
19 users to reduce the economic burden and match the  
20 useful life of most nets, which the Eastern Interior  
21 Regional Council identifies as three to four years.

22  
23                                Long time Yukon River fishers  
24 particularly from the upper river frequently cite  
25 declining fish size, decreasing occurrence of 50-plus  
26 pound chinook salmon, the extrapolation or loss of age  
27 eight fish and the loss of age seven fish, the  
28 decreasing percentage of female chinook salmon and more  
29 slender fish in general. Although these views are not  
30 unanimous fishers are concerned about genetic impacts  
31 to chinook salmon, long-term effects to subsistence  
32 users, loss of subsistence lifestyles and a lack of  
33 response by State and Federal managers.

34  
35                                Some fishers have also expressed their  
36 belief, in other words, traditional ecological  
37 knowledge, that the larger, stronger fish migrate in  
38 the deeper waters. A variety of net depths are being  
39 utilized by fishers in the Yukon River with deeper net  
40 meshes used for deeper fishing sites to increase  
41 harvest effectiveness.

42  
43                                The Eastern Interior Advisory Council  
44 is requesting changes in allowable gillnet  
45 specifications in the Yukon River salmon fishery to  
46 address its concern that the average size of returning  
47 adult chinook salmon is declining and because of its  
48 belief that the existing allowable gillnets, in other  
49 words, the unrestricted size and deeper than 35 meshes  
50 disproportionately harvest larger sized female chinook

1 salmon over males.

2

3                   The Eastern Interior Regional Advisory  
4 Council's intent is to apply these regulatory changes  
5 to all users in Federal public waters.

6

7                   Most of the commercial fishing and over  
8 half of the subsistence harvest takes place in Federal  
9 public waters in the Yukon River drainage. Just for  
10 your information the Federal Subsistence Board has the  
11 authority to close Federal public waters to Federally-  
12 qualified and/or non-Federally-qualified users for the  
13 conservation of healthy populations of fish and  
14 wildlife resources and also has the authority to impose  
15 methods, means, time and harvest restrictions on all  
16 users fishing in Federal public waters, which options  
17 are less restrictive than full-out closures.

18

19                   Now, this is the fourth year that the  
20 proponent, the Eastern Interior Council, has submitted  
21 at least one proposal to the Federal Subsistence Board  
22 to limit net depth and the third year to limit mesh  
23 size to address its continuing concern with the  
24 declining average size of returning adult Yukon River  
25 chinook salmon.

26

27                   Over the past two years the Board has  
28 taken active steps to address the issue outside the  
29 regulatory process including recommending and endorsing  
30 the formation of and providing support for the Yukon  
31 River Drainage Fisheries Association led salmon size  
32 working group. That group met four times in October of  
33 last year through January of this year. During those  
34 meetings, which participants heard presentations by  
35 fisheries managers and researchers shared observations,  
36 discussed possible causes of the size decline and  
37 brainstormed possible solutions and strategies to  
38 address the issue. However, no consensus was attained  
39 regarding whether there really is a declining size,  
40 possible causes if size is declining and the possible  
41 changes to management strategies and/or regulatory  
42 actions to address the issues.

43

44                   The views, perceptions and opinions  
45 differ mainly between down river, Districts 1 through 3  
46 and up river Districts 4 through 6 fishers. And the  
47 working group also utilized some fairly recent studies  
48 and papers addressing the declining size of the Pacific  
49 -- of both Pacific and Yukon River chinook salmon which  
50 are listed in appendix A. And I'd like to point out

1 that the Appendices A through D, and I'm assuming  
2 everybody's read those, those are the meeting notes  
3 from the four meetings that the Yukon -- the YRDFA led  
4 group meetings had so those are their meeting minutes  
5 and the notes that were taken and we thought as a --  
6 OSM, that it would be really good that everybody gets  
7 to see pretty much everything that was discussed at  
8 those meetings, so that it wasn't just the participants  
9 that had the opportunity to know what was going on  
10 there, but also all your Council members and the public  
11 at large. And as you can see in those appendices there  
12 were a lot of discussions, there were some really good  
13 scientific presentations made and, again, no real  
14 consensus came forth through those meetings.

15  
16 On Page 5 of the handout there you see  
17 the existing regulations and you'll notice the bottom  
18 part of that is because it talks about 35 meshes depth,  
19 we put in there as well the Districts 4, 5 and 6  
20 regulations and specifically the ones that talk about  
21 4-B and 4-C, which you dealt with earlier.

22  
23 Page 6 has the proposed Federal  
24 regulations. And we combine -- it shows the difference  
25 between -- the two different proposals. So the first  
26 part of the regulation would stay the same and then  
27 there would be an A section that would say:

28  
29 In the Yukon River drainage all  
30 gillnets with greater than six inch  
31 stretch mesh may not be more than 35  
32 meshes in depth in Federal public  
33 waters.

34  
35 For Proposal 14, the wording would be:

36  
37 In the Yukon River drainage the maximum  
38 gillnet mesh size is 7.5 inch stretch  
39 mesh for subsistence and commercial  
40 salmon fishing in Federal public  
41 waters.

42  
43 And then the condition that there would  
44 be a three year phase in period for subsistence fishers  
45 and a one year phase in period for commercial fishers  
46 to use these nets.

47  
48 Some pertinent information that comes  
49 from the Kuskokwim River is on Page 7. In the  
50 Kuskokwim River commercial fishers have been required

1 to use gillnet mesh size of six inches or less since  
2 1985. The directed commercial fishery for chinook  
3 salmon was discontinued in 1987 due to depleted runs  
4 and the importance of the species as subsistence food.  
5 Incidental harvest of chinook salmon continues to occur  
6 during the June and July commercial fishery that  
7 targets chum salmon. During its January through  
8 February 2007, the Alaska Board of Fisheries  
9 discontinued the stock of concern designation for  
10 Kuskokwim River chinook and chum salmon based on  
11 chinook and chum salmon runs being at or above the  
12 historical average each year since 2002. At that same  
13 meeting the Alaska Board of Fisheries took action that  
14 now allows the use of large mesh, 8.5 inch mesh, to  
15 target chinook salmon via emergency order delegation to  
16 the local area manager.

17  
18                   Page 8 has a map that shows the fishing  
19 districts again. It's a smaller version of what's  
20 hanging on the wall there. And it also shows the areas  
21 of Federal jurisdiction. It's all waters that are  
22 within the exterior boundaries of Federal conservation  
23 units and in this case it's mainly the National  
24 Wildlife Refuge and also that are adjacent to the  
25 boundaries of the National Wildlife Refuge so you can  
26 see, for instance, all of Unit 18, for the most part is  
27 within the -- you've got the Yukon-Delta National  
28 Wildlife Refuge, those are all Federal public waters  
29 and then as you go up river you've got the Innoko  
30 National Wildlife Refuge, the Nowitna and so waters  
31 adjacent to that are the Federal public waters.

32  
33                   Now, this issue was discussed in front  
34 of the State Board of Fisheries in January and February  
35 and they took up a couple of proposals. If you look on  
36 Page 10 one proposal was to limit the subsistence and  
37 commercial gillnets to over six inch mesh size and the  
38 ADF&G opposed the proposal and the Board of Fisheries  
39 considered and rejected both proposals that were before  
40 them also submitted by the Eastern Interior Regional  
41 Advisory Council, Nos 163 and 165.

42  
43                   I want to talk a little bit now about  
44 the current events, which I'm on Page 11 now.

45  
46                   Again, the YRDFA led group, salmon size  
47 working group, met four times between October 2006 and  
48 January 2007. These meetings were held to provide an  
49 opportunity for the people who fish and/or manage Yukon  
50 River chinook salmon to discuss the declining salmon

1 size and related issues. Approximately 80 people  
2 attended the first meeting from the United States and  
3 Canada. Participants included subsistence and  
4 commercial fishers from the length of the Yukon River,  
5 fishery scientists and representatives of non-profit  
6 organization, State of Alaska Fish and Game Advisory  
7 Councils, Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory  
8 Councils and fishery and resource management agencies.  
9 An immediate goal of the group was to see if they could  
10 reach consensus on a proposal or a number of proposals  
11 addressing the salmon size issue for the Alaska Board  
12 of Fisheries to consider during its January/February  
13 2000 [sic] meeting. YRDFA had submitted a placeholder  
14 proposal which was designated as 167 to modify  
15 commercial fishery to address changing size of chinook  
16 salmon. Because no consensus was reached during the  
17 working group's meetings, YRDFA was unable to provide  
18 the Alaska Board of Fisheries with any specific  
19 proposal to consider, therefore, no action was taken on  
20 167.

21

22                   Now, there's plenty in our research in  
23 doing this analysis -- we found plenty of evidence that  
24 there is a declining size going on. Chinook salmon  
25 grow larger with age and females are generally larger  
26 than males of the same age, especially from about age  
27 five onward. In the Pilot Station test fishery in 2005  
28 this was shown as age seven fish averaged about 100  
29 millimeters more in length than age five fish for both  
30 sexes and the average length of age five females was 62  
31 millimeters greater than age five males, and the  
32 average length of age seven females was about 87  
33 millimeters greater than age seven males.

34

35                   So the analysis you see goes through a  
36 lot of the studies and that that show that this  
37 declining size is taking place.

38

39                   If you look on the top of Page 13,  
40 although this is a few years back, it does show that  
41 for Yukon River chinook salmon passing into Canada, the  
42 Joint Technical Committee found that the percentage of  
43 age seven and age [sic] fish ranged from 28 to 29  
44 percent for brood years 1979 to 1982 and then declined  
45 after 1982 with percentages ranging from two percent to  
46 16 percent for brood years 1983 to 1997. So you can  
47 see there were larger fish up until about 1982 and the  
48 net size really dropped off and it hasn't rebounded  
49 since.

50

1                   Now, one of the things if you look on  
2 the bottom of Page 13, Jeff Bromaghin evaluated gillnet  
3 catches from the lower Yukon River collected from 1990  
4 to 2003 in conjunction with the Pilot Station sonar  
5 study. His results were based on a data set of over --  
6 almost 90,000 complete records of which 7,261 were for  
7 chinook salmon and he found, among other things, that  
8 gillnets with the largest mesh sizes, 6.5 and 7.5 and  
9 8.5 inch mesh caught the most chinook salmon with the  
10 7.5 inch mesh having the greatest catch and the 6.5 and  
11 the 8.5 inch mesh having smaller but similar catches.  
12 So in other words, 7.5 inch mesh size are the most  
13 effective size for catching chinook.

14  
15                   There's also evidence that large mesh  
16 gillnets are highly selective for female chinook  
17 salmon. In 2004 8.5 inch mesh gillnets used at the Big  
18 Eddy Test Fish Project captured 59 percent females  
19 whereas 7.5 inch gillnets captured 42 percent females.  
20 That same year variable mesh gillnets used at the Pilot  
21 Station sonar site captured 35 percent females and  
22 upper river weirs such as in the Gisasa, the Henshaw  
23 and the Tozitna Rivers sampled for sex ratio captured  
24 18 to 30 percent female so the higher up in the  
25 drainage you go there's less percentage of females.  
26 And two fish projects in Canada captured 14 and 23  
27 percent females.

28  
29                   Now, there's also a number of current  
30 studies or soon to be started studies to also look at  
31 this issue. Several recent ongoing and proposed  
32 studies and research projects are or will be directly  
33 addressing the salmon size issue. The Federal  
34 Subsistence Board, through the Office of Subsistence  
35 Management continues to provide funding to the Alaska  
36 Department of Fish and Game and other organizations for  
37 studies and research projects, many of which are based  
38 on the prioritized information needs for the Yukon  
39 region. The declining salmon size issue has been  
40 identified by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, the Western  
41 Interior Alaska and the Eastern Interior Alaska  
42 Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils with input from  
43 subsistence users, the public, Alaska Native  
44 organizations, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the  
45 ADF&G and partner agencies and organizations as a  
46 primary concern or information need.

47  
48                   Additionally the U.S./Canada Yukon  
49 River Salmon Joint Technical Committee and the Arctic  
50 Yukon Kuskokwim Sustainable Salmon Initiative are or

1 will be investigating the declining salmon size issue.  
2 And if you go to Appendix E, which is towards the back  
3 of this handout, it's on Page 40, these are a list of  
4 some of the proposals and some of the studies that are  
5 going to be taking place in the very near future or are  
6 taking place right now. And when the State gets up  
7 here to do their comments, they're going to give you an  
8 update on this last one that I list on Page 41, the  
9 bottom of Page 41, that the ADF&G is currently  
10 conducting the Yukon River Chinook Salmon Comparative  
11 Mesh Size Study, the goal of this three year study is  
12 to gain information about catch composition from 7  
13 inch, 7.5 inch, and 8 inch stretch mesh drift gillnets  
14 from a fishery in District Y1 near Emmonak. In  
15 particular this study is designed to determine the  
16 effects of mesh size are on the age, sex, length and  
17 weight and girth of chinook salmon caught and the  
18 numbers of incidentally caught non-target species such  
19 as summer chum salmon. This information may provide  
20 insight into ways to implement management strategies  
21 and regulations to sustain Yukon River chinook salmon  
22 while continuing to maintain subsistence and commercial  
23 fisheries.

24

The studies objectives are:

25

26

27

28

29

30

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32

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34

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42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

So those kind of things are taking  
place.

1                   In other words, this issue is very much  
2 on the forefront of the Federal Subsistence Board and  
3 the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, they know it's  
4 an important issue and we're all taking active steps to  
5 see if we can get as much information as we can about  
6 what's going on.

7

8                   As far as mesh depth selectivity. This  
9 is at the bottom of Page 14 now.

10

11                   Many fishers have expressed that the  
12 larger, stronger fish migrate in the deeper waters and  
13 therefore nets of deeper mesh harvest more of these  
14 larger fish. The scientific literature is sparse on  
15 the connection between mesh depth and harvest of larger  
16 fish, however, there are a few studies that show  
17 chinook salmon migration trends.

18

19                   In the Kenai River, a study done in  
20 1998 found that most early run chinook salmon migrated  
21 off shore 15 to 20 meters from the left bank and 40 to  
22 45 meters from the right bank. Late run chinook salmon  
23 migrated 15 to 20 meters off shore from the left bank  
24 25 to 35 meters from the right bank. Fish were bottom  
25 oriented during both runs. and another study in 1999  
26 found that chinook salmon that migrated deep, greater  
27 than 200 meters were significantly larger than fish  
28 that remain near the surface in upper Johnson Strait  
29 and British Columbia.

30

31                   Now, the effects of these proposals.

32

33                   Adoption of these two proposals would  
34 follow recognized principals of fish and wildlife  
35 conservation by providing measures to conserve and  
36 possibly restore large size fish in the Yukon River  
37 chinook salmon run. These proposals would standardize  
38 gillnet mesh size and depth specifications throughout  
39 the Federal public waters of the Yukon River where most  
40 of the commercial fishing and over half of the  
41 subsistence harvest takes place. The use of 7.5 inch  
42 mesh gillnets, no more than 35 meshes in depth would  
43 likely result in fewer of the largest and the older age  
44 female chinook salmon being harvested with the  
45 expectation that more of these fish would reach the  
46 spawning grounds to reproduce and pass on to their  
47 offspring desirable genetic traits. In other words,  
48 big fish beget big fish. It's unlikely that small fish  
49 are going to produce large fish.

50

1                   Female sex ratios would likely increase  
2 as well, particularly in Yukon River tributaries where  
3 sex ratios are often two males to one female with a  
4 likely corresponding increase in fecundity and  
5 productivity. Larger females are known to have more  
6 eggs than smaller females.

7  
8                   The numbers of age seven and age eight  
9 chinook salmon would likely increase preserving genetic  
10 integrity increasing population resiliency, which would  
11 fulfill the State of Alaska sustainable salmon  
12 fisheries policy by affording protection to all age  
13 classes. Chinook salmon is the only species listed as  
14 a stock of concern by the ADF&G in the Yukon River.  
15 Stabilizing Yukon River chinook salmon stocks and  
16 preventing a further decrease in their average size is  
17 consistent with sound management principals and the  
18 conservation of healthy populations of fish.

19  
20                   With the use of reduced mesh sizes,  
21 harvest of summer chum salmon will likely increase.  
22 This is another possible effect.

23  
24                   Again, Bromaghin, in his study in 2005  
25 found that the most efficient gillnet mesh size for  
26 catching summer chum salmon was 6.5 inch mesh. When  
27 gillnet mesh size is decreased from 8.5 to 7.5 inch  
28 mesh Bromaghin found that the chum salmon catch would  
29 increase about 66 percent. When gillnet mesh sizes  
30 decreased from 8.5 to 6.5 inch the chum salmon would  
31 increase by 427 percent. A 7.5 inch mesh size strikes  
32 a balance between maximizing chinook salmon harvest and  
33 minimizing chum salmon harvest. In 2007 there was  
34 renewed market interest in summer chum salmon and  
35 nearly 200,000 summer chum salmon were harvested in  
36 commercial fisheries.

37  
38                   Adoption of these proposals would  
39 restrict all users, both Federally-qualified and non-  
40 Federally-qualified in Federal public waters.

41  
42                   Again, the Board has the authority to  
43 close Federal public waters to Federally-qualified  
44 and/or non-Federally-qualified users for the  
45 conservation of healthy populations of fish and  
46 wildlife resources. And it also has the authority to  
47 impose method, means, time and harvest restriction on  
48 those users and these, again, options which are less  
49 restrictive than out right closures.

50

1                   If adopted, the proposals would likely  
2 pose an additional financial burden on some, if not all  
3 affected users, since they would either have to buy new  
4 nets and/or modify existing gillnets to 35 meshes deep.  
5 This burden is lessened somewhat by the proposed phase  
6 in period of one to three years, depending on whether  
7 you're a commercial fishermen or a subsistence  
8 fishermen. If modification includes cutting the nets,  
9 there likely would be an increase in maintenance, time  
10 and cost because once a net has been cut down in size  
11 it becomes more susceptible to tearing on snags.

12  
13                   Adoption would also likely reduce the  
14 number of fishable locations and/or increase the need  
15 to relocate to other sites.

16  
17                   Adoption of these proposals would  
18 create a greater difference -- greater differences  
19 between Federal and State regulations. Commercial and  
20 subsistence users fishing in State managed waters under  
21 State regulations would still be able to use the larger  
22 mesh and/or deeper mesh gillnets. As a result of these  
23 differences, public outreach and judicious enforcement  
24 will be necessary to inform all users of these  
25 regulatory changes.

26  
27                   The Office of Subsistence Management  
28 preliminary conclusion then is to support FP08-13 with  
29 modification to include wording that the nets will be  
30 fishing from the surface of the water to no more than  
31 35 meshes deep in the water column, and that the  
32 regulations will apply to both subsistence and  
33 commercial gillnets in Federal public waters.

34  
35                   So we've modified that language from  
36 what the original proposed regulation is and you can  
37 see here -- I'll read it for you on Page 16:

38  
39                   In the Yukon River, this is for  
40 Proposal 13 again:

41  
42                   In the Yukon River drainage all  
43 gillnets greater than six inch stretch  
44 mesh used for subsistence and  
45 commercial fishing in Federal public  
46 waters may not be more than 35 meshes  
47 in depth.

48  
49                   The float line and floats of gillnets  
50 must be floating on the surface of the

1 water while the net is fishing unless  
2 natural conditions cause the net to  
3 temporarily sink. The top line of the  
4 net shall be tied directly to the float  
5 line.  
6

7 For Proposal 14, the proposed language  
8 would be to support the proposal of -- the  
9 recommendation is to support and the language would  
10 read:

11  
12 In the Yukon River drainage the maximum  
13 gillnet mesh size is 7.5 inch stretch  
14 mesh for subsistence and commercial  
15 salmon fishing in Federal public waters  
16 with a three year phase in period for  
17 subsistence fishers and a one year  
18 phase in period for commercial fishers.  
19

20 Now, the justification for making these  
21 recommendations.

22  
23 Based on the presentations during the  
24 YR DFA led salmon size working group meetings and the  
25 studies and projects cited in this analysis, there is  
26 reliable documented evidence that the average size of  
27 returning adult Yukon River chinook salmon is  
28 declining. While there may be several factors  
29 contributing to the decline, restricting gillnet size  
30 to 7.5 inch mesh and 35 meshes deep are appropriate  
31 actions the Federal Subsistence Board can take to at  
32 least slow down, if not stop or reverse this trend.  
33 These restrictions would likely result in more of the  
34 largest fish, especially the older age female chinook  
35 salmon reaching the spawning grounds to reproduce and  
36 pass on desirable genetic size and fecundity rates with  
37 potential benefits on increased fecundity and  
38 productivity. Female sex ratios would likely increase  
39 as well particularly in the Yukon River tributaries  
40 where sex ratios are often two males to one female.  
41 The numbers of age seven and eight chinook salmon would  
42 likely increase preserving genetic integrity increasing  
43 population resiliency. Stabilizing Yukon River chinook  
44 salmon stocks and preventing a further decrease in  
45 their average size is consistent with sound management  
46 principles and the conservation of healthy populations  
47 of fish.

48  
49 Mr. Chair. We know that this is an  
50 important issue for people of the Yukon River. The

1 analysis that's before you was very much a group effort  
2 by the Office of Subsistence Management fishery  
3 biologists and other Federal biologists including the  
4 in-season manager. We believe addressing the declining  
5 salmon size issue through the proposed fishing gear and  
6 Federal public -- excuse me -- through the proposed  
7 changes to legal fishing gear in Federal public waters  
8 is the right actions to take and the right actions to  
9 take right now.

10

11 We also recognize that there may be  
12 alternative management measures that could be effective  
13 in accomplishing the intent and conserving more of the  
14 larger chinook salmon for passage up river and to the  
15 spawning grounds in the Yukon River drainage and we're  
16 willing to hear and we encourage hearing those other  
17 alternatives during your deliberations.

18

19 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

20

21 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you, Don.  
22 Any questions, comments from the Council.

23

24 MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Harry.

27

28 MR. H. WILDE: Don. I didn't quite  
29 understand some of those -- what the doctor -- or  
30 certain doctor talking about larger fish that goes up  
31 river and also I didn't hear any -- Dawson area, those  
32 fishermen they fish for eggs, king salmon eggs, I don't  
33 know what they do with meat and all that, that they do  
34 still today. My understanding from that doctor was  
35 from Seattle, study on the Yukon River assess that,  
36 those bigger fish are having hard time going up with  
37 the sickness they have right now. Not only the  
38 sickness, the water is eight percent warmer than  
39 before. And all these, it should be heard by the  
40 people, fishermen, subsistence fishermen.

41

42 I have newspaper in my back -- in my  
43 home right now that how that doctor was explain,  
44 they're talking about Japan area and all that and  
45 Yukon, too. He said these big fish, they're having a  
46 hard time to make it up there, sometime it don't make  
47 it up -- up to the spawning stream. He said -- he said  
48 that there will be the time we'll be coming -- there'll  
49 be no fisheries up river because up to the Whitehorse,  
50 from mouth of Yukon, the fish lose 15 pound fat so they

1 having a hard time with the sickness and the sickness,  
2 we could see it in the lower Yukon, spotted -- spotted  
3 -- they got more like a puss in it on the king salmon.

4  
5 I think some of these -- it should be  
6 learn and told to fishermens in Yukon and Kuskokwim  
7 because with the warm -- with the water warming it's  
8 going to be -- it's going to be like in the Kuskokwim,  
9 too.

10  
11 And I don't know it's kind of hard for  
12 me to look at when I look at that newspaper, I don't  
13 know why that people are talking about the fish size to  
14 tell us about if the big fish are make it to -- up to  
15 the spawning stream or not.

16  
17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18  
19 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Thank you,  
20 Harry. Anybody else.

21  
22 (No comments)

23  
24 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Quyana. ADF&G.

25  
26 MR. HAYES: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'll be  
27 presenting comments, State comments on Fisheries  
28 Proposals FP08-13 and FP08-14. And additionally we  
29 have a presentation that we'd like to give at the end  
30 of the comments that will take about 15 minutes.

31  
32 While, the stated intent of both  
33 proposals is to reduce the catch of large female  
34 chinook salmon on the Yukon River gillnet fisheries, if  
35 either proposal is adopted the gear restrictions would  
36 apply only to participants in Federal subsistence  
37 fisheries on the Yukon River. The Federal subsistence  
38 users would potentially be required to fish longer  
39 hours to harvest the same number of fish with less  
40 efficient nets and would need to purchase new nets.  
41 Those who could not afford new nets would have to --  
42 would have the significant additional fuel cost to  
43 travel to waters where Federal regulations do not apply  
44 or they may not be able to meet their subsistence  
45 needs. Gear used under State regulated subsistence and  
46 commercial fisheries would not be affected unless the  
47 Federal Board seeks to close waters where the Federal  
48 government claims jurisdiction to non-Federally  
49 eligible participants creating a conflict of patchwork  
50 the waters under State and Federal regulations.

1 Under Yukon Federal subsistence --  
2 excuse me, upper Yukon Federal subsistence use of  
3 fishwheels would not be affected. Adoption of these  
4 proposals could reallocate the harvest of larger  
5 chinook salmon from gillnet users to fishwheel  
6 operators.

7  
8 Some of the public and one Regional  
9 Advisory Council has expressed concerns that deeper  
10 nets or nets with larger net size may take more of the  
11 larger female fish. To help address these issues the  
12 public needs to see a thorough summary of results of  
13 current studies regarding fish size and gear and status  
14 reports for the projects in progress. Existing data do  
15 not adequately address the effects of proposed mesh  
16 size and depth changes on gillnet catch composition.  
17 For instance while data exists for various mesh sizes  
18 from the Pilot Station sonar project, commercial  
19 fishermen typically hang or fish their nets  
20 differently. Thus catch composition from Pilot Station  
21 nets is not directly transferable to expected catch  
22 compositions in the lower river commercial fishery.

23  
24 A decline in the proportion of seven  
25 year old chinook salmon was observed in the commercial  
26 harvest in the mid-1980s and this proportion has  
27 remained low but stable since the mid-1990s. An  
28 analysis of chinook salmon age, sex and length from  
29 selected tributaries by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
30 Service Office of Subsistence Management concluded that  
31 there has been a small decrease in large spawning fish  
32 in four out of seven tributaries evaluated. No clear  
33 time trends were found in proportions of either female  
34 or older chinook salmon or for length at age of chinook  
35 salmon. At this time it is not possible to determine  
36 whether size selective harvest or variation in the  
37 environment or a combination of factors is the cause of  
38 these trends. Other studies are under way to determine  
39 trends in size or age of fish.

40  
41 The U.S./Canada Joint Technical  
42 Committee has directed a subcommittee to address this  
43 issue. The U.S./Canada Joint Technical Committee  
44 salmon size subcommittee compiled relevant literature  
45 and existing analysis pertaining to these trends and  
46 potential cause of these trends and their potential  
47 cause of size trends in the Yukon River chinook salmon  
48 populations report. This informational summary was  
49 divided into six sections:

50

1 History of the Alaska Yukon River  
2 chinook salmon harvest and fisheries  
3 sampling;  
4  
5 History of the Canadian and Yukon River  
6 chinook salmon harvest;  
7  
8 Summary of prior age, sex and size  
9 investigations;  
10  
11 Summary of Yukon River gillnet  
12 selectivity;  
13  
14 Irritability of traits and potential  
15 effects of selective fisheries; and  
16  
17 And ocean influences on salmon size.  
18  
19 The evidence that Yukon River chinook  
20 salmon have undergone phenotypic alteration over time  
21 is limited but suggestive. Analysis, documents -- a  
22 decrease in the weight of commercial harvest, a  
23 reduction in the prevalence of the largest fish and the  
24 apparent near disappearance of age eight fish, though  
25 age eight fish were never a large component of the run,  
26 typically less than one percent.  
27  
28 Whether the changes observed within the  
29 Yukon River chinook salmon have resulted from  
30 environmental or fishery induced selected pressures or  
31 a combination of both is difficult to determine with  
32 certainty. The Department is committed to continue  
33 monitoring of size and age trends in the Yukon River  
34 chinook salmon populations and will use this summary  
35 report as a means to develop hypothesis for further  
36 studies.  
37  
38 Although poor runs occurred from 1998  
39 to 2000 the Yukon River chinook salmon stocks are not  
40 classified as either a conservation concern or a  
41 management concern. The Yukon River chinook salmon  
42 stock is currently classified as a yield concern. In  
43 all years, except for the very poor chinook salmon run  
44 in 2000, there has been reasonable opportunity for  
45 subsistence fishers to meet amounts necessary for  
46 subsistence. A majority of the Yukon River drainage  
47 escapement goals have been met or exceeded since 2000,  
48 specifically the agreed to escapement objective for the  
49 Canadian main stem has been met every year since 2000,  
50 with 2001, 2003 and 2005 being the three highest

1 spawning escapement estimates on record. Escapement  
2 goals in the Chena and Salcha Rivers have been met or  
3 exceeded annually since 2000 with escapement levels  
4 twice that of the upper end of the goal in the Chena  
5 River in 2003 and in the Salcha River in 2003 and 2004.

6  
7 The 2006 salmon chinook salmon  
8 escapement in Salcha was 10,400 spawning escapement  
9 goal ranges in the Chena and Salcha Rivers. Although  
10 commercial average weights have decreased there is no  
11 evidence that the size at age of chinook salmon has  
12 changed and the age class composition of the brood year  
13 return has remained relatively stable since the mid-  
14 1980s. The exploitation rate on the Canadian origin  
15 stock by Alaska fishers has gone from an average of  
16 about 74 percent and 70 percent in the 1980s and 1990s  
17 respectively to an average of about 47 percent from  
18 2001 through 2006.

19  
20 Although the subsistence harvest  
21 continues to remain stable near 50,000 chinook salmon  
22 annually commercial harvests have decreased over 60  
23 percent from an average of 100,000 annually to the  
24 recent five year average of nearly 40,000 fish. This  
25 has been a dramatic decrease but does not totally  
26 reflect run size.

27  
28 Harvests had been foregone in a number  
29 of recent years because of conservative management  
30 since 2000. Record escapements were recorded for the  
31 Canadian main stem stock, as I said in 2001, 2003 and  
32 escapement goals in the Tanana River were exceeded in  
33 most years since 2000.

34  
35 Additionally the Department is planning  
36 to develop escapement goals based on five year old and  
37 older chinook salmon during the next two years. These  
38 escapement goals will be more directly related to older  
39 fish and aimed at assisting and sustaining chinook  
40 salmon runs.

41  
42 Additionally there are some  
43 jurisdiction issues.

44  
45 1. Maps are needed showing the  
46 specific boundaries and areas  
47 where Federal regulations are  
48 claimed to apply the  
49 justification for claiming  
50 those boundaries.

1                                   2.        A large percentage of the lands  
2    along the Yukon River are State  
3    or private lands where Federal  
4    subsistence users cannot use  
5    gear types illegal under State  
6    regulations.

7  
8                                   3.        The Federal Board has no  
9    authority to adopt gillnet mesh  
10    size regulations that would  
11    apply to State commercial and  
12    subsistence fisheries.

13  
14    The Department recommendation are to  
15    oppose both proposals or defer for two years when the  
16    Alaska Board of Fishery reviews the results of the  
17    three year mesh size study.  Until those studies are  
18    completed there is little hard information or specific  
19    data upon which to judge the potential effect of these  
20    proposals.

21  
22    If it is determined that a gear change  
23    is necessary in the future the State would support a  
24    river-wide approach and a thorough review of data  
25    options and specific management objectives with the  
26    public to gain their input and concurrence.

27  
28    Making a change in the only -- making a  
29    change in only Federal regulations would be costly to  
30    subsistence users, apply only in some areas and may not  
31    have the desired effect.

32  
33    Making a gear change now may mean  
34    subsistence users would have to change gear gain  
35    depending on the results of the mesh size studies which  
36    would be an unnecessary hardship for most.  If a  
37    modification in gillnet gear is necessary the State  
38    would also work through the Yukon River Panel to make  
39    changes in the Canadian fisheries.

40  
41    Mr. Chairman, that concludes the State  
42    comments.  And I don't know at this time if you want to  
43    see the presentation of the mesh size project, it's  
44    about 15 minutes.

45  
46    ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS:  If we want the  
47    presentation, it'll bring us right to 5:00 o'clock and  
48    then we'll have to continue on with the discussion on  
49    the proposal tomorrow morning.  Okay.

50

1 (Council nods affirmatively)

2

3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Okay, good go  
4 for it.

5

6 MR. DUBOIS: Good afternoon, Mr.  
7 Chairman. My name is Larry DuBois. I was a sampling  
8 coordinator for the chinooks -- for the comparative  
9 mesh size study.

10

11 The study is a cooperative effort  
12 between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the  
13 Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association. I will  
14 be presenting an overview of the project and some  
15 preliminary results.

16

17 This project was initially conceived in  
18 response to proposals that have come before the State  
19 of Alaska Board of Fisheries and the Federal  
20 Subsistence Board to restrict gillnet mesh size such as  
21 the one we're existing today. We feel the existing  
22 data does not adequately address the affects of  
23 proposed mesh size changes, such as the establishment  
24 of a maximum stretch mesh regulation on gillnet catch  
25 composition.

26

27 Briefly going over the study  
28 objectives. The goal is to gain information about  
29 catch composition using 7, 7.5 and 8 inch stretch mesh  
30 drift gillnets from a test fishery in District Y1 near  
31 Emmonak. In particular we are interested in the  
32 effects of mesh size on the age, sex, length, weight  
33 and girth, termed ASLWG of chinook salmon caught and  
34 the number of incidentally caught non-targeted species  
35 such as summer chum salmon. This information provide  
36 insight into ways to implement management strategies  
37 and regulations to sustain Yukon River chinook salmon  
38 while continuing to maintain subsistence and commercial  
39 fisheries. A third objective of the study considered  
40 to be very important is the marketability of the catch  
41 from each of the three mesh sizes.

42

43 Beginning on June 15th, 2007 ADF&G  
44 began working with four fishermen and two alternates in  
45 District Y1 to collect study data during a test fishery  
46 using the three mesh sizes. Fishermen were given all  
47 three gillnets and a technician to assist them. The  
48 test fishery occurred in two sites in Big Eddy that are  
49 heavily used during the commercial fishery, one on the  
50 north bank and one on the south bank.

1                   The test fishery occurred twice daily  
2 during morning and afternoon shifts for a maximum of 10  
3 days or 20 shifts with each of the selected fishermen  
4 participating during one shift per day. To reduce  
5 variability in location and fishing times fishermen  
6 were rotated between sites and shifts. In each time  
7 period all three nets were fished by each fishermen.  
8 It was determined pre-season that all nets would be  
9 retrieved a maximum of 30 minutes after each drift was  
10 begun. However, drift time was adjusted to 40 minutes  
11 in-season based upon low catch rates. And catch per  
12 unit effort data was also recorded.

13  
14                   The order in which the nets were fished  
15 rotated daily to control for confounding factors  
16 associated with removability of fish from certain mesh  
17 sizes.

18  
19                   These pictures show fishers and  
20 fisherwomen who participated in the study.

21  
22                   One technician was hired to travel on  
23 each boat during the test fishery to assist the  
24 fishermen and record the data. As the drift nets were  
25 checked for fish the technician tagged each chinook  
26 salmon with a colored floy tag, one color corresponded  
27 to each mesh size. When fishermen returned to the  
28 ADF&G dock with their catch the chinook were lined up  
29 in rows according to mesh size using the different  
30 color floy tags for reference.

31  
32                   Locally hired technicians sampled  
33 chinook salmon for age, sex, length, width and girth.  
34 In this picture a technician is examining a scale for  
35 quality.

36  
37                   Weight was measured to the nearest  
38 ounce. The weighing scale was periodically checked for  
39 accuracy with known weights. Girth was measured just  
40 in front of the dorsal fin while the fish was hanging  
41 from the weighing scale. Fish not sold were cut to  
42 determine the sex.

43  
44                   In the next series of slides I will  
45 present preliminary summarized results. Statistical  
46 tests have not been run upon these data.

47  
48                   This table shows a total of 456 chinook  
49 salmon and 572 summer chum salmon were caught using 7,  
50 7.5 and 8 inch mesh. This was shy of the targeted

1 sample size of a minimum of 400 chinook salmon per mesh  
2 size and note the 7.5 inch mesh caught the most chinook  
3 and the 7 inch mesh caught the most summer chum salmon.  
4 ADF&G biometricians determined 400 chinook salmon or  
5 approximately 1,200 total per year was the recommended  
6 goal to perform valid statistical testing. As you can  
7 see overall only about 37 percent of the goal was  
8 reached. Therefore, these preliminary results should  
9 be interpreted with caution.

10

11 For some reasons for not reaching the  
12 sample goal in 2007 were due to the low chinook run  
13 size, the unusual entry pattern of chinook this year  
14 and various issues associated with start up of a new  
15 project.

16

17 Okay, this chart shows the chum to  
18 chinook salmon ratio from the mesh side study and  
19 commercial harvest in District Y1 in 2007.

20

21 The blue, the yellow and the red are  
22 the 7, the 7.5 and the 8 inch mesh. The first bar, the  
23 white bar is the 6 inch or less restricted mesh  
24 commercial harvest in District Y1 and the last bar on  
25 the right is the unrestricted commercial harvest in  
26 District 1.

27

28 The chum to chinook ratio can vary  
29 substantially within a season and among seasons  
30 depending upon the relative abundance of chum and  
31 chinook salmon as well as the timing of the chum and  
32 chinook salmon runs.

33

34 The chum to chinook ratio from the mesh  
35 size study ranged from 1.8 in the 7 inch to 0.8 in the  
36 7.5 inch mesh. The ratio was slightly less in the  
37 unrestricted harvest at 0.6 and much greater in the  
38 restricted harvest at 12.

39

40 Because the chum to chinook ratio  
41 increases during the season only the first three  
42 restricted commercial harvests were used for comparison  
43 similar to when the unrestricted harvest occurred and  
44 when the mesh size study was conducted.

45

46 In 2007 the restricted harvest chum to  
47 chinook ratio ranged from seven to 50 increasing  
48 throughout the fishing season. Now that will be from,  
49 you know, all periods. In 2007 the unrestricted  
50 harvest chum, to chinook ratio ranged from 0.24 to 1.12

1 also increasing slightly through the season.

2

3                   Okay, now this chart shows preliminary  
4 age and sex results from the mesh size study, again,  
5 with other comparable data for 2007.

6

7                   The mesh size increases along the X  
8 axis from right to left and on the Y axis is the  
9 percentage from zero to 100 percent. The first group  
10 there is the less than or equal to six inch restricted  
11 commercial, next group is 7 inch drift gillnet, next  
12 group is 7.5 inch drift gillnet, next group is 8 inch  
13 drift gillnet, the last group is the 8.5 inch set  
14 gillnet and that would be from the Big Eddy and middle  
15 mouth set gillnet test fishery and the last group is  
16 from the unrestricted commercial harvest. Again, all  
17 of this information is from 2007 and it's all from  
18 District Y1 near Emmonak.

19

20                   The white columns are the females and  
21 the blue, yellow, red and grey columns are the age  
22 four, five, six and seven respectively. And the  
23 commercial harvest samples were not cut to verify the  
24 sex.

25

26                   So looking at the chart you can see the  
27 age six fish, the red columns are generally increasing  
28 with mesh size while the age five fish, the -- well,  
29 they were yellow, they kind of looked brown are  
30 generally decreasing with mesh size. In 2007 the age  
31 six fish were the dominant age class in the run. And  
32 all the ages by mesh size for each group add up to 100  
33 percent, so the age, four, five, six and seven is all  
34 going to add up to 100 percent.

35

36                   Okay, this chart shows the average  
37 length and girth from the mesh size study and other  
38 comparable data from 2007. The first group up there is  
39 the length data and the second group is the girth data.  
40 Lengths were from the -- again in the 7, 7.5 and 8 inch  
41 mesh size, are the three colored bars in the middle,  
42 the -- the blue, the brown and the red. The 8.5 inch  
43 set gillnet is the -- is the fifth bar over on that  
44 length group and then the -- the last one in the length  
45 group is the unrestricted commercial harvest.

46

47                   For the girth group to the right only  
48 four data sets were available for the average girth  
49 because these were not collected from the commercial  
50 harvest. The Y axis is scaled in millimeters from zero

1 to 900. You can see that the average length and the  
2 average girth generally increases with mesh size. The  
3 largest fish measured in the mesh size study was  
4 approximately 1040 millimeters. And average lengths  
5 from the mesh size study were 784, 804, and 810 from  
6 the 7, 7.5 and 8 inch drift gillnets. Average girths  
7 from the mesh size study were 471, 483 and 491, again,  
8 from those mesh sizes.

9

10 This chart shows the average weight  
11 from the mesh size study with other data from 2007.  
12 The average weights from the first and the last data  
13 sets up there, the restricted commercial harvest and  
14 the unrestricted commercial harvest are from the total  
15 weight reported by fish buyers divided by the total  
16 number of fish sold. Individual weights were not  
17 collected.

18

19 The four data sets in the middle, the  
20 7, the 7.5, and the 8 inch from the mesh size study and  
21 the 8.5 inch from the set gillnet test fish harvest  
22 were from individual fish weights. The Y axis is  
23 scaled in pounds from zero to 25. The largest fish  
24 weighed in the mesh size study was approximately 42.5  
25 pounds. You can see the average weight generally  
26 increases with mesh size. Average weights from the  
27 mesh size study were 17.1, 18.5 and 18.9 pounds from  
28 the 7, 7.5 and 8 inch drift gillnets respectively.

29

30 For planning ahead, again, this is the  
31 first year of a three year study. To increase sample  
32 sizes we are considering extending drift times and the  
33 number of shifts. We plan on continuing this study in  
34 2008 and 2009. It is important to have a minimum of  
35 three years of data as the percentage by age can vary  
36 widely between and among years.

37

38 For example in 2006 the percentage of  
39 age, sex chinook salmon in the unrestricted harvest was  
40 50 percent, in 2007 it was 82 percent. So obviously  
41 when we have large changes in the dominant age or in  
42 the age class proportion it's going to greatly affect  
43 the parameters we're measuring, the age, sex, length  
44 and weight.

45

46 And that concludes my presentation.

47

48 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Right on time.  
49 Any questions for the ADF&G presentation.

50

1 MR. ROCZICKA: I'd like to ask one on  
2 the slide that you had up there on the percentage of  
3 females caught and percentage per age and -- yeah,  
4 there you go. So if you're less than six inches you're  
5 getting approximately 35 percent female, so that means  
6 you're getting 65 percent male.

7  
8 MR. DUBOIS: That's correct.

9  
10 MR. ROCZICKA: And so on up the line.  
11 So nowhere along there are you -- well, when you hit  
12 the 7.5 you're just hitting the range of 50 percent and  
13 roughly a 50/50 catch, male/female. Are you seeing  
14 similar ratios at your escapement areas or has that  
15 been checked yet.

16  
17 MR. DUBOIS: I don't have that  
18 escapement data, you know, with me.

19  
20 And the other thing to keep in mind  
21 here is that the restricted commercial harvest, the  
22 unrestricted commercial harvest, we're not cutting  
23 those fish to verify the sex so the -- you know the 7  
24 inch, 7.5 inch, 8 inch and 8.5 inch data is probably a  
25 lot more accurate than the commercial.

26  
27 MR. ROCZICKA: Yeah, but still you're  
28 hitting the -- I mean a 50/50 is a pretty good ratio to  
29 be shooting for as far as affecting anything on the  
30 spawning grounds I would think, as far as what your  
31 harvest might be. Just a thought.

32  
33 MR. DUBOIS: Yeah, I agree with you,  
34 that's a good ratio.

35  
36 MR. HAYES: I think just one comment to  
37 add, as Larry said earlier, we set out for a goal of  
38 1,200 samples, 400 from each mesh size. We only  
39 reached a little over 400 this year based on the low  
40 run and it was a little different year on the entry  
41 pattern, they were mainly coming in the middle mouth  
42 and this project was located in south mouth so that's  
43 why we're saying be very cautious with using this data  
44 at this point, it is preliminary and that's why we want  
45 to continue the next two years after this and put it  
46 together, and this will be presented to the Board of  
47 Fishery at the next cycle.

48  
49 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.  
50

1 MS. GREGORY: Mr. Chair.

2

3 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Questions,  
4 comments. Mary.

5

6 MS. GREGORY: Can you explain the last  
7 unrestricted, what do you mean by that?

8

9 MR. DUBOIS: We sample the commercial  
10 harvest in District Y1, okay, so what I've done here  
11 is, you know, we're sampling the restricted openings  
12 and we're also sampling the unrestricted openings. So  
13 the unrestricted openings is where you can use any mesh  
14 size and, you know, obviously most of them are  
15 targeting chinook salmon so that -- that last group  
16 there is the average from all the samples in the  
17 unrestricted commercial harvest. And conversely this  
18 first group here is an average of all the samples in  
19 the restricted commercial harvest.

20

21 For sample sizes I believe we sampled  
22 approximately 1,400 kings in the restricted commercial  
23 harvest over, I think, six or eight periods, and in the  
24 unrestricted commercial harvest we sampled  
25 approximately 1,200 fish in three periods.

26

27 Yeah, that unrestricted commercial  
28 harvest, people could use mesh size greater than 8.5  
29 inch.

30

31 ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: I have a  
32 question, all those salmon that were on that display,  
33 those were caught by the test fishery, what do they do  
34 with that fish? That's a big question that a lot of  
35 people have, what do you do with test fishery caught  
36 salmon.

37

38 MR. HAYES: Well, Mr. Chairman, in  
39 addition to this new project, we also have the  
40 longstanding lower river test fishery project there and  
41 the fish are first given away to subsistence fishermen.  
42 We do sell some of the king salmon during the  
43 commercial openings. We have had problems in the past  
44 where they end up showing up in the commercial fishery  
45 if we don't, so the first priority is subsistence, to  
46 give them away.

47

48 And that's where we work locally with  
49 Fish and Wildlife Service on trying to get elders fish  
50 first, that's a priority.

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Any other  
2 questions before we recess for the day.

3

4                   MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

5

6                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

7

8                   MR. CHARLES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
9 I'm king salmon commercial fishermen with six inch gear  
10 and we have a lot of drop outs over there in Quinhagak,  
11 what's the drop out ratio on the Yukon River for small  
12 gear, king salmon fishing?

13

14                   MR. HAYES: Well, those studies have  
15 been done on what the drop out ratio would be or is so  
16 I can't answer that question at this time, but there is  
17 a lot of concern from a lot of fishermen that with the  
18 smaller mesh size, that you will have a high number of  
19 drop outs.

20

21                   MR. CHARLES: Mr. Chairman.

22

23                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: James.

24

25                   MR. CHARLES; If we don't go get the  
26 fish right away or I mean the king salmon that we catch  
27 on the net it's gone by the time we pull the net in and  
28 catch very few kings if we don't go pick up our net  
29 right away or pick up the fish right away. And so  
30 there's a lot of drop outs when we fish with the small  
31 gear, I mean king salmon fishing with small gear.

32

33                   Thank you.

34

35                   MR. H. WILDE: Mr. Chairman.

36

37                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Harry.

38

39                   MR. H. WILDE: I just want to praise  
40 people that work down in Y1. I do fish when I fish  
41 with my -- up in part of the Y1, upper end, close to  
42 upper end, across from village, I appreciate what the  
43 test fisheries that they do down there, they give them  
44 away to the elders first. That's the best think, I  
45 think they do. But what they couldn't take they sell  
46 it to commercial buyers.

47

48                   We thank you for what you guys have  
49 done helping those elders.

50

1                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: What do you do  
2 with the money you get for commercial -- when you sell  
3 commercial?

4  
5                   MR. HAYES: Mr. Chairman. The money  
6 goes back into the State general fund and then is  
7 divvied up to cover projects, like the test fish  
8 project that we run at the mouth. It cost around 70 to  
9 80,000 to operate so if we can earn money to help cover  
10 that, every little bit helps.

11  
12                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

13  
14                   (No comments)

15  
16                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: If not -- oh,  
17 Mr. Brown.

18  
19                   MR. BROWN: Yes, do you guys use a  
20 permit, State permit to sell your catches?

21  
22                   MR. HAYES: We have a CFEC permit card  
23 just like a fishermen would have that's provided to us  
24 by the State, so, yes, we sell under a permit card.

25  
26                   MR. BROWN: Okay.

27  
28                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Anybody else.

29  
30                   (No comments)

31  
32                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: When I count to  
33 four that will be the end of it. One.....

34  
35                   MR. ROCZICKA: Four.

36  
37                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: .....two,  
38 three, four.

39  
40                   MR. H. WILDE: Four.

41  
42                   ACTING CHAIR ALOYSIUS: Four. We are  
43 recessed until 9:00 a.m., tomorrow morning, Marshall  
44 time.

45  
46                   (Off record)

47  
48                   (PROCEEDINGS TO BE CONTINUED)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party interested in any way in this action.

DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 15th day of September 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph P. Kolasinski  
Notary Public in and for Alaska  
My Commission Expires: 03/12/08